



## History of American Military Affairs (HIST 355)

### Course Information

**Course Number:** HIST 355

**CRN:** 14813

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Class Time:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 10:30 AM to 11:20 AM

**Class Location:** WALC 2088

**Course Website:** <https://purdue.brightspace.com/d2l/home/58206>

### Instructor Contact Information

**Professor:** Jonathan Lande, Ph.D.

**Office Location:** University Hall 324

**Purdue Email Address:** [jlande@purdue.edu](mailto:jlande@purdue.edu)

**How to Reach Professor Lande:** Email his Purdue account or contact via Brightspace

**Email Guidelines:** I will be available via email daily, and try to respond as soon as possible (generally within 24-48) hours. When emailing me, please place the course number and the topic in the subject line of the email (e.g., "HIST355 – Assignment 2 Question"). This will help me tremendously in locating and responding to your emails quickly.

**Student Hours:** All student hours will be conducted via Zoom. Virtual student hours are a synchronous session (through WebEx) to discuss questions related to weekly readings and/or assignments. Student hours will be held Mondays from 12 (noon) to 1 PM EDT. To connect to the weekly session, go to WebEx. To discuss other matters relevant specific to you, such as grades, I have set aside Wednesdays from 12 (noon) to 1 PM EDT. Please email me, and I will invite you to a Zoom meeting for 20 minutes at the determined time. (We can arrange another meeting time, which will be conducted via Zoom, if necessary.)

### Course Description

Since at least Thucydides put down his account of the Peloponnesian War, people have looked over the history of war. Following the Ancient Greek's example, historians have recounted the events leading to war, the dramatic battles fought by women and men, and the circumstances surrounding the massive, organized violence directed toward political objectives. They've used so much ink looking for answers to explain the killing, to recall acts of valor, and because wars reshape the world and people more profoundly than most other events. The history of America is no different. War has fundamentally changed the

nation and its people. This course will explore war in America, touching on peacetime military developments yet concentrating on the military conflicts that shaped the nation and Americans' lives from the Revolution to the twenty-first century.

## Learning Outcomes

1. To increase your knowledge of events and themes in American military history
2. To analyze the social and cultural place of war within American society
3. To appreciate the role of contingency in warfare
4. To understand the enduring influence of past conflicts on contemporary society
5. To analyze and contextualize historical evidence
6. To improve your written communication skills

## Lecture Format While Social Distancing

To ensure each student has in-person content delivery while maintaining social distancing, the class is broken into groups A, B, and C. Group A will attend lectures in-person on Mondays. Group B will attend lectures on Wednesday. Group C will attend lectures on Friday.

Each lecture will be recorded and posted on Brightspace, along with the PowerPoint slides, so everyone will receive the same content. This also allows the course to move forward.

When not attending lecture in your assigned group, be sure to listen to the lecture, observe the PowerPoints included in the recording, and take notes. Please let me know if there are any questions.

## Classroom Policies

**General Course Policies:** As a general rule, be courteous to your peers and instructors at all times. In order to have a positive environment for the exchange of ideas, it is vital for students to be respectful when listening and responding to one another. Please remember that your body language often speaks more loudly than words.

**Technology in the Classroom:** *Please silence and put away your cell phone when class is in session.* Whether on a laptop or a phone, using social media in class is not permitted, as it may distract from the lessons and discussion.

**Policy on Recording:** Each lecture will be provided online via Brightspace, so there should be no need to video or audio record. Nonetheless, note that video or audio recording of any portion of classroom lectures is not permitted in this class. Unauthorized recording may subject a student to disciplinary action.

**Content Advisory Policies:** Material potentially offensive to students will be presented related to the history of war atrocities, human trafficking, sexual assault, among other disturbing topics. Feel free to inquire should you have concerns about the material.

**Successful Practices:**

If you want to be successful in the course:

- Be self-motivated and self-disciplined
- Speak up if problems arise
- Be willing and able to commit to 4 to 15 hours per week per course
- Communicate through writing
- Accept critical thinking and decision making as part of the learning process

In contrast, here are some common behaviors that lead to failing the course:

- Don't read until the night before the class
- Wait until the last day to begin assignments
- Forget about deadlines, especially quizzes and paper due dates
- Ignore emails from the instructor and/or your peers regarding course activities
- Don't get familiar with the grade book and syllabus

**Other Class Guidelines:** Refer to your syllabus throughout the semester for guidance on course policies, your reading schedule, and when you can take your exams. Be punctual to each class. Pack your bags after professor *finishes lecture* and has answered questions. Eat elsewhere.

