

## History 208: Military Strategy and Policy

Fall 2004

Instructor: Matthew Muehlbauer

Office Hours: By appointment

Tuesdays, 5:10 - 7:40 P.M.

TUCC Room 225

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### Course Description:

This course will examine the various factors that have influenced the formation of military strategy and policy. Most of the class will focus on Western land warfare over past five hundred years, although it will also give some attention to classical warfare, naval war, and non-western experiences. Course topics will include both particular historical events, as well as larger themes pertinent to the student of military forces and institutions. The class will give special emphasis to how political and social factors influence military organizations and operations.

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 90-120 pages a week, which will include the indicated sections of course textbooks, as well as chapters of other books and articles placed on Reserve at Paley Library.

#### *Textbooks:*

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

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, ed. *Makers of Modern Strategy: From Machiavelli to the Nuclear Age*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1986.

Russell F. Weigley. *The American Way of War: A History of United States Military Strategy and Policy*. Wars of the United States Series. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1973.

#### *Reserve Materials:*

Gordon A. Craig, *The Politics of the Prussian Army 1640-1945*, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1955, pp. 217-99.

Gary Gallagher, "Upon their Success Hang Momentous Interests': Generals." In *Why the Confederacy Lost*, ed. Gabor S. Boritt. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992, pp. 79-109.

Andrew Gordon, *The Rules of the Game: Jutland and the British Naval Command*. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1996. Chapter 9, pp. 155-192

Ira Gruber, "Lord Howe and Lord George Germain, British Politics and the Winning of American Independence," *William and Mary Quarterly* 22: 225-43. (available on JSTOR)

Victor Davis Hanson, *The Western Way of War: Infantry Battle in Classical Greece*. Second edition. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000. Chapters 1-4, pp. 3-39.

## History 208: Military Strategy and Policy

Fall 2004

Tuesdays, 5:10 - 7:40 P.M.

Instructor: Matthew Muehlbauer

TUCC Room 307

Geoffrey Parker, *The Military Revolution: Military Innovation and the Rise of the West, 1500-1800*. Second edition. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1996. Chapters 1 and 2, pp. 6-81.

The weekly schedule below lists both required and additional readings. Required readings are mandatory weekly assignments; additional readings are possible topics for oral presentations and terms papers (see below).

### 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:                       | 20% |
| Final Exam:                       | 30% |

### *Attendance & Class Participation:*

Class participation is mandatory. Students are expected to complete each week's required readings and be prepared to discuss them in class. Participation is contingent upon attendance. Any student who knows in advance that he or she can not attend a particular class session should notify the instructor as early as possible. In the case of an emergency, contact the instructor as soon as feasible. Unexcused absences will reduce a student's semester grade; more than 3 absences during semester will jeopardize a student's ability to pass the course.

### *Oral Presentation:*

Each student will chose a work listed under a week's "Additional Reading" to be the topic of an oral presentation, with 2 or 3 students making presentations in a given class period. Each presentation should be 5-10 minutes long, and address the following points:

1. Present the author's thesis.
2. Describe how the author tries to prove the thesis (e.g., what topics does the author discuss; what types of analysis or evidence does he or she use?).
3. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the work.
4. Assess how the work enhances our understanding of the development of strategy and military policy.

*(For graduate students, the presentation should cover 3-4 works and be 15-20 minutes long).*

### *Mid-term Exam:*

Students will take an in-class exam and have an hour to answer 1 or 2 essay questions.

### *Term Paper:*

Each student will chose 3 works listed under "Additional Reading" for one week's topic – including the book that the student discussed or will discuss in his or her oral presentation. The student will address these works in a 7-10 page paper. The paper should address the same points covered in the oral presentation, except that whereas points 1-3 should address each work

## History 208: Military Strategy and Policy

Fall 2004

Tuesdays, 5:10 - 7:40 P.M.

