

## History 510:392:07 – Culture & Conflict in Europe, 1500-1914

Spring 2006

Dr. Matthew Muehlbauer

Office: Van Dyck Hall 210

Office Hours: Tuesdays 4:30- 5:30  
& by appointment

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:50 – 4:10 P.M.

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### Course Description

This course will explore the origins of ideas about conflict within European society to the eve of World War I. Students will investigate cultural sources for such perspectives, including the impact of intellectual movements, rising levels of literacy and mass communications, and political and economic factors. The class will also examine the larger cultural and social impact of war.

Students will develop comparative analytical skills in the identification and comprehension of historical arguments. They will also enhance communication skills through written work and an oral presentation.

### Class Readings

Students are expected to read about 70-110 pages a week, which will include the indicated sections of course textbooks, as well as chapters of other books and articles placed on reserve through the campus library system.

#### *Textbooks:*

Michael Howard, *War in European History*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1976.

John A. Lynn, *Battle: A History of Combat and Culture*. Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 2003.

Peter Paret, *Imagined Battles: Reflections of War in European Art*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1997.

Tim Travers, *The Killing Ground: The British Army, the Western Front, and the Emergence of Modern Warfare, 1900-1918*. South Yorkshire: Pen & Sword Books Ltd, 2003.

#### *Reserve Materials:*

Brian Bond, *The Pursuit of Victory: From Napoleon to Saddam Hussein*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996, pp. 12-79.

Roger Chickering, *We Men Who Feel Most German: A Cultural Study of the Pan-German League, 1886-1914*. Boston: Allen & Unwin, 1984, pp.

Gordon A. Craig, *The Politics of the Prussian Army 1640-1945*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1955, pp. 1-21, 217-54.

Modris Eksteins, *Rites of Spring: The Great War and the Birth of the Modern Age*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1989, pp. 55-94

Andrew Gordon, *The Rules of the Game: Jutland and the British Naval Command*. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1996, pp. 155-192.

Victor Davis Hanson, *The Western Way of War: Infantry Battle in Classical Greece*. Second edition. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000, pp. 3-39.

John Keegan, *The Face of Battle*. New York: Penguin Books, 1976, pp. 78-116

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Brent Nosworthy, *With Musket, Cannon and Sword: Battle Tactics of Napoleon and His Enemies*. New York: Sarpedon, 1996, pp. 35-48.

Geoffrey Parker, *The Military Revolution: Military Innovation and the Rise of the West, 1500-1800*. Second edition. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1996. pp. 6-44, 82-145.

Peter Paret, ed., *Makers of Modern Strategy: From Machiavelli to the Nuclear Age*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1986, pp. 64-213, 281-96.

James A. Winders, *European Culture Since 1848: From Modern to Postmodern and Beyond*, New York: Palgrave, 2001, pp. 7-18, 49-98.

### Semester Grade

Students' grades for the course will be based on performance of the following assignments, which will comprise the indicated percentage of their final grade:

Attendance & Class Participation:	20%
Oral Presentation:	10%
Mid-Term Exam:	20%
Term Paper:	25%
Final Exam:	25%

#### *Attendance & Class Participation:*

Attendance and class participation are mandatory. Students are expected to complete each week's required readings and be prepared to discuss them in class. More than 3 absences during a semester may reduce a student's final grade. Any student who knows that he or she may have difficulties attending class needs to discuss the situation with the instructor as early as possible. Absent students are responsible for all material missed in class.

#### *Oral Presentation & Term Paper:*

Each student will choose a cultural work as the focus on an oral presentation and a term paper. The work may be a visual object such as a painting or sculpture; a piece of literature, such as a novel, play or poetry; even musical works. The work must have been created in Europe in the period 1500-1914. The work must also be relevant the topic being discussed in class at the time of the student's oral presentation.