## Texts

We will read three war novels throughout the semester and watch one documentary. You may also choose to read approximately one chapter of the textbook each week, but it is not required. (Reading due dates are on the schedule below). The novels must be purchased. The documentary can be streamed through the library. The textbooks are available online.

### War Novels [required]

Howard Fast, *April Morning: A Novel* (Bantam Books: 1983 Reprint Edition)

Tim O'Brien, *The Things They Carried* (Mariner Books: 2009 Edition)

Michael Shaara, *The Killer Angels* (Ballantine Books: 1996 Reprint Edition)

### Documentary

*Sir! no Sir!* Bullfrog Films, 2006.

- Available through the library
- Visit: [https://purdue-primo-prod.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/1c3q7im/TN\\_cdi\\_alexanderstreet\\_mar\\_cxml\\_TheDocuseek2CompleteCollectionSecondEditionUnitedStatesdoc00000282](https://purdue-primo-prod.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/1c3q7im/TN_cdi_alexanderstreet_mar_cxml_TheDocuseek2CompleteCollectionSecondEditionUnitedStatesdoc00000282).

### Textbooks [optional]

Richard W. Stewart, ed., *American Military History*, vols. 1 and 2

Available online as PDFs here:

Volume 1: [https://history.army.mil/html/books/030/30-21/CMH\\_Pub\\_30-21.pdf](https://history.army.mil/html/books/030/30-21/CMH_Pub_30-21.pdf)

Volume 2: [https://history.army.mil/html/books/030/30-22/CMH\\_Pub\\_30-22.pdf](https://history.army.mil/html/books/030/30-22/CMH_Pub_30-22.pdf)

## Assignments

Your learning will be assessed through a combination of quizzes, an exam, and two written papers spread throughout the academic period. Details on these, including a schedule of due dates and rubrics to guide evaluation, are below. If you don't understand the requirements or would like further explanation, ask.

Assignment	Due Date and Ranges	Points
Quiz 1 (covers 8/24-9/4)	9/4-5	10 points
Quiz 2 (covers 9/7-21)	9/21-22	10 points
Quiz 3 (covers 9/23- 10/2)	10/2-3	10 points
Quiz 4 (covers 10/5-19)	10/19-20	10 points
Quiz 5 (covers 10/21-28)	10/28-29	10 points
Quiz 6 (covers 10/30-11/9)	11/9-10	10 points
Quiz 7 (covers 11/11-23)	11/23-24	10 points
Final Exam (cumulative)	Dec. 7-12	30 points
Narrative of War Essay 1	Either Sept. 25 or Oct. 23	50 points
Narrative of War Essay 2	Either Oct. 23 or Dec. 4	50 points
<b>Total</b>		<b>200 points</b>

## Quizzes

Taking the quiz: There will be a total of 7 quizzes and will draw on the lectures and required reading (i.e., novels). Each quiz will open on Brightspace at noon (12 PM) on the date listed in the schedule and will close at 10 PM on the date listed on the schedule.

Elements: Each quiz encompasses the content covered from the previous quiz to the next quiz (e.g., Quiz 2 covers content from Sept. 7 to Sept. 21). (Detailed description of the content each quiz covers is listed above.) The content includes lectures and required readings (i.e., novels) and the documentary. Each quiz includes 10 multiple-choice questions. Each question is worth 1 point. You will have 10 minutes to take the quiz. You may use your notes, but you must take the quiz yourself. That means no outside help.

## Final Exam

Taking the exam: At the end of the semester, from December 7 to December 10, you will take a final exam online over Brightspace.

Elements: It will be a cumulative test of the semester. It will include questions from the quizzes throughout the semester, as well as other questions drawn from the lectures and readings. It will consist of 30 questions, and each question is worth 1 point. You may use notes on the final exam, but you must take the quiz yourself. That means no outside help.

### **Narrative of War Essays**

During the semester, you will write two papers, and you have three opportunities to write the papers.

Prompt: You must write a narrative of an event that occurs before, during, or after the events of an assigned novel from the perspective of a character. (You may choose to create a new character, but your character must interact briefly with one of the characters in the novel.) The events must occur during the same conflict (i.e., the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, or the Vietnam War) of the novel. The story can also occur immediately before or during the conflict's immediate aftermath.

