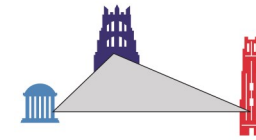




Old Well and South Building, ca. 1943 (North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill).

Winter "Gothic" Wonderland, 1958 (Duke University Archives, Durham, North Carolina, USA).

Alumni Building, North Carolina State University, 1958 (Special Collections Research Center, North Carolina State University Libraries-0000002).



The Triangle Institute for Security Studies

Welcomes you to its

Thirteenth Annual Honor Student Dinner

featuring

Presentations of Honor Theses by Undergraduates in Security Studies

Friday Center, Willow Lounge

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

April 21st 2017

5:30—8:00 pm

Cosponsored by Duke University's Program in
American Grand Strategy

MENU

Caesar Salad with Croutons and
Shaved Parmesan

Lemon Rosemary Chicken Breast

Cheese Stuffed Ravioli with Sun Dried
Tomato Cream Sauce

Roasted Mixed Vegetables
Sautéed Green Beans

Gluten Free Chocolate Torte
Key Lime Pie

Tough on Terror: Analyzing the Impact of Counterterrorism Efforts on Salafi-Jihadist Radicalization Network in Belgium, France, and the United Kingdom

Does the strength of a country's counterterrorism response impact salafi-jihadist radicalization networks? This thesis seeks to answer that previously unaddressed question through an empirical approach to the counterterrorism efforts in the United Kingdom, France, and Belgium. It argues - on the basis of security service funding, legal infrastructure, and interagency cooperation - that the United Kingdom, followed by France, has mounted the strongest counterterrorism effort and hypothesizes that the relative strength of these efforts affects the proportions of each country's salafi-jihadists radicalized through HGO (hierarchical, goal-oriented), mosque-based, family, friend, and online networks.

To assess these hypotheses, demographic and source of radicalization data was compiled for 179 Belgian, 170 French, and 237 British salafi-jihadists, constituting the largest cross-country database of salafi-jihadists analyzed in political science literature. The analysis revealed a strong inverse relationship between the strength of a nation's counterterrorism effort and the proportion of the nation's salafi-jihadists radicalized through HGO networks. These results indicate that high levels of security service funding, close interagency cooperation, and wide legal authority reduce radicalization through HGO networks, which have been associated with large terror attacks.

JAMES FERENCSIK

Duke University

Born and raised in Savannah, Georgia, James Ferencsik is a senior Political Science major and Arabic minor at Duke University. His awards include the following: an Angier B. Duke Scholar (flagship merit scholarship to Duke University), a Phi Beta Kappa, Emily Boutmy (flagship merit scholarship to Sciences Po), a Kuwait Sciences Excellence Scholarship (merit scholarship to Sciences Po), and a Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) for Arabic language study. He was a Rhodes Scholarship Finalist and a Marshall Scholarship Finalist. His academic and career interests revolve around using youth political engagement as a tool for countering jihadist radicalization. He recently finished a thesis on radicalization networks in Europe and has spent three of his last four summers in Morocco learning Arabic, researching youth political engagement, and teaching English. After graduating in May, he will pursue a Masters in International Security at Sciences Po in Paris on an Emile Boutmy Scholarship. There, he plans to research French integration and counter-radicalization efforts.

SCHEDULE

5:30 PM Buffet Opens

5:45 PM Welcome

5:50 – 6:20 PM

Alexandra Gombar, UNC-Chapel Hill:
UN Peacekeeping Responses to
Genocide

6:20 – 6:50 PM

Nick Johnston, Duke: Recruitment
Strategy of Islamic State

6:50 PM Dessert Run/ Break

7:00 – 7:30 PM

Sarah Adams, UNC-Chapel Hill:
Whistleblowers and Insider Threats

7:30—8:00 PM

James Ferencsik, Duke:
Counterterrorism and Salafi-Jihadist
Radicalization Networks

8:00 PM Farewell

ALEXANDRA GOMBAR

UNC-Chapel Hill

Alexandra Gombar is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, majoring in Global Studies and Peace, War, and Defense, and minoring in English. She attended high school in Wilmington, North Carolina, but was raised in Prague in the Czech Republic. Her father's experience growing up in communist Czechoslovakia instilled in her the value of social justice and human rights. She has been the recipient of numerous awards, to include the Willie P. Mangum Medal in Oratory; the Global Engagement Fellowship to participate in an internship in Uganda; and the Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship to study Arabic in Jordan. She has also been on the Dean's List (six semesters). Outside of class she participates in speech and debate, teaching English as a second language and acapella. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, jogging and creative writing. On graduation, Ms. Gombar will spend the summer working with Raising Up Hope for Uganda, an NGO that serves orphaned and abandoned children in the suburbs of Kampala. After that, she plans to spend a year working in a human rights organization in the Middle East or Yugoslavia, before attending law school and pursuing a career in international human rights law and atrocity prevention.

When Whistleblowers Become Traitors: Approaching Internal Relations in the Intelligence Community from a Psychological Perspective

The tension between secrecy and transparency is not a new dichotomy in either US politics or popular conversation. However, when Edward Snowden leaked classified documents to the media in 2013 about an extensive surveillance program known as PRISM, the views held by many Americans regarding security and accountability reached new extremes.

This study takes an interdisciplinary approach to examining one of the most central elements of this issue — the Whistleblower's Dilemma. Referring to a situation of internal ethical conflict in which an individual must compromise one core value to uphold another, the Whistleblower's Dilemma has no higher stakes scenario than the United States' Intelligence Community (IC).

This quantitative and qualitative content analysis examines interviews with IC whistleblowers who reported on classified information in order to identify motivations and deterrents to their behavior. Four psychological variables will be examined (valuation of fairness, loyalty, public service motivation and perceived personal cost) in order to identify potential similarities and differences between internal and external IC whistleblowers.

