

Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg

Faculty of Social Sciences, Economics, and Business Administration
Chair of International Relations (Prof. Dr. Thomas Gehring)

Lecturer: Janina Lang, M.A.

Contact: Janina.lang@uni-bamberg.de

Office hours: Dates to be arranged via email



Summer Term 2021

Seminar (BA):

Global Governance and International Counterterrorism Strategies

If you had captured a terrorist with vital information about an imminent attack, would torture be legitimate to save other people's lives? This ticking-time-bomb-scenario is only one out of many conundrums that counterterrorism strategists regularly discuss; and often enough the general opinion is "yes". But what about the various human rights treaties that the states have signed, what about their commitment to international bodies that were designed to prevent such inhuman practices? This course addresses these questions by giving a step-by-step introduction to the nexus of counterterrorism and Global Governance, before then looking into detail at the ripple effects of Abu Ghraib, Guantanamo, and other prisons in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This course is designed to promote an enhanced understanding of the interplay between Global Governance and international counterterrorism strategies by introducing students to a variety of theoretical approaches and empirical case studies. The course relies on active classroom discussions and participation, which enables the students to critically evaluate each issue area, while also giving them the chance to practice basic research methods, which are essential for the final essay. Active engagement by the students will therefore be necessary and is expected.

By the end of this course, students will:

- 1) Gain an in-depth knowledge of the theoretical basis of Global Governance and international counterterrorism strategies
- 2) Develop an understanding of the main concepts and terminology
- 3) Understand and independently analyze modern security challenges
- 4) Be able to identify current trends in international relations
- 5) Be able to conduct independent research

Date: Wednesday, 12:00–14:00 c.t.

Room: Online

Lecturer: Janina Lang, M.A.

ECTS: 6

Eligibility Requirements:

- The working language of this course is English. Presentations and coursework must also be completed in English.
- In order to have sufficient basic knowledge of foreign policy previous participation in the introductory lecture (Einführungsvorlesung) or an equivalent is required.
- Regular attendance and knowledge of the required texts shall be expected.
- To obtain a certificate, participants will have to give a presentation in class and write a term paper (5.000 words +/- 10%, bibliography NOT included).

Please note: The number of participants is limited. Student registration via FlexNow! is required.
In case of problem with FlexNow! please contact Ms. Claudia Genslein.

Course Outline

(1) 14.04.2021 Introduction & Organisation

Theoretical Background

(2) 21.04.2021 Global Governance & International Law

(3) 28.04.2021 Compliance - Norms, Coercion & Policy Emulation

(Counter-) Terrorism

(4) 05.05.2021 Defining Terrorism – Ideologies, Motivations & Methods

(5) 12.05.2021 Internat. Counterterrorism – Strategy, Operations & Capacity

(6) 19.05.2021 US/GER/UK Counterterrorism & Torture I – Post-9/11

(7) 26.05.2021 US/GER/UK Counterterrorism & Torture II - Actors

(8) 02.06.2021 Homework

(9) 09.06.2021 Tools of International Monitoring and Intervention

(10) 16.06.2021 US/GER/UK Counterterrorism & Torture III - Developments

(11) 23.06.2021 Defining the New: Global Governance & Targeted Killings

Wrap Up

(12) 30.06.2021 How to Write an Essay and Student Presentations I

(13) 07.07.2021 Student Presentations II

(14) 14.07.2021 Wrap up & Feedback

30.09.2021 Deadline Term Paper