Assignment: In the narrative, present at least 1 person, 3 events, and 3 concepts popular among the participants at the time or major pieces of policy offered in class within the narrative. For example, during the Civil War, you may touch on Ulysses Grant, the issuing of the Emancipation Proclamation, and the duties of a citizen-soldier to the state. After you've presented the person, event, or concept, add a footnote. In the footnote, provide a description/definition and short explanation of the significance of the person, event, concept, or policy to the conflict. Following the description, cite the lecture date when the person, event, concept, or policy was mentioned or textbook page-number where the person, event, concept, or policy is addressed. An example of the essay has been provided and placed on Brightspace to help you understand and complete the assignment.

Length and Grading Criteria: The essay must be 750-to-1,500 words and written in a Word Document in 12 pt. Times New Roman font. (It cannot be shorter than 750 words or longer than 1,500 words.) You will be graded primarily on your description and explanation of people, events, and concepts, but your grammar will also play a role. (The grading rubric is available on Brightspace.) (Remember that [MS Office is free for all students.](#))

Due Dates [Remember you must choose 2]

- If you choose to write on Howard Fast's *April Morning* and the Revolutionary War, submit September 25.
- If you choose to write on Michael Shaara's *The Killer Angels* and the Civil War, submit October 23.
- If you choose to write on Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried* and the Vietnam War, submit December 4.

### **Grading Scale**

In this class, grades reflect the sum of your achievement throughout the semester. You will accumulate points as described in the assignments portion above, with each assignment graded according to a rubric. You may easily keep track of your points along the way on Brightspace, where the scores will be posted following your quizzes and final exam and within a few weeks of submitting an essay.

At the end of the semester, final grades will be calculated by adding the total points earned and translating those numbers (out of 200) into the following letters: A+: 193 – 200. A: 188 – 192. A-: 180 – 187. B+: 173 – 179. B: 168 – 172. B-: 160 – 167. C+: 153 – 159. C: 147 – 152. C-: 140 – 146. D+: 133- 139. D: 127 – 132. D-: 120 – 126. F: 119 or below.

**Note:** To maintain fairness throughout the course, no extra credit will be offered

### **Emergency Preparation**

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines, and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor's control. Relevant changes to this course will be posted onto the course website or can be obtained by contacting the instructors via email. **You are expected to read your @purdue.edu email and check Brightspace for announcements on a frequent basis.**

### **Academic Guidance in the Event a Student is Quarantined/Isolated**

If you become quarantined or isolated at any point in time during the semester, in addition to support from the Protect Purdue Health Center, you will also have access to an Academic Case Manager who can provide you academic support during this time. Your Academic Case Manager can be reached at [acmq@purdue.edu](mailto:acmq@purdue.edu) and will provide you with general guidelines/resources around communicating with your instructors, be available for academic support, and offer suggestions for how to be successful when learning remotely.

Importantly, if you find yourself too sick to progress in the course, notify your academic case manager and notify me via email or Brightspace. We will make arrangements based on your particular situation. The Office of the Dean of Students ([odos@purdue.edu](mailto:odos@purdue.edu)) is also available to support you should this situation occur.

### **Attendance Policy During COVID-19**

**Students should stay home and contact the Protect Purdue Health Center (496-INFO) if they feel ill, have any symptoms associated with COVID-19, or suspect they have been exposed to the virus.** In the current context of COVID-19, in-person attendance will

not be a factor in the final grades, but you still need to inform the instructor of any conflict that can be anticipated and will affect the submission of an assignment or the ability to take an exam. Only the instructor can excuse a student from a course requirement or responsibility.

When conflicts can be anticipated, such as for many University-sponsored activities and religious observations, the student should inform the instructor of the situation as far in advance as possible.

For unanticipated or emergency conflict, when advance notification to an instructor is not possible, you should contact the instructor as soon as possible by email or through Brightspace.

When the student is unable to make direct contact with the instructor and is unable to leave word with the instructor's department because of circumstances beyond the student's control, and in cases of bereavement, quarantine, or isolation, the student or the student's representative should contact the Office of the Dean of Students via [email](#) or phone at 765-494-1747. Our course Brightspace includes a link on Attendance and Grief Absence policies under the University Policies menu.

## **Classroom Guidance Regarding Protect Purdue**

The [Protect Purdue Plan](#), which includes the [Protect Purdue Pledge](#), is campus policy and as such all members of the Purdue community must comply with the required health and safety guidelines. Required behaviors in this class include: staying home and contacting the Protect Purdue Health Center (496-INFO) if you feel ill or know you have been exposed to the virus, wearing a mask [in classrooms and campus building](#), at all times (e.g., no eating/drinking in the classroom), disinfecting desk/workspace prior to and after use, maintaining proper social distancing with peers and instructors (including when entering/exiting classrooms), refraining from moving furniture, avoiding shared use of personal items, maintaining robust hygiene (e.g., handwashing, disposal of tissues) prior to, during and after class, and following all safety directions from the instructor.

