



History of American Military Affairs (HIST 355)

Course Information

Course Number: HIST 355

CRN: 14813

Credit Hours: 3

Class Time: Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00am to 10:15am

Class Location: Grissom Hall, RM. 102

Instructor Contact Information

Professor: Jonathan Lande, Ph.D.

Office Location: University Hall 324

Purdue Email Address: jlande@purdue.edu

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

Email Guidelines: I am available via email and will try to respond within 24-48 hours.

Student Hours

- Student hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11am – 12pm.
- To schedule a meeting, email Dr. Lande by 11am the day prior.
- Alternative meeting times can be arranged. Email to schedule.
- Student hours will be conducted via ZOOM. See Brightspace for ZOOM info.

Course Description

Historians have long recounted the events leading to war. They have written of the dramatic battles and circumstances surrounding the massive, organized violence directed toward political objectives. Historians have expended so much ink looking for answers to explain the killing and recall acts of valor because wars reshape the world. The history of military affairs in the United States is no different. War has profoundly changed the nation and its people. This course will explore the wars, touching on peacetime military developments yet concentrating on the military conflicts that altered the nation and the lives of its people from the European colonization of North America to the twenty-first century. We will all meet each week during the assigned time for a lecture and to discuss the week's readings.

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

Texts

We will read 3 war novels and various primary sources from US military history throughout the semester. We will also watch 2 documentaries. You may also choose to read approximately 1 chapter of the textbook each week, but it is not required. (Reading due dates are on the schedule below).

Note on Text Accessibility: The novels and primary source book can be purchased. The novels are available for free in digital form through the library website. The primary source book is available for purchase. The documentaries can be streamed through the library website as well. The textbooks are available online only.

War Novels [required]

Stephen Crane, *The Red Badge of Courage*. Cambridge: Belknap Press, 2009. ISBN: 978-0674033993

Online here: https://purdue-primo-prod.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/1o8r5pt/PURDUE_ALMA5169076860001081

Fast, Howard. *April Morning: A Novel*. Bantam Books: 1983. Reprint Edition. ISBN: 978-0553273229.

- Online here: https://purdue-primo-prod.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/1c3q7im/TN_cdi_proquest_ebookcentral_EBC1804221

O'Brien, Tim. *The Things They Carried*. Mariner Books: 2009. ISBN: 978-0618706419.

- Online here: https://purdue-primo-prod.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/vjfldl/PURDUE_ALMA21500058750001081

Primary Sources [required]

Sharon A. Roger Hepburn, ed. *Private No More, The Civil War Letters of John Lovejoy Murray, 102nd United States Colored Infantry*. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2023. ISBN: 9-780-8203-6345-5.

Primary Source Course Packet is posted on Brightspace.

Documentary [required]

Losing Iraq. PBS: Frontline Films, 2014.

- Online here: https://purdue.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01PURDUE_PUWL/uc5e95/alma99169171728201081

Sir! no Sir! Bullfrog Films, 2006.

- Online here: https://purdue-primo-prod.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/1c3q7im/TN_cdi_alexanderstreet_marxml_TheDocuseek2CompleteCollectionSecondEditionUnitedStatesdoc00000282.

Textbooks [optional]

Richard W. Stewart, ed., *American Military History*, vols. 1 and 2, Second Edition (2009).

Available online as PDFs here:

- Volume 1: 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

Assignments

Your learning will be assessed through a combination of 12 quizzes, 3 exams, and 1 written paper 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 Dr. Lande.

Assignment	Due Date and Ranges	Points
12 Quizzes	Most Fridays	120 points (10 points each)
Exam 1 (covers 8/22-9/21)	9/22	60 points
Exam 2 (covers 9/23-10/26)	10/27	60 points
Exam 3 (covers 10/27-12/8)	12/8	60 points
Narrative of War	11/20	100 points
Total		400 points

Quizzes

There will be a total of 12 quizzes. They will draw on the lectures and required reading. Quizzes will open Fridays at 7am on Brightspace and remain open until 6pm. You can begin the quiz when you would like within that timeframe. You will have 10 minutes to answer 10 multiple-choice questions. Each question is worth 1 point. You must take the quizzes yourself. No outside help from notes and readings, friends and family, or the internet are permitted. You will not be policed on this. But I expect you all to honorably abide.

Exams

3 times throughout the semester, you will take an exam covering the material from the previous few weeks. The exams will draw questions from the previous quizzes and may

incorporate other aspects from the lectures or readings not addressed in quizzes. Each exam will consist of 30 questions and will cover material since the previous quiz. Each exam will open Fridays on Brightspace at 7am and will remain open until the following Saturday at 11:59 am. You will have 40 minutes to answer 30 multiple-choice questions. Each question is worth 2 point. You must take the quizzes yourself. No outside help from notes and readings, friends and family, or the internet will be permitted. You will not be policed on this. But I expect you all to honorably abide.