Instructor: Matthew Muehlbauer

TUCC Room 307

separately, point 4 should consider all the works together when evaluating their contribution to understanding military history. Note: if the student wishes to explore a topic that is not encompassed in a single week's topic, that student may choose alternative works for the paper topic in consultation with the instructor. (*For graduate students, the paper should cover 8-10 books – chosen in consultation with the instructor – and be 16-20 pages in length.*)

Papers should be 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 bibliography with a paragraph describing the topic they plan to address and ideas for the paper's thesis.

### *Final Exam:*

Students will take an in-class final exam and have 2 hours to answer 1-3 essay questions.

### Students with Disabilities

Any student who has a disability that might require special consideration with regard to fulfilling class requirements should contact the instructor to discuss his or her specific situation as soon as possible. Temple University tries to provide equal opportunities for access to all programs, activities, and services for students and other persons with disabilities. For more information on University policies and resources in this regard, see Temple's Office of Disability Resources and Services webpage at <http://www.temple.edu/disability>, or contact the office by phone at (215) 204-1280.

### Academic Integrity

Students taking courses in the College of Liberal Arts 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. Any student found acting in such a manner risks receiving a failing grade for the course.

### Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

Week 1, August 31: Introduction: Strategy and Policy – Definitions and Approaches

Week 2, September 7: Warfare in Antiquity

*Required Readings:* Hanson.

Lynn, 1-72

*Additional Readings:* Hanson, full text.

Edward Luttwak, *The Grand Strategy of the Roman Empire from the First Century A.D. to the Third.*

Week 3, September 14: The Military Revolution

*Required Readings:* *Makers of Modern Strategy*, pp. 32-63.

Parker, chapter 1.

Howard, pp. 20-37.

## History 208: Military Strategy and Policy

Fall 2004

Tuesdays, 5:10 - 7:40 P.M.

Instructor: Matthew Muehlbauer

TUCC Room 307

*Additional Readings:* Parker, *The Military Revolution*, full text.  
Jeremy Black, *A Military Revolution? Military Change and European Society, 1550-1800*.  
J.R. Hale, *War and Society in Renaissance Europe, 1450-1620*.  
Clifford Rogers, ed., *The Military Revolution Debate: Readings on the Military Transformation of Early Modern Europe*.

Week 4, September 21: Early Modern Warfare and the Enlightenment

*Required Readings:* *Makers of Modern Strategy*, pp. 64-90.  
Howard, pp. 54-74.  
Lynn, pp. 111-144  
Parker, chapter 2.

*Additional Readings:* Andre Corvisier, *Armies and Societies in Europe, 1494-1789*.  
John Lynn, *Giant of the Grand Siecle*.  
Lee Kennett, *The French Armies in the Seven Years' War*.

Week 5, September 28: Frederick the Great, the French Revolution, and Napoleon

*Required Readings:* *Makers of Modern Strategy*, pp. 91-142.  
Bond, pp. 1-44.  
Howard, pp. 75-93.

*Additional Readings:* Peter Paret, *Yorck and the Era of the Prussian Reform, 1807-1815*.  
Gunther Rothenberg, *The Art of Warfare in the Age of Napoleon*.  
-----, *Napoleon's Great Adversaries: The Archduke Charles and the Austrian army, 1792-1814*.

Week 6, October 5: The Impact of the Napoleonic Wars

*Required Readings:* *Makers of Modern Strategy*, pp. 143-216.  
Bond, pp. 44-57.  
Lynn, pp. 179-219.

*Additional Readings:* Peter Paret, *Clausewitz and the State*  
Azar Gat, *The Origins of Military Thought from the Enlightenment to Clausewitz*

### Bibliography and Topic Description for Term Paper Due

Week 7, October 12: The American Revolution

*Required Readings:* Gruber.  
Weigley, 3-39.

*Additional Readings:* James Kirby Martin & Mark Edward Lender, *A Respectable Army: The Military Origins of the Republic, 1763-1789*.  
John Shy, *A People Numerous and Armed: Reflections on the Military Struggle for American Independence*.

**The Mid-term Exam will be given in the second half of class.**

## History 208: Military Strategy and Policy

Fall 2004

Tuesdays, 5:10 - 7:40 P.M.