Students who are not engaging in these behaviors (e.g., wearing a mask) will be offered the opportunity to comply. If non-compliance continues, possible results include instructors asking the student to leave class and instructors dismissing the whole class. Students who do not comply with the required health behaviors are violating the University Code of Conduct and will be reported to the Dean of Students Office with sanctions ranging from educational requirements to dismissal from the university.

Any student who has substantial reason to believe that another person in a campus room (e.g., classroom) is threatening the safety of others by not complying (e.g., not wearing a

mask) may leave the room without consequence. The student is encouraged to report the behavior to and discuss next steps with their instructor. Students also have the option of reporting the behavior to the [Office of the Student Rights and Responsibilities](#). See also [Purdue University Bill of Student Rights](#).

## Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is one of the highest values that Purdue University holds. Individuals are encouraged to alert university officials to potential breaches of this value by either emailing [integrity@purdue.edu](mailto:integrity@purdue.edu) or by calling 765-494-8778. While information may be submitted anonymously, the more information is submitted the greater the opportunity for the university to investigate the concern. More details are available on our course Brightspace table of contents, under University Policies.

## Nondiscrimination Statement

Purdue University is committed to maintaining a community which recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters tolerance, sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among its members; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. In pursuit of its goal of academic excellence, the University seeks to develop and nurture diversity. The University believes that diversity among its many members strengthens the institution, stimulates creativity, promotes the exchange of ideas, and enriches campus life. More details are available on our course Brightspace table of contents, under University Policies.

## Accessibility

Purdue University strives to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, you are welcome to let me know so that we can discuss options. You are also encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center at: [drc@purdue.edu](mailto:drc@purdue.edu) or by phone: 765-494-1247. More details are available on our course Brightspace under Accessibility Information.

## Mental Health Statement

**If you find yourself beginning to feel some stress, anxiety and/or feeling slightly overwhelmed, try [WellTrack](#).** Sign in and find information and tools at your fingertips, available to you at any time.

**If you need support and information about options and resources**, please contact or see the [Office of the Dean of Students](#). Call 765-494-1747. Hours of operation are M-F, 8 am- 5 pm.

**If you find yourself struggling to find a healthy balance between academics, social life, stress**, etc. sign up for free one-on-one virtual or in-person sessions with a [Purdue Wellness Coach at RecWell](#). Student coaches can help you navigate through barriers and challenges toward your goals throughout the semester. Sign up is completely free and can be done on BoilerConnect. If you have any questions, please contact Purdue Wellness at [evans240@purdue.edu](mailto:evans240@purdue.edu).

**If you're struggling and need mental health services:** Purdue University is committed to advancing the mental health and well-being of its students. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, and/or in need of mental health support, services are available. For help, such individuals should contact [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) at 765-494-6995 during and after hours, on weekends and holidays, or by going to the CAPS office of the second floor of the Purdue University Student Health Center (PUSH) during business hours.

## Basic Needs Security

All students who face challenges securing their food or housing and think this may affect their performance in the course are urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. There is no appointment needed and Student Support Services is available to serve students from 8:00 – 5:00, Monday through Friday.

## Disclaimer

This syllabus is subject to change, and in the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor's control. If changes are made, you will be informed via Brightspace. You are responsible for checking your @purdue.edu email Brightspace on a frequent basis for updated course information and announcements.

## Schedule and Holidays

Because of circumstances related to COVID-19, the Fall 2020 schedule has been modified. As a result, there will be no holidays from the start of the semester to Thanksgiving, and after Thanksgiving break, we will transition online. (For details on the schedule you may click the following: [Academic Calendar](#).)