Narrative of War Essay

During the semester, you will write 1 paper. 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 within the first or second assignment novel. (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 immediately before, during, or amid the after of the Revolutionary War or the Civil War.

Grading Criteria

- In the narrative
 - Present 2 people (like Gen. George Washington), 3 events (such as the Boston Tea Party), and 3 concepts popular among the participants at the time or major pieces of policy offered in class (like Salutory Neglect or the Intolerable Acts)
 - Reference one of the assigned documents from the Course Packet (like the Quartering Act).
 - Reference 2 specific conversations from the novel or letters
 - The conversation can be with another person, can be a debate occurring generally, or can be internal dialogue.
 - For example, during the Civil War, you may touch on Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, the issuing of the Emancipation Proclamation, the Gettysburg Address, or the duties of a citizen-soldier to the state.
- After you've presented the person, event, concept, document, and conversation, add a footnote (in Microsoft Word, select "Insert" at the top, select "Footnote" from the menu, and click "Insert" from the Footnote menu prompt).
 - In the footnote, type the description/definition and short explanation of the significance of the person, event, concept, policy, or document to the conflict.
 - For the conversation, reference the page number of the conversation.
 - Following the description, cite the lecture date when the person, event, concept, or policy was mentioned or Course Packet or textbook page-number where the person, event, concept, or policy is addressed.

Note: 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 1,250 words and written in a Word Document in 12 pt. Times New Roman font. (It cannot be longer than 2,500 words.) You will be graded primarily on your description and explanation of people, events, concepts, and documents. But your grammar also plays a role. (The grading rubric is available below.) (Remember that [MS Office is free for all students.](#))

The narrative of war is due Monday, November 20, at noon via Brightspace. Papers submitted from 12:01 pm November 21 to November 27 at noon will be graded, but only 1/2 of the total points will be counted. Papers submitted from 12:01 pm November 27 to December 4 at noon will be graded, but only 1/3 of the total points will be counted. Papers submitted after December 4 at noon will not receive points.

Rubric

Category	Points
Use of Character from Novel or Invent Related Character (5 points)	/5
Reference Specific Conversation from Novel/Letters (10 points)	/10
Reference Specific Conversation from Novel/Letters (10 points)	/10
Place Story in Context of War (5 points)	/5
Address Prominent Figure and Cite (5 points)	/5
Address Prominent Figure and Cite (5 points)	/5
Address Prominent Event and Cite (5 points)	/5
Address Prominent Event and Cite (5 points)	/5
Address Prominent Event and Cite (5 points)	/5
Address Prominent Concept and Cite (10 points)	/10
Address Prominent Concept and Cite (10 points)	/10
Address Prominent Concept and Cite (10 points)	/10
Address a Document from the Course Packet and Cite (10 points)	/10
Grammar, including proper spelling, punctuation, and format (5 points)	/5
Total Points	/100

Successful Practices to Improve Grade

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:

- Skip lectures
- 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 regarding course activities
- Don't become familiar with the grade book and syllabus

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.

Letter grades and percentages: A+ 100-97; A 93-96; A- 92-90; B+ 88-89; B 83-87; B- 82-80; C+ 78-79; C 73-77; C- 72-70; D 60-69; F 0-59.

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

Course Schedule

Schedule Notes

- Novels are listed by the author's last name and page numbers to be read for the date the reading is listed under. For example, Thursday, August 31, you should have pages 1-78 of Howard Fast's *April Morning* read.
- Primary sources from the Course Packet are listed as "CP" and the reading to be read for the date listed. For example, Thursday, September 14, you should have the Declaration of Independence read from the Course Packet.
- Notes on the textbook, *American Military History*, which is recommended reading, but is not required reading. Volume 1 is listed below as "V1." Volume 2 is listed below as "V2."

Wk.	Day	Date	Lecture Topic	Required Reading	Textbook
1	Tues.	Aug. 22	Intro to Military History	None	
	Thur.	Aug. 24	Colonial Warfare (To 1754)	Read Syllabus	V1: 1-19
	Fri.	Aug. 25	Quiz 1		
2	Tues.	Aug. 29	French/Native War (1755-63)	CP: Proclamation Line	V1: 19-41
	Thur.	Aug. 31	Fighting for Freedom (1775)	CP: Quarter.; Fast, 1-78	V1: 45-54
	Fri.	Sep. 1	Quiz 2	Fast, 79-127	
3	Tues.	Sep. 5	Dual Army (1775)	CP: Patrick Henry	
	Thur.	Sep. 7	Discussion of Fast	Fast, 128-202	V1: 55-74
	Fri.	Sep. 8	Quiz 3	None	
4	Tue.	Sep. 12	Early War (1775-76)	None	V1: 75-94
	Thur.	Sep. 14	British Initiative (1777)	CP: Dec. of Independ.	

