

## Terrorism: The New Threat

**DEMS 4709**

**Fall 2023**

### Course Information

Course Instructor: Walter Perchal  
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Phone: 416 818 9332  
Office Hours & Location: Rm 336  
Atkinson Tower

Course Time & Days: M @ 16.00  
Class Location: ACW 209  
Course eClass site:  
EClass @ York U

### Land Acknowledgment

York University recognizes that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships with the territories upon which York University campuses are located that precede the establishment of York University. York University acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Huron-Wendat. It is now home to many First Nation, Inuit, and Métis communities. We acknowledge the current treaty holders, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region ([LA&PS Land Acknowledgement](#)).

### Course Overview

### Course Description

Focuses on various components of terrorism. Facilitates a closer examination of both conventional and changing nature of terrorism. Security practices that continue to be applied to the present-day threat will be discussed. New and unconventional anti-terror processes will be explored that are expected to curtail the rise of terrorism. Opened to students in Emergency Mgmt program, or 60 credits completed, or permission of the course director. Cross-Listing: AP/ADMS 4709 3.00

## Course Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Have an introductory level understanding of this field of study
- Apply this understanding with a view to how it relates to DEM
- Understand how further to proceed in this field with respect to Additional studies or potential employment

## Course Format and Organization

Type	Day	Start Time	Duration	Location	Campus	Cat #
LECT 01	M	16:00	180	ACW 209	Keele	C91Z01 (AP DEMS) J07A01 (AP ADMS)

Course will be conducted in person in class in ACW 209 Keele Campus.

Each week the first part of the class will be in a lecture format. The latter part of the course will assume a seminar format which will: review assigned readings, be a forum for both questions and discussion, and be a forum for collaborative work.

[Share how you will be organizing and facilitating your course. Please ensure this information is consistent with how the Registrar's Office has described your course.

References for additional information will be available on the Course E Class Site.

## Technical Requirements

In the event of a weather or other unexpected circumstance the course will proceed at the scheduled time by way of the Course E Class site.

## Using Zoom

Students shall note the following:

- Zoom is hosted on servers in the United States and Canada. Recordings done since May 4, 2022 are stored in Canada. For more information, please refer to the notes on [Zoom Privacy and Security](#) provided by Information Security at York.
- If you have privacy concerns about your data, provide only your first name or a nickname when you join a session.
- The system is configured in a way that all participants are automatically notified when a session is being recorded. In other words, a session cannot be recorded without you knowing about it.

Here are some useful links for student computing information, resources, and help:

- [Student Guide to eClass](#)
- [Zoom@YorkU Best Practices](#)
- [Zoom@YorkU User Reference Guide](#)
- [Student Guide to eLearning at York University](#)

To determine Internet connection and speed, there are online tests, such as [Speedtest](#), that can be run. If you need technical assistance, please consult the [University Information Technology \(UIT\) Student Services](#) web page. For more specific assistance, please write to [askit@yorku.ca](mailto:askit@yorku.ca).

### Course Communication Plan and Office Hours

Students will have direct access to the Course Director before and after class. They will also have the opportunity to book office time by email or phone. Additionally any outstanding issues or questions can be addressed by email or phone.

### Course Expectations

A detailed presentation regarding Course Expectations will be provided to students during the first class and as required throughout the Course.

### Course Evaluation

Assessment	Due Date	Weight %	Course Learning Outcome
Learning Journals	Weekly	30%	Engagement with Course Materials
First Paper	Week of 16 Oct	30%	Entry into Field
Major Paper	Week of 27 Nov	30%	Comprehensive Study
Group Presentation	Week of 27 Nov	10%	Collaborative Study
		<b>100%</b>	

## Assessment Descriptions

The Learning Journals are a weekly engagement with the critical ideas presented. Students will be required to:

Identify Critical Concepts / Ideas

Explain their Importance and Application

30%

The First Paper will be an entry into field written assignment.

30%

The Major Paper will be a comprehensive written assignment on an agreed subject of inquiry.

30%

The Group Presentation will be a collaborative exercise between students to both engage ideas and present them to their peers.

30%

## Submitting Assignments

**Students will submit assignments on a timely basis in class or if required electronically.**

## Late Work Policy

In the event of a late submission the matter will be discussed and appropriate agreed action will be taken.

## Missed Tests and Exams

Missed Assignments will be made up.

The grading scheme for this course conforms to the 9-point system used in undergraduate programs at York University. For a full description of the York grading system, visit the York University [Academic Calendar](#).