## Course Schedule

### Schedule Notes

- Notes on the textbook, *American Military History*, which is recommended reading, but is not required reading
  - Volume 1 is listed below as “Vol. 1”
  - Volume 2 is listed below as “Vol. 2”
- Novels are listed by the author’s last name

Wk.	Day	Date	Lecture	Reading	Due Dates
1	Mon.	Aug. 24	Group A Introduction to Course		
	Wed.	Aug. 26	Group B Introduction to Course		
	Fri.	Aug. 28	Group C Introduction to Course	Vol. 1: pg. 1-19	
2	Mon.	Aug. 31	Colonial Warfare (To 1754)	Vol. 1: pg. 19-41	
	Wed.	Sep. 2	French and Indian War (1755-63)	Fast, 1-78	
	Fri.	Sep. 4	Dr. Chapman Presentation via Zoom	Fast, 79-127	Q1: 8/24-9/5
3	Mon.	Sep. 7	[Grp. A to Discuss Fast’s Novel]	Fast, 128-202	
	Wed.	Sep. 9	Fighting for Freedom (1763-75)	Vol. 1: pg. 45-54	
	Fri.	Sep. 11	Dual Army (1775)	Vol. 1: pg. 55-74	
4	Mon.	Sep. 14	Early War (1775-76)	Vol. 1: pg. 75-94	
	Wed.	Sep. 16	British Initiative (1777)		
	Fri.	Sep. 18	Suffering and Resolve (1778-80)	Vol. 1: pg. 95-106	
5	Mon.	Sep. 21	American Victory (1780-83)		Q2: 9/21-22
	Wed.	Sep. 23	War in the Constitution (1789)	Vol. 1: pg. 131-135	
	Fri.	Sep. 25	War of 1812 (1812-13)	Vol. 1: pg. 136-153	Nar. 1 Due
6	Mon.	Sep. 28	Second War of Independ. (1814-15)		
	Wed.	Sep. 30	Manifest Destiny (1831-1845)	Vol. 1: 159-176	
	Fri.	Oct. 2	War with Mexico (1845-1848)	Vol. 1: 177-198	Q3: 10/2-3
7	Mon.	Oct. 5	“And the War Came” (1849-61)	Vol. 1: 199-222	
	Wed.	Oct. 7	First Years of Fighting (1861-62)	Vol. 1: 223-252	
	Fri.	Oct. 9	Emancipation Strategy (1863)	Vol. 1: 253-282	
8	Mon.	Oct. 12	Gettysburg (1863)	Shaara, xiii-180	
	Wed.	Oct. 14	[Grp. B to Discuss Shaara’s Novel]	Shaara, 181-355	
	Fri.	Oct. 16	Vicksburg (1863)	Vol. 1: 283-306	
9	Mon.	Oct. 19	Union Conquest (1864-76)		Q4: 10/19-20
	Wed.	Oct. 21	Preparedness (1880-1915)	Vol. 1: 307-346	
	Fri.	Oct. 23	Mobilizing for World War I (1917)	Vol 1. : 347-390	Nar. 2 Due
10	Mon.	Oct. 26	Winning World War I (1918)	Vol 2.: 7-54	
	Wed.	Oct. 28	Rearmament (1919-38)	Vol. 2: 55-74	Q5: 10/28-29
	Fri.	Oct. 30	Navigating a World at War (1939-41)	Vol. 2: 79-132	

11	Mon.	Nov. 2	Fighting in '42 (1942)	Vol. 2: 133-142, 169-174	
	Wed.	Nov. 4	Two-Front War (1943)	Vol. 2: 143-145, 175-185	
	Fri.	Nov. 6	Taking Command (1944)	Vol. 2: 146-154, 186-188	
12	Mon.	Nov. 9	WWII Victory (1945-47)	Vol. 2: 155-168, 189-202	Q6: 11/11-12
	Wed.	Nov. 11	Post-War Order (1947-59)	Vol. 2: 203-254	
	Fri.	Nov. 13	Entering Vietnam (1960-65)	Vol. 2: 255-329	
13	Mon.	Nov. 16	[Watch Documentary] <i>Sir! No Sir!</i>	O'Brien, 1-123	
	Wed.	Nov. 18	Losing Vietnam (1965-72)	O'Brien, 124-246	
	Fri.	Nov. 20	[Grp. C: Discuss O'Brien Novel]	Vol. 2: 337-372	
14	Mon.	Nov. 23	Cold War after Vietnam (1973-90)	Vol. 2: 373-412	Q7: 11/23-24
	Wed.	Nov. 25	Thanksgiving Break		
	Fri.	Nov. 27	Thanksgiving Break		
15	Mon.	Nov. 30	War on Terrorism (1991-2003)	Vol. 2: 463-518	
	Wed.	Dec. 2	Zoom Review Session		
	Fri.	Dec. 4	Complete War Narrative		Nar. 3 Due
Dec. 5: Class Ends					
16	Final Exam Week: Take from 12/7 to 12/10				