

## Wayland Mission Statement

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Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

## Contact Information

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**Course:** PUAD 5330 VC01 – Domestic Terrorism

**Campus:** WBUonline

**Term/Session:** Spring 2 2026

**Instructor:** Dr. Juan M. González

**Office Phone Number:** 210.347.6445

**WBU Email Address:** [juan.gonzalez@wayland.wbu.edu](mailto:juan.gonzalez@wayland.wbu.edu)

**Office Hours, Building, and Location:** Virtual, please send an email to schedule a phone conference

**Class Meeting Time and Location:** Virtual

## Course Information

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**Catalog Description :** A study of domestic terrorism in the United States including its history, what constitutes a domestic terrorism, the extent of domestic terrorism in the United States, the typical individuals and groups involved in domestic terrorism, the motivations of individuals and groups involved in domestic terrorism, and government's policies, programs and laws dealing with the domestic terrorism.

**There is no prerequisite for this course.**

## Textbook Information

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### Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Materials:

Martin, G. (2025). Understanding terrorism: Challenges, perspectives, and issues (8th ed.). Sage Publications

*The textbook for this course is part of the Wayland's Automatic eBook program. You will have access to an eBook and interactive learning material on the first day of class through your Blackboard course site. The cost of this Automatic eBook will be billed directly to your student account when you register for the course. You will be notified via email with access instructions and additional information. If you do not wish to participate in the Automatic eBook program, you will have the first 12 days of class to opt-out of the program (additional details will be outlined in your email instructions). For more information on the Automatic eBook program, visit the Wayland Bookstore [Automatic eBook FAQ](#) page.*

### **Optional Materials:**

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

**Course Outcome Competencies:** Upon completion of this course, students will:

- Understand and apply the United States' definitions of domestic terrorism
- Demonstrate a general knowledge of the history of domestic terrorism
- Have a working knowledge of the definitions, terms and principles regarding domestic terrorism
- Evaluate the research on what constitutes domestic terrorism, the extent of domestic terrorism in the United States, the typical individuals and groups involved in domestic terrorism, and the motivations of individuals and groups involved in domestic terrorism
- Know and evaluate the government's policies, programs and laws dealing with the domestic terrorism

## **Attendance Requirements**

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### WBUonline

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student "attendance" in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 2 or more weeks of an 8-week session, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given session is considered a "no-show" and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university's attendance policy.

## **University Policies**

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[Link to Statement on Academic Integrity](#) , and reference one of the following in regard to how generative artificial intelligence (GAI) such as ChatGPT may or may not be used in this course:

- a. No use of any generative AI tools permitted.

- i. Students are required to create and produce all work themselves or with assigned group members. Any work submitted that has used an AI generative tool like Chat GPT will be in immediate violation of the academic integrity policies for the course and WBU.
- ii. All assignments must be fully created, designed, and prepared by the student(s).
- iii. Any work that uses generative AI will be treated as plagiarism.

**Disability Statement:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Disability Services Coordinator and Academic Coach serves as the coordinator of students with disabilities and must be contacted concerning accommodation requests (office (806) 291-1057. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

Accessibility issues with content in WBUonline courses or in Blackboard should be addressed to the WBU accessibility coordinator, Dr. Rick Hammer, [hammerr@wbu.edu](mailto:hammerr@wbu.edu) or call (806) 292-9150.

## **Course Requirements and Grading Criteria**

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Students will be evaluated based on their performance in the following assignments: weekly discussion questions (DQs); journal article reviews; final paper updates; and the Final paper. All papers and DQ responses must be written in accordance with the American Psychological Association (APA) standards and style. Late work is not accepted in a graduate course except in extenuating circumstances.

### **Discussion Questions (DQs):**

Each weekly DQ assigned will be worth 50 points. An additional 25 points each, max of 50 (meaning you must respond to at least two other students), will be awarded for each substantive response given to other students' original postings to the discussion questions; that is, students' answers to the questions. Your DQ responses should contain 250 words or more for DQ1 and DQ2 plus reflect an understanding of the concepts being discussed at the appropriate level expected for graduate students; otherwise, points will be deducted.

