

History 3366-01 Syllabus: Modern European Military History

CRN Number: 82848

Credit Hours: 3

Class Location: Online

Semester: Fall 2017

Dr. J. Ross Dancy

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Email: jdancy@shsu.edu

Office Hours: Mon, Wed & Fri

11:00am – 12:00pm

COURSE TEXT

Books to Buy

Black, Jeremy. *A Century of Conflict: War, 1914-2014*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2015.

Chickering, Roger and Stig Förster, eds. *War in an Age of Revolution, 1775—1815*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Overy, Richard. *Why the Allies Won*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1995.

Available Digitally through SHSU Library

Kennedy, Paul M, ed. *The War Plans of the Great Powers*. New York: Routledge, 1979.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine European warfare from the seventeenth century through the twentieth century. It will discuss the emergence of modern state based militaries, their growing importance in age of colonial empire, and the major military campaigns of the era. This course will also discuss the complexities of military administration, politics, finance, trade, as well as the impact of war on culture and society. This course is designed to use thesis-driven writing as its primary means of assessment. It aims to teach students to objectively and thoroughly understand how European wars have shaped the modern world, while learning to avoid the ethnocentric ideas that have shaped much of the common understanding of the period.

The historical aspect of this course focuses on:

1. The role of conflict in the history of Europe and the world from the eighteenth century through the twentieth century.
2. How war historically affected foreign policy of the great powers.
3. How European Empires and the wars they spawned affected the world over the past three centuries.
4. How the fallout of three centuries of European based wars has affected and shaped the conflicts that we fight today.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. At the end of this course, students will be able to objectively explain in writing the causes and courses of the wars of the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries and tie their events to the decisions of individuals and groups in different countries.
2. Students will hone the fundamental principles of historical scholarship.
3. Students will further develop specific skills and competencies such as reading comprehension and research based writing.
4. Students will gain factual knowledge about warfare in Europe and the European Empires.

WRITING ENHANCED COURSE

All of the points in this class are derived from formal writing assignments; as such it fulfills the requirement for a 'W' or Writing Enhanced Course.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Discussion Forums: There will be **twelve discussion forums** via the classroom online 'blackboard' in which participation is required. Each student will make one blog post (ca. 500 words) as well as respond to two additional postings (ca. 200 words each). The 'forum week' begins on Monday morning at 12:00am of the assigned weeks and ends the following Sunday at 11:59pm. **The original blog posts are due by Thursday** of each week at 11:59pm, and the two responses are due by Saturday at 11:59pm. Forum topics will be picked by the student and can include questions, comments, or insights on the given week's readings. The purpose of the blog is to create a discussion about the week's readings and to allow Instructor and Student interaction. Forum assessment will be based upon the quality of the student's engagement with the week's assigned reading. Students **MUST complete all twelve** of the discussion forums to pass the course.

Short Papers: Students will write **three 1,000-word short papers** during the course. Each short paper will answer an assigned prompt, and conform to the standard rules of spelling and grammar. Short papers will rely on course readings for references and must use either Chicago or Turabian writing manuals. **Short papers are due at 11:59pm on the following date: Short paper 1 – Sept. 24; Short paper 2 – Oct. 22; Short paper 3 – Nov. 19.**

Term Paper: Each student will write a 3,000-word research paper on a topic of their own choosing. The topic must be approved in advance by Dr. Dancy in either a face-to-face or Skype meeting. The term paper **MUST** rely on scholarly publications and primary source documents and is **due on Dec. 1 at 11:59pm.**

****Note**:** The term paper and the three short essays must be **foot noted** using the **Chicago** or **Turabian** style manuals. They must include a **title page** and **bibliography** which will not count toward the word limit. Students have **+/- 10%** of the stated word limit to complete their essays. Essays must be completed in **Times New Roman font size 12**, on standard **letter sized paper** (8.5"x11"), with **1-inch margins**. Failure to meet these criteria will result in a 10% grade reduction per infraction.

****Note**:** Students must complete All assignments to pass the course.

Calculating your final score:

Assignment	Individual Point Value	Total
Weekly Discussions (x12)	25	300
Short Papers (x3)	100	300
Term Paper	400	400
Grand Total		1,000

Grading:

A = 900 – 1,000 points

B = 800 – 899 points

C = 700 – 799 points

D = 600 – 699 points

F = 599 points or below

ATTENDANCE POLICY

This is an online class, thus daily attendance will not be taken.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY:

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20....” A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

***Note that all university policies above can be found at the following website:**

<http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

Reading and Writing Schedule

Introduction (Aug 23 – 27): Introduction to the course, professor, and classmates.

Chickering & Förster, eds. *War in an Age of Revolution*:
Introduction

Week 1 (Aug 28 – Sept 03): War in the Eighteenth Century.

Chickering & Förster, eds. *War in an Age of Revolution*:
Introduction, Chapters 1, 2, 3 & 5

Week 2 (Sept 04 – 10): The American War.

Chickering & Förster, eds. *War in an Age of Revolution*:
Chapters 7, 8, 11, 13 & 14

Week 3 (Sept 11 – 17): The French Revolutionary Wars.

Chickering & Förster, eds. *War in an Age of Revolution*:
Chapters 6, 9 & 15

Week 4 (Sept 18 – 24): The Napoleonic Wars. ****Short Paper 1 Due Sept 24****

Chickering & Förster, eds. *War in an Age of Revolution*:
Chapters 4, 10, 12, 19 & 20

Week 5 (Sept 25 – Oct 01): Strategy and Technology at the end of the Nineteenth Century.

Kennedy, ed. *The War Plans of the Great Powers*:
Introduction, Chapters 1, 2 & 3

Week 6 (Oct 02 – 08): Preparing for a New War.

Kennedy, ed. *The War Plans of the Great Powers*:
Chapters 4, 5, 6 & 7

Week 7 (Oct 09 – 15): War Clouds Gather over Europe.

Kennedy, ed. *The War Plans of the Great Powers*:
Chapters 8, 9, 10 & 11

Week 8 (Oct 16 – 22): The Great War. ****Short Paper 2 Due Oct 22****

Black, Jeremy. *A Century of Conflict*:
Chapters 1, 2 & 3

Week 9 (Oct 23 – 29): The World falls into War.

Overy. *Why the Allies Won*:
Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5

Week 10 (Oct 30 – Nov 05): Winning World War II.

Overy. *Why the Allies Won*:
Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10

Week 11 (Nov 06 – 12): The Cold War.

Black, Jeremy. *A Century of Conflict*:
Chapters 5, 6, 7 & 8

Week 12 (Nov 13 – 19): War in the twenty-first century. ****Short Paper 3 Due Nov 19****

Black, Jeremy. *A Century of Conflict*:
Chapters 9, 10, 11 & 12

****Term Paper Due Dec 1****