GRADE	GRADE POINT	PERCENT RANGE	DESCRIPTION
A+	9	90-100	Exceptional
A	8	80-89	Excellent
B+	7	75-79	Very Good
B	6	70-74	Good
C+	5	65-69	Competent
C	4	60-64	Fairly Competent
D+	3	55-59	Passing

D	2	50-54	Marginally Passing
E	1	(marginally below 50%)	Marginally Failing
F	0	(below 50%)	Failing

## How to Use Citations

[Provide citation expectations in the course assignments and links to appropriate citation references and guidelines. Explain why citation practices are important, and how they support academic integrity by linking information back to an identifiable source. Specify what kinds of citation format students should use and list available resources to support research and citation. For example:

- [SPARK Student Papers & Academic Research Kit](#)
- [Drop-in Research Support](#), YorkU Libraries
- [Writing Centre](#)
- [ESL Open Learning Centre](#)

If you will be permitting the use of generative artificial intelligence tools in your course, please review how generative AI prompts and responses should be cited according to the following referencing styles:

- [APA](#)
- [MLA](#)
- [Chicago](#)

For additional suggestions, please refer to the LA&PS resource on *Generative AI in Teaching & Learning*.]

## Course Schedule: Weekly Readings and Activities

### Required Course Materials

Course Text  
TERRORISM IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY  
Cynthia C. Combs  
Rutledge, New York, 2018  
Optional Materials

Available at York U Bookstore or Online

Additional Readings will be provided in class.

## Course Schedule

Week/Module Dates	Readings and Activities	Assessment Due Dates	Module/Unit Learning Outcomes
Week 1 Date. 11 Sept	Introduction Reading: Chapter 1		Course Introduction and Overview
Week 2 Date 18 Sept	The Actor, The Actors, and The Audience Reading: Chapter 4		Identifying the Players
Week 3 Date 25 Sept	Terrorism in a Historical Perspective Reading: Chapter 2		Understanding what is old is new again
Week 4 Date 02 Oct	Who are today's Terrorists Reading: Chapter 5		Understanding the range from organizations to Lone Wolves
Week 5 Date 16 Oct	The Psychodynamics of Terrorism Reading: Chapter	First Paper Due	Why people join
Week 6 Date 23 Oct	The Intelligence Cycle		A Method for Understanding
Week 7 Date 30 Oct	Terrorist Operations Reading: Chapter 7		Understanding how Terrorists Operate
Week 8 Date 06 Nov	Responses to Terrorism Reading: Chapter 11		Mitigation Strategies
Week 9 Date 13 Nov	Current Trends and Future Prospects Reading: Chapter 14		What to expect next
Week 10 Date 20 Nov	New Threats and Canadian Challenges Reading: Chapter 15		How terrorism will evolve and How We Will Respond
Week 11 Date 27 Nov	Presentations	Journals Presentations Final Paper	
Week 12 Date 04 Dec	Course Review and Recapitulation		Putting it all together

## Course Policies

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information:

- [Student Rights & Responsibilities](#)
- [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#)

Please also review the following course policies:

### Academic Integrity

As a student at York University, you have a responsibility to both understand and uphold the integrity of the academic experience. The Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies supports the International Center for Academic Integrity's [definition of academic integrity](#). That is, you will be committed to acting in all academic matters, even in the face of adversity, with honesty, trust, fairness, courage, respect and responsibility. Here is how you can demonstrate academic integrity in the completion of this course:

- **Respect the ideas of others:** Your course work should represent your own knowledge and ideas. [You should not falsely claim credit for ideas that are not your own, by presenting another's work as yours](#). If you are quoting, paraphrasing, or summarizing another person's work in order to support your own ideas, identify the work and the author through proper citation practices. For more information about how to cite properly, use the [Student Papers and Academic Research Kit](#) (SPARK). You can improve your writing, research, and personal learning abilities through the [Learning Commons](#), or by visiting the [Writing Centre](#) or [ESL Open Learning Centre](#).
- **Respect your peers:** [Know when you are allowed to collaborate](#). Ask your instructor about what group work entails when it comes to the [sharing of work](#). In test situations and assignments, don't steal or give answers to your peers, whether in-person or online (e.g., in group chats and/or on [third-party content-sharing websites](#), such as Chegg, Course Hero, etc.). Both cheating and aiding in a breach of academic honesty are violations of York University's academic honesty policy.
- **Respect your course instructor(s):** Understand what your instructors are asking of you in class, as well as on assignments, tests and/or exams. If you are unsure, ask your professor or teaching assistant. They are committed to making you feel supported and want to assess you fairly and with integrity. Please do not submit the same piece of work for more than one course without your instructor's permission. That can be considered an act of cheating.
- **Respect yourself:** When you act with integrity, you know that your work is yours and yours alone. You do not allow others to take tests for you. [You do not buy or otherwise obtain term papers or assignments](#). You do the work. As a result, you know that you *earned* the grades that you receive, so you can be proud of your York degree. By acting with integrity in your course work, you are also practising a valuable professional skill that is important in all workplaces.
- **Take responsibility:** If you have acted in an academically dishonest way, you can demonstrate courage and take responsibility for your mistake. You can admit your mistake to your course instructor as soon as possible.

