

History 3552. War since 1900.
Abbreviated Syllabus – Autumn 2012
The complete syllabus is available on Carmen

Prof. Mark Grimsley
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Office Hours: Wednesdays, 10:30-12:30; and by appointment

IMPORTANT: For course-related matters, please do *not* use my osu.edu address. *Always* include History 3552 in the subject line, and always use a subject line that is specific to the topic of your email. This makes it *much* easier to manage a large class and respond to student emails in a timely fashion.

Teaching Associate Contact Information (Office Hours TBD)

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Class Information

The class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:45 to 2:05 p.m.

This course is an introduction to the salient concepts and problems involved in the study of military history since 1900. Prominent conflicts include the First and Second World Wars, the Cold War, and wars of national liberation. We will also compare and contrast conventional and unconventional warfare, and examine modern warfare in global perspective.

General Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

History courses develop students' knowledge of how past events influence today's society and help them understand how humans view themselves.

1. Students acquire a perspective on history and an understanding of the factors that shape human activity.
2. Students display knowledge about the origins and nature of contemporary issues and develop a foundation for future comparative understanding.
3. Students think, speak, and write critically about primary and secondary historical sources by examining diverse interpretations of past events and ideas in their historical contexts.

Course Specific Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

1. Acquire a perspective on attempts to understand the human experience and the factors that shape human activity, particularly in time of war.
2. Develop critical thinking through the study of diverse interpretations of historical events, and gain the ability to evaluate the worth of historical analogies when applied to contemporary affairs.
3. Apply critical thinking through historical analysis of secondary sources; that is to say, sources that interpret historical events based on study of primary (e.g., eyewitness) accounts and to illuminate larger patterns in the human past.
4. Sharpen communications skills in exams, papers, discussions.

For history majors, this course fulfills the requirement for a post-1750 course in either Group A or Group B.

Enrollment Policy

All students must be officially enrolled in the course by the end of the second full week of the quarter. No requests to add the course will be approved by the Chair of the Department after that time. *Enrolling officially and on time is solely the responsibility of the student.*

Make-up Examination Policy

If for any family or medical reason you find you absolutely cannot complete a quiz or examination on time, you must provide sufficient documentation of the reason for your inability to do so: doctor's note, hospital papers, obituary

notices in the case of a loved one, etc. *If you do not produce this documentation, you will not be permitted to take a make-up quiz or examination.* Make-up examinations are administered by the history department at certain scheduled times during the quarter. If you are permitted to take a make-up examination, it will be at one of those times. False excuses regarding an inability to take an examination, and/or false documentation, will be treated as academic misconduct and prosecuted accordingly, as will attempts to take an examination without the instructor's authorization.

Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term academic misconduct includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct and links to other relevant material on the online syllabus.

Tardiness Policy

Class attendance is not required. However, students are expected to be on time for class. Students arriving more than two minutes after the initial bell are required to wait outside for eight minutes, at which time all late arriving students will be admitted. Students arriving ten minutes after the initial bell are required to wait until the first scheduled break (about 50 minutes into the classroom period). Students will not be admitted after the break. Students who violate this policy are subject to sanction under Rule 3335-23-04 (Prohibited Conduct) of the Code of Student Conduct.

Disability Services

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901.

Course Requirements

First Midterm 25%
Second Midterm 30%
Final Exam 35%

Textbooks (*All are required and are available at SBX. They can often be purchased less expensively via Amazon.com and similar online companies.*)

Hew Strachan, *The First World War*. \$18.00. Penguin Books.
ISBN-13: 978-0143035183

Williamson Murray and Allan R. Millett, *A War to be Won: Fighting the Second World War*. \$21.50. Harvard University Press. ISBN-13: 978-0674006805

Stephen E. Ambrose et al., *The Cold War: A Military History*. \$18.00. Random House. ISBN-13: 978-0812967166

Thomas X. Hammes, *The Sling and the Stone: On War in the 21st Century*. \$17.99. Zenith Press. ISBN-13: 978-0760324073

Lecture Schedule

Week 1 (August 23)

Introduction
The World in 1900

Week 2 (August 28, 30)

Toward Total War
The July Crisis