The total possible points you can earn per week is 100. You must respond to discussion questions during their week of application to receive credit. In other words, if you answer Week 1's discussion questions during Week 2, you do not receive any credit for Week 1. For our purposes, the week will begin on Monday and end on Sunday. Ensure your responses are written in accordance with APA standards. Twenty-points will be deducted if sources are not properly cited.

You will also need to support your DQ responses with empirical research. You can do this with peer reviewed journal articles, articles from professional organizations related to terrorism and national security, or government reports. Peer reviewed means the article is evaluated by experts in the same field as the article's author(s). To ensure you are using peer reviewed articles, search in the WBU library database for peer reviewed journals. Not using additional sources to support your DQ arguments will result in a 20-point deduction for the week.

Responses to discussion questions are to be submitted no later than 11:59 pm CST on Thursdays. **DQ answers posted after Thursday will incur a 25-point deduction per discussion question.** Responses to students' original postings (their answers to the DQs) must be posted no later than 11:59 pm CST on Sundays to receive credit.

#### **Journal Article Review:**

On specific weeks, students are to find and critique a peer reviewed journal article related to this course. The article can apply to the subject matter discussed for a given week or a topic of interest to you provided the topic remains relevant to this course. The article must be from a scholarly, peer-reviewed academic journal. For this assignment, provide a pdf copy for peer review and specify the article's relevance to this course plus your interest in the topic. Points are awarded by the following criteria: 25 points for providing a copy of your specific journal article, 25 points for how well you evaluate the article's subject matter relevant to the course, and 25 points per response to at least two other students' articles. If you do not participate in the journal article review during the week it is assigned, you will not receive credit. Additionally, to ensure students have time to respond, all articles must be submitted by 11:59 pm CST on Fridays; **submitting after Friday incurs a 25-point deduction.** Note: Only peer reviewed journal articles will be accepted. Responses to students' articles must be posted no later than 11:59 pm CST Sundays on the weeks assigned. Be sure you properly cite your journal article – in the text of your response and in the reference list – in accordance with APA writing standards. **Incorrect citations will incur a 20-point deduction.**

#### **Final Paper:**

For the final paper, research and evaluate a group designated as a terrorist group or being investigated as a terrorist group or one that should be considered a terrorist threat. Describe the group, its intentions, tactics, and history.

You should consider the following questions when researching and writing your paper:

- What criteria is being used to determine whether a group poses a terrorist threat?
- Are these criteria appropriate?
- What are the motives of this group: political, religious, social?
- How is this group funded?
- What are the tactics and targets on which this group would focus?
- How are leaders prepared to handle this threat?
- What legal action, if any, has been taken against the group or individual members?
- How can communities protect themselves from this group?
- What actions can and should the government and law enforcement take against this group?

The project should be 10-12 pages in length excluding a cover page, abstract (summary of the article, not an introduction to the paper), and reference list. Include a minimum of 10 scholarly sources. The paper should be written in APA format: 12-point Times Roman, double spaced, 1" margins.

This assignment will be using the Safe Assign feature. Safe Assign provides you information regarding source citation. That is, Safe Assign will let you know if passages match passages from other published works. This highlights to you that perhaps you have not correctly or sufficiently given credit to original authors. This feature is intended to help you in writing your paper. A matching rate of 15% or less will

be expected for this assignment. Failure to provide a safe assignment report will result in an automatic deduction of 15 points. When submitting your paper into Safe Assign, do not include the reference list as this will skew your matching rate. You will be able to submit the paper up to 3 times, which should be enough tries to get the matching rate at or below 15%.