In both the presentation and the term paper, students will describe their chosen work, present historical facts and developments to place it in context, and explain what ideas the work expresses about the human experience of war and conflict. To meet these requirements, students will need to familiarize themselves with their chosen works, but also with secondary sources that analyze the work and describe the relevant historical events and developments in the period when the work was created.

Oral Presentation: Each week about 3 students will give presentations. Each one should be 5-10 minutes long. Students are encouraged to use visual, auditory, and other materials to enhance their presentations.

Term Paper: Papers should be 10-15 pages long, doubled-spaced, have 1-inch margins, use font size 12, and have a cover page that lists the paper's title, student's name, instructor, class, and date. Students are expected to know how to use citations (i.e., footnotes or endnotes), and provide a bibliography. Note that six weeks before the paper is due, students will turn in a

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bibliography with a paragraph describing the cultural work they will describe and ideas for the paper's thesis.

### *Exams:*

Students will take an in-class mid-term exam and a final. These exams will consist of essay questions.

Mid-term Exam: Students will answer 2 essay questions.

Final Exam: Students will answer 3 essay questions.

### **Academic Integrity**

Students taking courses at Rutgers are bound by widely accepted standards of student behavior, standards that will be followed in this course. It is expected that students will not plagiarize, cheat on examinations in any way, appropriate another's work, or behave in any other manner that subverts the process of education and evaluation. For a more detailed treatment of academic violations and possible consequences, see <http://teachx.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>.

### **Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments**

Week 1, Jan. 17 & 19:	Prelude: Warfare in Ancient Greece
<i>Readings:</i>	Hanson, 3-40 Lynn, 1-27
Week 2, Jan 24 & 26:	Medieval Warfare
<i>Readings:</i>	Howard, 1-19 Keegan 78-116 Lynn, 73-109
Week 3, Jan. 31 & Feb. 2:	The Military Revolution
<i>Readings:</i>	Howard, 20-37 Paret, 1-30 Parker, 6-44
Week 4, Feb. 7 & 9:	Early Modern Warfare and the Enlightenment
<i>Readings:</i>	<i>Makers of Modern Strategy</i> , 64-90 Howard, 54-74 Lynn, 111-144 Paret, 31-45
Week 5, Feb. 14 & 16:	The Eighteenth Century to the French Revolution
<i>Readings:</i>	<i>Makers of Modern Strategy</i> , 91-119 Bond, 12-27 Craig, 1-21 Paret, 46-64
Week 6, Feb. 21 & 23:	The French Revolution and Napoleon
<i>Readings:</i>	<i>Makers of Modern Strategy</i> , 123-42 Bond, 28-43 Howard, 75-93 Nosworthy, 35-48 Paret, 65-82

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Week 7, Feb. 28 & March 2: The Impact of the Napoleonic Wars

*Readings:* *Makers of Modern Strategy*, 143-213  
Bond, 44-57  
Lynn, 179-219

### **Bibliography and Topic Description for Term Paper Due in class on March 2**

Week 8, March 7 & 9: Review & Mid-term

#### **In-class Mid-term Exam on March 9**

Week 9, March 21 & 23: Naval Developments and Europe Abroad

*Readings:* Lynn, 145-78  
Parker, 82-145

Week 10, March 28 & 30: The German Wars of Unification

*Readings:* *Makers of Modern Strategy*, 281-296.  
Bond, 58-79  
Howard, 94-115

Week 11 April 4 & 6: European Culture: Nineteenth Century to the Great War

*Readings:* Paret, 83-98  
Winders, 7-18, 49-98

Week 12, April 11 & 13 Nationalism and Industrialization

*Readings:* Chickering, 74-132  
Eksteins, 55-94

### **No Class on April 18**

Week 13 & 14, Military Institutions, 1871-1914

April 20, 25 & 27:

*Readings:* Craig, 217-54  
Gordon, 155-192  
Howard, 116-135  
Travers

### **Term Papers due in class on April 20**

May 5, 2006:

**Final Exam, 12:00 Noon**