The results of these findings will be applied to the development of internal relations strategies that ultimately increase internal reporting, decrease external reporting and contribute depth to current insider threat programs.

SARAH ADAMS

UNC-Chapel Hill

Sarah Adams is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from Whitsett, North Carolina. She is completing a double major in psychology and media journalism with a specialization in public relations. She is on the Dean's List and also in the Carolina Honors Program. Beyond her academics, Ms Adams' campus involvement and professional experience are reflective of her global focus. In 2014, she worked as a Community Development Intern in Quebec, and went on to serve the following year with a Holistic Development non-profit in Indonesia. This past summer, she worked as the Executive Intern for Invisible Girl Project, a nonprofit that fights to end gendercide in India. She currently serves as the Vice President of Every Nation Campus, and is completing a thesis that integrates and applies her interests in psychology and media to security studies. Upon graduation, she plans to apply her international experience and interest in security to work within the public sector.

The Capstone Doctrine and UN Peacekeeping Responses to Genocide

The Capstone Doctrine, which enshrines the principles of consent, impartiality and non-use of force as the guiding principles of UN peacekeeping, severely limit peacekeepers' abilities to respond to genocide, as evidenced by the failure of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) and the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) to prevent genocide in Rwanda in 1994 and Bosnia in 1995, respectively.

Gaining consent from belligerent parties has little effect on peacekeepers' ability to respond to genocide because peace agreements are unlikely to encompass all of the belligerents; UNAMIR's consent agreement was ineffective largely because much of the genocide was conducted by militias. The principle of impartiality limits peacekeepers' ability to respond to genocide because they are unable to conduct even routine operations on the ground for fear of being accused of bias. Additionally, inherent biases within the UN system, including to official state actors and the winning party to any conflict, prevents the UN from behaving in a completely impartial manner. UNAMIR was crippled by the fact that the genocidal Rwandan government had a seat on the UNSC in 1994, while UNPROFOR, was unable to conduct basic operations, like helping clear bodies from battlefields or visit political figures to conduct negotiations, without being accused of bias by political figures and civilians alike.

Finally, the principle of non-use of force precludes UN peacekeepers from responding to genocide by limiting their ability to intervene in ongoing or imminent attacks against civilians, preventing them from deterring future attacks and precluding other third party actors from using force while peacekeepers are deployed on the ground. Both UNAMIR and UNPROFOR were unable to act against ongoing attacks against civilians, including the attack against Rwandan Prime Minister Agathe Uwilingiyimana and the killing of civilians in Srebrenica. Additionally, UNPROFOR was authorized to call on NATO air strikes to help them fulfill their mandate. However, they were reluctant to do so for fear of retaliation against UN officials.

NICK JOHNSTON

Duke University

Nick Johnston is an Australian international student in his senior year at Duke, double majoring in Political Science and International Comparative Studies (ICS) and minoring in German. He has a strong interest in international relations, foreign policy and global security, with particular reference to the Middle East. He has also been an exchange student in Copenhagen and studied at the University of Sydney. These experiences have helped him develop a uniquely broad understanding of many international issues. A Robertson Scholar, Mr. Johnston has received numerous awards, to include the Kevin Deford Gorter Award for Club Sports Officer of the Year (2015); and the McKee Scholarship from the Delta Sigma Phi Foundation. In 2015 he undertook a two-month, 1,000 mile solo horse ride across eastern Mongolia's mountains and steppes to learn more about the Mongolian lifestyle. On graduation, he plans to work for the Laboratory for Unconventional Conflict Analysis and Simulation at Duke, focusing on developing strategic intelligence tools and processes. Eventually, he plans to return to Australia to serve in the public sector.

An Analysis of the Recruitment Strategy of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS)

Since its beginnings in a perfect storm of favorable political, historical, cultural and technological circumstances, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) has developed and executed a recruitment strategy which has set it apart from competing jihadi groups. Shocking the world with a previously unseen brutality, the content of its media releases was originally predicted to result in a distinct alienation from potential recruits. Instead, ISIS managed to recruit the largest wave of fighters in modern jihadi history. Many researchers considered the group simply the next iteration of jihadi doctrine and little research has been published that holistically evaluates the model of ISIS' recruitment platform or identifies its integral components. However, the similarity of its recruitment methodology to the proscriptions of The Management of Savagery suggests that ISIS recruitment strategy was the result of a very deliberate approach.

This thesis seeks to explore how ISIS came to dominate the realm of jihad and how it has adopted new concepts and strategies to maintain this dominance. In order to analyse how ISIS' method has diverged from traditional recruitment doctrine and method and to identify its particular appeal, analysis was conducted in several phases: 1) Semantic analysis of common media used by ISIS and other groups to identify particular areas of divergence from mainstream jihadi macro recruitment methodology, 2) Close analysis of digital media directly from ISIS' own broadcast stations to observe change in projections of these areas over time, 3) Evaluation of the impact of ISIS' most prominent macro recruitment themes, taking into account both the demographics of target audiences and the technological media used to reach them, with a separate analysis of the Caliphate's value and 4) Development and evaluation of a recruitment model describing ISIS' approach to recruitment, drawing the results of the above analyses.

The key themes contributing to this success are identified and their change mapped over time to understand the evolution of ISIS' recruitment strategy to date. Particular attention is paid to the role of the Caliphate within ISIS' recruitment model and its mutual impact on ISIS' traditional violence.

Key findings of the thesis included the following: 1) ISIS gained its original momentum through execution of a recruitment strategy revolutionary amongst jihadi groups; 2) Large-scale projections of the group drive its recruitment success; 3) The declaration of the Caliphate served an essential purpose in sustaining ISIS' recruitment platform.