Instructor: Matthew Muehlbauer

TUCC Room 307

Week 8, October 19: The American Civil War

*Required Readings:* Weigley, 92-152

Gary Gallagher, "'Upon their Success Hang Momentous Interests':  
Generals" in *Why the Confederacy Lost*, ed. Gabor S. Boritt, pp.  
79-109.

*Additional Readings:* Gary Gallagher, *The Confederate War*.

Mark Grimsley, *The Hard Hand of War*.

Grady McWhiney and Perry D. Jamieson, *Attack and Die: Civil War  
Military Tactics and the Southern Heritage*.

Russell F. Weigley, *A Great Civil War: A Military and Political  
History, 1861-1865*.

Week 9, October 26: The German Wars of Unification

*Required Readings:* *Makers of Modern Strategy*, pp. 281-326.

Bond, 58-104.

Howard, 94-115.

*Additional Readings:* Gordon A. Craig, *The Battle of Königgrätz : Prussia's victory over  
Austria, 1866*.

Michael Howard, *The Franco-Prussian War*.

Geoffrey Wawro, *The Austro-Prussian War: Austria's War with  
Prussia and Italy in 1866*.

Week 10, November 2: Military Institutions, 1871-1914

*Required Readings:* Gordon.

Craig.

*Additional Readings:* Gordon, *The Rules of the Game*, full text.

Craig, *The Politics of the Prussian Army*, full text.

Douglas Porch, *The March to the Marne: The French Army, 1871-  
1914*.

Gunther Rothenberg, *The Army of Francis Joseph*.

Tim Travers, *The Killing Ground: The British Army, the Western  
Front and the Emergence of Modern Warfare 1900-1918*.

Week 11, November 9: World War I

*Required Readings:* *Makers of Modern Strategy*, pp. 481-526

Bond, pp. 104-133

Howard, pp. 116-135.

*Additional Readings:* Eugene Edward Beiriger, *Churchill, Munitions and Mechanical  
Warfare: The Politics of Supply and Strategy*.

David French, *British Strategy & War Aims 1914-1916*.

Paul Guinn, *British Strategy and Politics 1914-1918*.

Holger H. Herwig, *The First World War: Germany and Austria-  
Hungary 1914-1918*.

## History 208: Military Strategy and Policy

Fall 2004

Tuesdays, 5:10 - 7:40 P.M.

Instructor: Matthew Muehlbauer

TUCC Room 307

Week 12, November 16: World War II – Europe

*Required Readings:* *Makers of Modern Strategy*, pp. 677-702  
Bond, 134-170  
Weigley, 312-362

*Additional Readings:* Robert A. Doughty, *The Seeds of Disaster: The Development of French Army Doctrine 1919-1939*.

David M. Glantz, John House, *When Titans Clashed*

Michael Howard, *The Mediterranean Strategy in the Second World War*.

Mark A. Stoler, *The Politics of the Second Front: American Military Planning and Diplomacy in Coalition Warfare, 1941-1943*.

### **Term Paper Due at the beginning of class, Nov. 16**

### **NO CLASS NOVEMBER 23**

Week 13, November 30: World War II – The Pacific

*Required Readings:* *Makers of Modern Strategy*, pp. 703-734  
Weigley, 242-311.

*Additional Readings:* David C. Evans, Mark R. Peattie, *Kaigun: Strategy, Tactics, and Technology in the Imperial Japanese Navy, 1887-1941*.

Meirion and Susie Harries, *Soldiers of the Sun: The Rise and Fall of the Imperial Japanese Army*.

Ronald H. Spector, *Eagle Against the Sun*.

Week 14, December 7: Cold War, Guerrilla War

*Required Readings:* *Makers of Modern Strategy*, pp. 735-778, 815-862.  
Bond, pp. 171-204.

*Additional Readings:* Andrew F. Krepinevich, Jr., *The Army and Vietnam*

Bernard Brodie, *Strategy in the Missile Age*.

John Lewis Gaddis, *Strategies of Containment*.

H.R. McMaster, *Dereliction of Duty*

Harry G. Summers, *On Strategy: A Critical Analysis of the Vietnam War*.

Week 15, December 14: **Final Exam**