By week 2, you will submit your chosen organization with an outline of what you expect to cover. You may use the following sample format for the outline to explain your intended points:

**Topic Specified:**

Main Point I (identify group selected)

Subpoint A (source cited)

Subpoint B (source cited)

Main Point II (tactics and targets)

Subpoint A (source cited)

Subpoint B (source cited)

Main Point III (counter-terrorism actions government should take)

Subpoint A (source cited)

Subpoint B (source cited)

Conclusion

Papers whose topics have not been approved will not be graded. Papers will also be judged on the level of analysis (appropriate for graduate level), grammar, spelling, and adherence to these standards.

Failure to submit a paper will result in a failing grade for this class.

Throughout the term you will be providing updates to this paper. These updates will contribute to your final grade's computations.

**APA Tutorial:**

Complete the following APA tutorial. The tutorial should take no longer than 45 minutes—and even less if you are already familiar with APA Style. When you have completed the tutorial, please place a short statement in week 2's folder indicating you have completed and understand how to apply APA style. This will be graded as 100 or zero based upon your statement of completion. In other words, if you do the tutorial, you get a 100. If you ignore the tutorial, you get a zero.

<https://extras.apa.org/apastyle/basics-7e/#/>

**Note:**

All written work must conform to current APA guidelines (12-inch font, Times Roman, 1" margins, double spaced) unless otherwise indicated.

**Late Work:** Because this is a graduate course, late work will not be accepted except in emergency situations supported by documentation. Assignments are expected to be submitted on time. If you anticipate an issue submitting on time, then you need to communicate with me ASAP.

**Assignment Grading Weights:**

35% of grade is based on course room discussions and responses to other students

30% of grade is based on final paper

20% of grade is based on Journal Article Reviews

10% of grade is based on updates to your project

5% of grade is based on completing the APA tutorial

**The University has a standard grade scale:**

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F = below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term, within the last week of an 8-week session, or within the last two days of a microterm to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student's control. A grade of "incomplete" is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long 16-week term or 8-week session, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion. If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

**Student Grade Appeals:** Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog.

Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations.

Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

## **Tentative Schedule**

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Week	Dates	Readings	Assignments
1	3/23 – 3/29	Chapters 1, 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Post intro by Wed</li><li>2. Answer both DQs no later than (NLT) 11:59 pm CST on Thursday</li><li>3. Respond to classmates' DQs NLT Sunday 11:59 pm CST</li></ol>
2	3/30 – 4/5	Chapters 3, 4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Answer both DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on Thursday</li><li>2. Respond to classmates' DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on Sunday</li><li>3. APA Tutorial due NLT 11:59 pm CST Sunday</li><li>4. Paper topic and Outline NLT 11:59 pm CST on Sunday</li></ol>
3	4/6 – 4/12	Chapter 5, 6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Answer both DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on Thursday</li><li>2. Respond to classmates' DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on Sunday</li></ol>

			3. Article review due <b>Friday</b> NLT 11:59 pm CST 4. Responses to classmates' articles due NLT Sunday
4	4/13 – 4/19	Chapters 7, 8	1. Answer both DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on Thursday 2. Respond to classmates' DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on Sunday 3. Paper update NLT 11:59 pm CST on Sunday
5	4/20 – 4/26	Chapters 9, 10	1. Answer both DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on Thursday 2. Respond to classmates' DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on Sunday
6	4/27 – 5/3	Chapters 11, 12	1. Answer both DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on Thursday 2. Respond to classmates' DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on Sunday 3. Article review due <b>Friday</b> NLT 11:59 pm CST 4. Responses to classmates' articles due NLT Sunday 5. Paper update NLT 11:59 pm CST on Sunday
7	5/4 – 5/10	Chapters 13, 14	1. Answer both DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on Thursday 2. Respond to classmates' DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on Sunday
8	5/11 – 5/16	Chapter 15	1. Answer both DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on Thursday 2. Respond to classmates' DQs NLT 11:59 pm CST on <b>Friday</b> 3. Final paper due NLT <b>Friday 11:59pm CST</b>