Students who engage in academic dishonesty can be subject to disciplinary action under the [Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#). Your lack of familiarity with the Senate Policy does not constitute a defense against its application. Some academic offences can also constitute offences under the [Criminal Code of Canada](#), which means that you may also be subject to criminal charges.

### Using Generative Artificial Intelligence in this Course

[Please include a written policy on whether students are allowed to use generative AI tools, such as ChatGPT, in your course. For sample language, please consult the [note on student uses of generative AI on page 1 of this template](#).]

### Turnitin

[This is only required if Turnitin will be used in your course.]

To promote academic integrity in this course, students will normally be required to submit their written assignments to Turnitin (via the course's eClass site) for a review of textual similarities and the detection of possible plagiarism. In so doing, students will allow their material to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used only for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin service are described on the Turnitin.com website. York students may opt out of using Turnitin. If you wish to opt out, you should contact your instructor as soon as possible.

### Accessibility

While all individuals are expected to satisfy the requirements of their program of study and to aspire to achieve excellence, the University recognizes that persons with disabilities may require reasonable accommodation to enable them to perform at their best. The University encourages students with disabilities to register with [Student Accessibility Services](#) to discuss their accommodation needs as early as possible in the term to establish the recommended academic accommodations that will be communicated to Course Directors through their Letter of Accommodation (LOA).

Please let your instructor know as early as possible in the term if you anticipate requiring academic accommodation so that we can discuss how to consider your accommodation needs within the context of this course. Sufficient notice is needed so that reasonable steps for accommodation can be discussed. Accommodations for tests/exams normally require three (3) weeks (or 21 days) before the scheduled test/exam to arrange.

### Religious Observance Accommodation

York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making reasonable and appropriate [accommodations to adherents for observances of special significance](#). Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for course examinations, tests, or deadlines conflict with a date of religious significance, please contact the instructor within the first three (3) weeks of class. If the date falls within the formal



examination periods, you must complete and submit a [Religious Accommodation for Examination Form](#) at least three (3) weeks before the start of the exam period.

### **Intellectual Property**

Course materials are designed for use as part of this particular course at York University and are the intellectual property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third-party copyrighted materials (such as book chapters, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian copyright law. Students may not publish, post on an Internet site, sell, or otherwise distribute any course materials or work without the instructor's express permission. Course materials should only be used by students enrolled in this course.

Copying this material for distribution (e.g., uploading material to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a charge of misconduct according to York's [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#), the [Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#), and/or legal consequences for copyright violations.

### **Student Conduct in the Learning Environment**

York University is committed to fostering teaching and learning environments that are free of disruptive and/or harassing behaviour, are physically safe, and conducive to effective teaching and learning. Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy, civility, and mutual respect and to refrain from actions disruptive to such a relationship. Individuals who fail to adhere to such standards and who violate University or public law may be subject to disciplinary action by the University.

For more information, see the policies on [Disruptive and/or Harassing Behaviour in Academic Situations](#) and [Student Conduct and Responsibilities](#), as well as the [Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities](#).

### **Netiquette for eClass and Online Learning**

Students and instructors have a joint responsibility to create and maintain a welcoming and inclusive learning environment. All students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#). Please review and familiarize yourself with behaviours that support "netiquette" in virtual classrooms by consulting the [Student Guide to eLearning](#).

### **Student Notice of Recording for Online Teaching and Learning**

Activities for this course involve recording, in partial fulfillment of the course learning outcomes. Images, audio, text/chat messaging that have been recorded may be used and/or made available by the University to students enrolled in the course and those supporting the course for the purpose of materials review, for assessment, etc. Recordings will be managed according to the University's Common Record Schedule and will be securely destroyed when no longer needed by the University. Your personal information is protected in accordance with York University's [Guidelines on Access to Student Records and Protection of Privacy](#) and

the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#). Access to online materials, including recordings or live meetings, is subject to York University's [Senate Policy on Computing and Information Technology Facilities](#).