	Fri.	Sep. 15	Quiz 4	None	
5	Tue.	Sep. 19	American Resolve (1778-80)	CP: Treaty of Alliance	V1: 95-106
	Thur.	Sep. 21	American Victory (1781-1783)	None	
	Fri.	Sep. 22	<u>EXAM 1 OPENS</u>		
6	Tue.	Sep. 25	War in the Constitution	CP: GW's Newburgh Ad.	V1: 131-135
	Thur.	Sep. 28	War of 1812 (1794-1814)	CP: GW's Farewell Ad.	V1: 136-153
	Fri.	Sep. 29	Quiz 5	None	
7	Tue.	Oct. 3	Manifest Destiny (1831-1845)	CP: Lincoln's Protest	V1: 159-176
	Thur.	Oct. 5	War in the West (1845-1860)	CP: South Carolina Sec.	V1: 177-222
	Fri.	Oct. 6	Quiz 6	None	
8	Tue.	Oct. 10	Fall Break - No Class		
	Thur.	Oct. 12	1st Years of Battle (1861-62)	Crane, 1-86	V1: 223-282
	Fri.	Oct. 13	Quiz 7	Crane, 87-155	
9	Tue.	Oct. 17	Fighting in 1863	CP: Lincoln's Gettys. Add.	V1: 283-306
	Thur.	Oct. 19	Union Conquest (1864-1876)	<i>Pvt. No More</i> (41-133)	
	Fri.	Oct. 20	Quiz 8		
10	Tue.	Oct. 24	Preparedness (1880-1915)	CP: Dec. of War (WWI)	V1: 307-390
	Thur.	Oct. 26	Winning WWI (1916- 18)	CP: Wilson's 14 Pts.	V2: 7-54
	Fri.	Oct. 27	<u>EXAM 2 OPENS</u>		
11	Tue.	Oct. 31	Rearmament (1919-38)	None	V2: 55-74
	Thur.	Nov. 2	A World at War (1939-41)	CP: FDR's Four Freedoms	V2: 79-132
	Fri.	Nov. 3	Quiz 9	None	
12	Tue.	Nov. 7	Entering WWII & Fighting in Europe (1943)	CP: Lend-Lease Act	V2: 133-145
	Thur.	Nov. 9	No Class	None	V2: 146-174
	Fri.	Nov. 10	Quiz 10	None	
13	Tue.	Nov. 14	Fighting in the Pacific (1943)	None	V2: 175-188
	Thur.	Nov. 16	Taking Command (1944)	CP: Japanese Intern.	V2: 189-254
	Fri.	Nov. 17	Quiz 11	None	
<u>NOON, NOVEMBER 20: WAR NARRATIVE DUE VIA BRIGHTSPACE</u>					
14	Tue.	Nov. 21	WWII Victory (1945-47)	CP: Axis Pwrs. Surrender	
	Thur.	Nov. 23	Thanksgiving Break - No Class		
	Fri.	Nov. 24	Thanksgiving Break - No Class or Quiz		
15	Tue.	Nov. 28	Post-War Order (1947-59)	CP: Truman Doctrine	V2: 255-372
	Thur.	Nov. 30	Entering Vietnam (1960-65)	O'Brien, 1-123	
	Fri.	Dec. 1	Quiz 12	O'Brien, 124-246	V2: 373-412
16	Tue.	Dec. 5	Losing Vietnam (1965-72)	CP: Protest Songs	
	Thur.	Dec. 7	War to Today (1980-2016)	Watch: <i>Losing Iraq</i>	V2: 63-518
	Fri.	Dec. 8	<u>EXAM 3 OPENS</u>		

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: Video or audio recording of any portion of classroom lectures or class discussion is not permitted. 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, slavery, sexual assault, among other disturbing topics. Feel free to inquire should you have concerns about the material.

Syllabus Changes: 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 and Brightspace frequently for updated course information and announcements.

Classroom Respect: This class is intended to encourage open, informed discussions and I hope to protect and foster a classroom atmosphere that will encourage an open, civil and enlightened discourse in the class. Ultimately, I hope that you take those ideas and informed discussions with you beyond the classroom. Respect, open-mindedness and tolerance will be the standard for all classroom discussions. I encourage you to ask questions you may have on this topic either in the class or during office hours.

