

**UNIVERSITY
NUMBER
War and Social Change – The Military Revolution**

Class Meetings:

Instructor: Dr. Jonathan Abel

Contact:

Office:

Course Objectives: This course will examine the changes in the European art and science of war from the advent of gunpowder c1400 to the American rebellion in the 1770s. It will illustrate the effects of these changes on demography, political institutions, industrial production, social structure, taxation patterns, and other areas. This will explain much of the development of the modern world and its institutions, through the lens of military history.

Text: Various readings posted on Blackboard

Course Requirements:

Quizzes: 5 quizzes worth ~17% each
Quizzes will cover reading and lecture material and will be given at the end of each Thursday class.

Quiz Content:

25 Multiple Choice Questions worth 4 points each.

*You'll need to purchase 5 Scantron form 882s

Makeup Exams: Please do not miss a quiz. **Vacation is not an excuse for missing a quiz.** This is a summer class, with a tight schedule – I expect you to be present for each assignment.

Book review: Check Blackboard for the book review assignment, which will be the remaining ~17% of your grade.

Grading:

Your final grade will be calculated as follows, evenly averaging your test grades and your review assignment:

Average:	Final grade:
100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
69-60	D
below 60	F

Blackboard: All relevant class materials, including this syllabus, are posted on the course Blackboard on the website. If you are unfamiliar with Blackboard, please become so quickly. You will use it, or a form of it, throughout your future academic career. I will post your grades on the Blackboard as well, so you'll have access to your average at any time. In addition, I may post interesting videos, speeches, and text to the Blackboard page throughout the semester for those of you more interested in history or the course material.

Attendance: There is no formal attendance policy for the course. You are a consumer who purchased this course; if you choose not to attend, your grade will most likely suffer. That is your choice to make. Being a Summer 5-week class, missing class will seriously harm your ability to make a decent grade. Please do not miss class unless you absolutely must – you signed up for a class that meets 4 days a week for 2 hours, so please be there.

As such, you are each also expected to treat your instructor and classmates with respect at all times. This includes not talking while the instructor is talking; not using cell phones, laptop computers, and other electronics as distractions during class; not wearing headphones during class; and arriving on time and not leaving early except in an emergency.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Unit I	Background	War and Society	Medieval Warfare
	The Military Revolution		
Unit II	The Rise of Spain	The Habsburg-Valois Wars	
	Colonialism and Colonial Conflicts	Naval Warfare	
Unit III	Religion and Warfare	The Thirty Years War	
Unit IV	The Age of Louis XIV	Absolutism and War	
Unit V	Frederick II and Prussia	The Decline of France	Colonialism
	The American Experience	Towards the Modern Art of War	

Technology: This course is lecture-based. As such, I strongly encourage everyone to type notes on a laptop, if you have or can get one. I would also encourage you to record the class on your phones or another recording device. You do not need to ask me beforehand if you wish to do either of these. Do not let them become distractions, either to yourself or your fellow students.

Grade Grievances: If you feel you haven't been graded fairly, please contact me directly. I will have final say on all subjective grading matters, including late/missed work.

I retain the right to alter this schedule but will inform students of any such alterations.