The University will use reasonable means to protect the security and confidentiality of the recorded information, but cannot provide a guarantee of such due to factors beyond the University's control, such as recordings being forwarded, copied, intercepted, circulated, disclosed, or stored without the University's knowledge or permission, or the introduction of malware into computer system which could potentially damage or disrupt the computer, networks, and security settings. The University is not responsible for connectivity/technical difficulties or loss of data associated with your hardware, software, or Internet connection.

By engaging in course activities that involve recording, you are consenting to the use of your appearance, image, text/chat messaging, and voice and/or likeness in the manner and under the conditions specified herein. In the case of a live stream recording, if you choose not to have your image or audio recorded, you may disable the audio and video functionality. If you choose to participate using a pseudonym instead of your real name, you must disclose the pseudonym to your instructor in advance to facilitate class participation.

You are not permitted to disclose the link to/URL of an event or an event session recording or copies of recording to anyone, for any reason. Recordings are available only to authorized individuals who have been directly provided the above instructions/link for their use. Recordings for personal use, required to facilitate your learning and preparation of personal course/lecture notes, may not be shared with others without the permission of the instructor or event coordinator, and may not be published, posted, linked to, or otherwise made available online, including on social media feeds, even if those feeds are private.

### **Hyflex Course Policy**

**[This section applies only to HYFLX courses.]**

Hyflex sessions are digitally transmitted and may be recorded to support teaching and learning in the classroom. As a result, York University may collect your image, voice, name, personal views and opinions, and course work under the authority of The York University Act, 1965, and for use in related educational purposes. Students who participate in a Hyflex session are consenting to have their video or image transmitted and/or recorded. In addition, students who participate orally are consenting to have their voices, personal views and opinions transmitted and/or recorded. If you have concerns regarding the digital transmission or recording of your image or voice, please communicate with your instructor; you may be referred to the Associate Dean or Information and Privacy Office. Students are not permitted to use any third-party software or application to record a transmitted Hyflex session.

Recordings of Hyflex course sessions will be retained along with other posted course materials in accordance with York's Common Record Schedule. Access to any recordings should be limited to the instructor, the TA(s), and the students enrolled in the course. Instructors, TA(s) and students may not post, share, or otherwise publish recorded materials outside of the Hyflex course. Student access will be removed following the end of each term. Instructors are

not to keep a copy of the recorded Hyflex session or store a copy locally on their own device or in a cloud-based service other than eClass. Recordings that include student images or audio may not be used for a subsequent offering of the course.

As always, if you have any questions about the collection or use of your personal information, please contact your instructor or the Privacy Office at [info.privacy@yorku.ca](mailto:info.privacy@yorku.ca).

## Student Support and Resources

To help you succeed academically, York University offers a wide range of resources and services. Everything from writing workshops and peer mentorship to wellness support and career guidance is available to fulfill our LA&PS students' needs. Explore the links below to access these on-campus resources:

- [Academic Advising](#) is available to provide students support and guidance in making academic decisions and goals.
- [Student Accessibility Services](#) are available for support and accessibility accommodation when required.
- [Student Counselling, Health & Wellbeing](#) offers workshops, resources, and counselling to support your academic success.
- [Peer-Assisted Study Sessions \(PASS\) Program](#) provides student study sessions for students to collaborate and enhance their understanding of course content in certain courses.
- [Student Numeracy Assistance Centre at Keele \(SNACK\)](#) supports students in courses involving math, stats, and Excel.
- [The Writing Centre](#) provides multiple avenues of writing-based support including drop-in sessions, one-to-one appointments, a Multilingual Studio, and an Accessibility Specialist.
- [ESL Open Learning Centre \(OLC\)](#) supports students with building proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking English.
- [Learning Skills Services](#) provides tips for time management, effective study and learning habits, keeping up with coursework, and other learning-related supports.
- [Learning Commons](#) provides links to supports for time management, writing, study skills, preparing for exams, and other learning-related resources.
- [Roadmap to Student Success](#) provides students with timely and targeted resources to help them achieve academic, personal, and professional success.
- [Office of Student Community Relations \(OSCR\)](#) is responsible for administering the [Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities](#) and provides critical incident support.
- [goSAFE](#) is staffed by York students and can accompany York community members to and from any on-campus location, such as the Village Shuttle pick-up hub, parking lots, bus stops, or residences.

For a full list of academic, wellness, and campus resources visit [Student Support & Resources](#).