

Guidelines for Final Paper-History 4363

Over the course of the semester, we have examined a number of issues related to the scope and content of military theory, the principles and goals of strategy, and the effects of culture, ideology, and technology on the use of military force. Your final paper assignment requires that you incorporate all of these ideas into an extended essay of 3,000-3,500 words that addresses the following elements:

(A) How do you define warfare and how do you define the political objectives of warfare? Does your definition draw on the work of a particular theorist or theorists? If so, explain?

(B) What is your definition of strategy and what is the difference between the tactical, operational, and strategic levels of warfare? Why is it important to distinguish between these levels of warfare?

(C) How does culture and/or strategic culture influence the way in which individual countries frame the nature of warfare and how warfare is fought? Specifically, is there a specific “Western or Occidental Way of War” and a specifically “Eastern or Oriental Way of Warfare”? Your answer should use examples that address military theory (Clausewitz versus Sun Tzu and Mao), the formulation of military strategy, and the actual conduct of military operations.

(D) What role has ideology played in the course and conduct of warfare during the 20th century? What factors account for this phenomenon and why is it important to understand the role of ideology in warfare in the 21st century?

(E) How has technology affected the nature and course of warfare since the 18th century? What is the role and influence of technology during this period? Has the relative influence and importance of technology changed over the last 200 hundred years? If so, how has it affected land warfare, naval warfare, and aerial warfare? Does doctrine tend to lead technology or does technology tend to emerge before suitable doctrine and why is this distinction important?

(F) In your opinion, what is the future of warfare? What will be the key elements of warfare in the mid-21st century? What will be the important capabilities that determine success or failure in future warfare?

Your final papers will be graded on the following factors: (1) Level and depth of analysis; (2) the degree and appropriateness of the historical examples from across the course used to support your argument and breadth and appropriateness of the source base; (3) the originality of your thought; (4) the quality of expression and writing style. Your paper should be *double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 font* and must include citations/footnotes and an attached bibliography of works cited. The final paper is due to www.turnitin.com by 2:00 pm on Monday (10 May). I look forward to reading your thoughts. Good luck!