

# THE MIDDLE EAST EXPLAINED

A project of the Duke-UNC Consortium for Middle East Studies

## TEACHER'S GUIDE

### Video: The Aftermath of 9/11

*This video is recommended for use in advanced Middle School, and High School classrooms.*

#### Video Overview

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 had a major impact on the course of modern history. The attacks, a series of four coordinated airplane hijackings organized by Al-Qaeda, were the most severe attacks inside the United States borders since the Second World War. The attacks resulted in death and destruction, prompting increased efforts by the United States to combat terrorism. During the weeks, months, and years that followed, the attacks led to changes in domestic policies on immigration, law and surveillance; prompted new foreign policy and American military involvement overseas; and affected the lives of Muslims living in the United States, who experienced increased prejudice and hate crimes.

In this video, David Schanzer discusses the impact of September 11 on foreign relations, domestic policies, and American Muslims. He addresses these topics in greater depth in a course on Coursera: "[Understanding 9/11: Why 9/11 Happened & How Terrorism Affects Our World Today](#)".

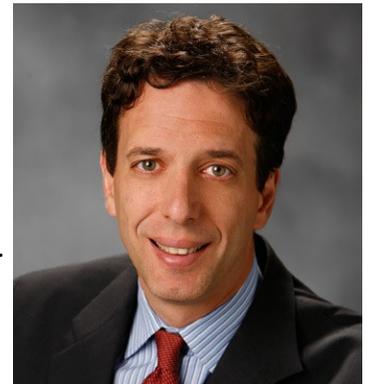
#### Learning Objectives

After watching this video, students will be able to:

- Explain how 9/11 led to United States military involvement in Afghanistan.
- Analyze the effectiveness of efforts by the international community to reduce terrorist attacks.
- Understand changes in domestic policies and organizations since 9/11.
- Describe how 9/11 has impacted the lives of Muslim Americans.

#### About the Speaker

David Schanzer is an Associate Professor of the Practice at the Sanford School of Public Policy and Director of the Triangle Center on Terrorism and Homeland Security at Duke University. Before coming to Duke in 2005, Schanzer served as Minority Staff Director for the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security, Legislative Director for Senator Jean Carnahan, Special Counsel for the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, and Counsel to Senators Joe Biden, Jr. and William S. Cohen. Schanzer is the lead author of two National Institute of Justice funded studies "The Challenge and Promise of Using Community Policing Strategies to Prevent Violent Extremism" (2015) and "Anti-Terror Lessons of Muslim Americans" (2010). He has written for and appeared frequently on international, national and local media analyzing counterterrorism and homeland security issues. Schanzer is a graduate of Harvard College (1985) and Harvard Law School (1989). Twitter: @schanzerdavid | Website: <https://sites.duke.edu/tcths/>



The **Duke-UNC Consortium for Middle East Studies** is a collaboration of the Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations and the Duke University Middle East Studies Center. As the recipient of a Title VI Middle East Studies grant from the U.S. Department of Education, the Consortium is a National Resource Center. Our Outreach Program supports K-12 and community college educators in deepening understanding of the Middle East through professional development trainings, local study tours, providing access to speakers, creating classroom resources, and more. [Visit us online at http://ncmideast.org/outreach/.](http://ncmideast.org/outreach/)

## Classroom Activities: The Aftermath of 9/11

**Materials/Resources Needed: Materials/Resources Needed:** “The Aftermath of 9/11” video link: (<https://youtu.be/l85H-4KKDLI>), copies of the Student Viewing Guide. Talking about terrorism may bring out emotional responses in students. The 9/11 Memorial museum has developed [these helpful tips](#) for speaking with children about terrorism.

*Optional: Rather making copies for each student, teachers may project one copy of the discussion questions for the entire class.*

**Step 1:** Tell students that the events of September 11 had a major impact on American and World History. Remind students that the views of Al Qaeda represent an extremist few. The vast majority of Muslims are peace-loving people, and teachings of Islam focus on compassion and peace. Concerns over Islamic extremism are widely shared in Western publics and Muslim publics alike, and many Muslims are victims of Islamic extremism themselves. Share that terrorism has been used by many groups around the world; Islamic extremist groups like Al Qaeda are just one example. Remind students that not all terrorists are Muslim, and that terrorism is both an international and domestic issue.

**Step 2:** Pass out the Student Viewing Guide. Before playing the video, ask students to read through the key terms and timeline. Then, inform students that they will answer Comprehension Questions as they watch the video.

*Differentiation: Divide students into small groups and assign questions to each group member. After the video, ask students to explain their answers to their small group.*

**Step 3:** Play the video (please note that subtitles are available on YouTube if needed). Give students extra time after the video is complete to finish answering the Comprehension Questions on the Student Guide. Check for understanding by going over answers to the questions out loud as a class. Discuss key terms as a group.

**Step 4:** To encourage further understanding, consider facilitating a class discussion or addressing the following points:

- How did the United States respond to 9/11?
- In what ways did 9/11 change flying and our sense of security?
- Compare and contrast the attacks of various extremist groups today with those committed on 9/11?
- In what ways have other countries responded to terrorist attacks?
- How has the war in Afghanistan impacted American politics, society, and culture?
- How can we help others, either those who were impacted by 9/11 directly, or others in need in our community?

### **Assessment:**

Informal Student Performance Assessment: Observation of each student participating in small group or class discussions.

Formal Assessment: Written student responses on the Student Viewing Guide. Good responses will demonstrate understanding of learning objectives.

**Extension:** After watching the video, further topics for exploration include: Afghani culture, global terrorism, United States involvement in Afghanistan and Iraq, and debates over security vs. civil liberties.