

## COURSE DETAIL

### SOLDIERS, TERRORISTS, AND GUERRILLAS

**Country**

Netherlands

**Host Institution**

Utrecht University

**Program(s)**

Utrecht University

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Political Science History

**UCEAP Course Number**

118

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

SOLDIERS, TERRORISTS, AND GUERRILLAS

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

SOLDIERS&TERRORISTS

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

6.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

4.00

## **Course Description**

This course offers students an opportunity to conduct research with primary source material and write an original research paper. Students' perspectives on violence are enhanced through the introduction of a micro-sociological, actor-oriented approach. It puts three related categories of violent actors (soldiers, guerrillas, terrorists) center stage. It embeds historical interpretations of their experiences in the broader debate on the differences and similarities of regular and irregular ways of waging war. A close look at the immediate experiences of extreme violence by the fighters involved points at disturbing similarities between soldiers and terrorists. Students consider the difference between regular and irregular warfare and whether we are guided by specific ideas of violence born of the Western nation-state. Using historical case studies from modern history students conduct an in-depth study of soldiers, guerrillas, and terrorists and the experience of organized violence in regular and irregular warfare by the fighters involved. They learn to historicize and criticize the common view of warfare by concentrating on the experiences of its most common actors. Under the supervision of a lecturer, students learn to determine a personal stance in existing historical debates, and to contribute to increasing our knowledge and understanding of the historical backgrounds underlying modern issues. Students choose their research topic on the basis of the actor-oriented literature discussed in the first four weeks. They familiarize themselves with demarcating their research, formulating a research question (with possible subordinate questions) and relating this to specific introductory literature.

## **Language(s) of Instruction**

English

## **Host Institution Course Number**

GE3V17044

## **Host Institution Course Title**

SOLDIERS, TERRORISTS, AND GUERRILLAS

## **Host Institution Campus**

Humanities

**Host Institution Faculty**

**Host Institution Degree**

**Host Institution Department**

History and Art History

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