Nondiscrimination Statement: Purdue University is committed to maintaining a community that 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 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. A hyperlink to Purdue's full Nondiscrimination Policy Statement is included in our course Brightspace under University Policies and Statements.

Email: Email will be the preferred mode of contact outside of regular classroom hours and office hours. Please feel free to contact me directly at any point. I will also create a class

email list which I will use to send course-related announcements as needed. *For this reason, I expect you to check your Purdue email account at least once a day.*

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.

Academic Integrity

As a student in this class and at Purdue, you are expected to uphold the standards of academic integrity. It is one of the highest values that Purdue holds. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious offenses and will be treated as such in this class. You are expected to produce your own work and to accurately cite all necessary materials. Individuals are encouraged to alert university officials to potential breaches of this value by either emailing integrity@purdue.edu or by calling 765-494-8778. While information may be submitted anonymously, the more information that is submitted provides the greatest opportunity for the university to investigate the concern.”

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: the use of papers or books not authorized by the instructor during examinations, quizzes, and other written assignments; giving or receiving answers during or in preparation for examinations and quizzes; and failing to cite sources employed for writing assignments.

Please remember and adhere to the student-initiated Honors Pledge: “As a boilermaker pursuing academic excellence, I pledge to be honest and true in all that I do. Accountable together – we are Purdue.”

Purdue prohibits "dishonesty in connection with any University activity. Cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University are examples of dishonesty." [Part 5, Section III-B-2-a, [Student Regulations](#)] Furthermore, the University Senate has stipulated that "the commitment of acts of cheating, lying, and deceit in any of their diverse forms (such as the use of substitutes for taking examinations, the use of illegal cribs, plagiarism, and copying during examinations) is dishonest and must not be tolerated. Moreover, knowingly to aid and abet, directly or indirectly, other parties in committing dishonest acts is in itself dishonest." [University Senate Document 72-18, December 15, 1972] You can find Purdue’s student guide for academic integrity here: <https://www.purdue.edu/odos/academic-integrity/>.

Those who engage in such practices should expect to fail the course and have their behavior referred to the Dean of Students. This is non-negotiable: if I find that you have plagiarized, you will fail the assignment and potentially will fail the entire course—period. Please do not put yourself in this situation.

Students who use AI-generated writing for any portion of their written assignments will be deemed in violation of the academic integrity expectations for this course. Violations can include a failing grade for the course and restrictions from further class attendance. All suspected incidents of academic dishonesty will also be referred to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities for further review of the student's status with the University, which may include being separated from the University.

Accessibility

Purdue University strives to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you need any special accommodations to participate fully in class, please see me as soon as possible. I will keep all discussions confidential as long as the situation permits. Please note that, in order for Purdue University to accommodate your needs, you will need to provide appropriate written documentation and have it on file with Student Services. Students should be aware that Services for Student Disabilities are available at 765-494-1247 if you need further assistance.

Mental Health/Wellness 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 free and can be done on BoilerConnect.

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 on the second floor of the Purdue University Student Health Center (PUSH) during business hours. The [CAPS website](#) also offers resources specific to situations such as COVID-19.

Basic Needs Security

Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. There is no appointment needed and Student Support Services is available to serve students 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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 or TAs via email or phone. You are expected to read your @purdue.edu email on a frequent basis.

Emergency Notification Procedures

If you hear a fire alarm inside, proceed outside. If you hear a siren outside, proceed inside. Indoor Fire Alarms mean to stop class or research and immediately evacuate the building. Proceed to your Emergency Assembly Area away from building doors. Remain outside until police, fire, or other emergency response personnel provide additional guidance or tell you it is safe to leave. All Hazards Outdoor Emergency Warning Sirens mean to immediately seek shelter (Shelter in Place) in a safe location within the closest building. "Shelter in place means" seeking immediate shelter inside a building or University residence. This course of action may need to be taken during a tornado, a civil disturbance including a shooting or release of hazardous materials in the outside air. Once safely inside, find out more details about the emergency. Remain in place until police, fire, or other emergency response personnel provide additional guidance or tell you it is safe to leave.

Review the Emergency Procedures Guidelines:

https://www.purdue.edu/emergency_preparedness/flipchart/index.htm.

Review the Building Emergency Plan (available from the building deputy) for evacuation routes, exit points, and emergency assembly area.

"Shots Fired on Campus: When Lightning Strikes" is a 20-minute active shooter awareness video that illustrates what to look for and how to prepare and react to this type of incident. For additional information: http://www.purdue.edu/emergency_preparedness.