

POLI 4040-02 | SPECIAL TOPICS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: MILITARY HISTORY AND POLITICS FALL 2018

Instructor: Michael Reed

E-mail: greed12@lsu.edu

Classroom: Allen 31

Lectures: Monday, Wednesday, & Friday (12:30 – 1:20)

Office: Stubbs 231

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday (9:30 – 11:30) or by appointment

Course Description

Though there exist many different types of states—from democracies to theocracies, republics to autocracies—all share the same first priority: maintaining their existence. To this end, states expend considerable resources on their defense and security. Invariably, the character of these defense establishments is influenced by the societies that field them. Equally invariably, these institutions influence the civilizations they defend. It is no surprise then that democratic Athens was guarded by the phalanx (infantry) and navy—both having egalitarian origins and characteristics—or that cavalry's dominance on the medieval European battlefield led to their dominance in feudal society.

This course will examine the links between war and politics (both domestic and international). It will begin with an examination of ancient Greek and Roman societies and conclude with an examination of how the modern American defense establishment and American political processes influence each other. Among other things, we will ask: How does a state's military influence its politics, and vice-versa? How does a state's domestic economy influence its conduct of war? How did rising nationalism during the French Revolution influence the Napoleonic Wars? How did technological advances in the twentieth century affect civil-military relations? How can the intelligence cycle be insulated from politics; or, with the need for political oversight, to what extent is such insulation desirable or possible?

Required Books

Hale, John R. 2009. *Lords of the Sea: The Epic Story of the Athenian Navy and the Birth of Democracy*. London: Penguin Books. ISBN: 9780670020805.

Oman, Charles W. 1885. *Art of War in the Middle Ages A.D. 378-1515*. Cornell: Cornell University Press. ISBN: 9781481954631.

Townshend, Charles, ed. 2005. *The Oxford History of Modern War*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 0192806459.

Class Assignments

Examinations (60%): Students will take two exams throughout the semester, each constituting 30% of the final grade. The midterm exam will occur on *12 October 2018* and will cover all reading and lecture material to-date. The final exam will occur on *6 December 2018 (7:30—9:30am)* and will be cumulative, though significant weight will be given to material covered during the second half of the course. Students must present their student ID's to be admitted on exam day.

Final Paper (30%): Students will be responsible for submitting a final essay (1250 words minimum, 2500 preferred) at the beginning of class on *30 November 2018*. Late essays will not be accepted. Students should read one of the following books, adequately summarize their selection, and identify the ways it relates to the main themes of the course.

Kennedy, Paul. 1989. *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers: Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000*. New York: Vintage Books. ISBN: 0679720197.

Fuller, J.F.C. 1992. *The Conduct of War: 1789-1961: A Study of the Impact of the French, Industrial, and Russian Revolutions on War and Its Conduct*. New York: DaCapo Press. ISBN: 0306804670.

Brauer, Jurgen and Hubert Van Tuyll. 2008. *Castles, Battles, and Bombs: How Economics Explains Military History*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. ISBN: 0226071634.

McNeill, William H. 1982. *The Pursuit of Power: Technology, Armed Force, and Society since A.D. 1000*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. ISBN: 9780226561585

Huntington, Samuel P. 1985. *The Soldier and the State: The Theory and Politics of Civil-Military Relations*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. ISBN: 0674817362.

Parker, Geoffrey. 1996. *The Military Revolution: Military Innovation and the Rise of the West, 1500-1800*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 0521479584.

Participation (10%): It is imperative that students attend all lectures and actively contribute to class meetings. Lectures will always introduce new material related, but not identical, to the readings for each respective week. Students are allowed 3 unexcused absences; each subsequent unexcused absence will result in a 1 point penalty.

Class Schedule

Week 1: Introduction

- 8/20 – Course Introduction
- 8/22 – Kennedy, *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers*, selections.
- 8/24 – Gat, *War in Human Civilization*, selections.

Week 2: Classical Greece—Democracy and Athenian Naval Power

- 8/27 – Hale, *Lords of the Sea*, P. xxiii-28
- 8/29 – P. 29-54
- 8/31 – P. 55-94

Week 3: Classical Greece—Democracy and Athenian Naval Power cont.

- 9/3 – NO CLASS
- 9/5 – P. 95-153
- 9/7 – P. 154-184

Week 4: Classical Greece—Democracy and Athenian Naval Power cont.

- 9/10 – P. 185-220
- 9/12 – P. 221-246
- 9/14 – P. 249-279

Week 5: Classical Greece—Democracy and Athenian Naval Power cont.

- 9/17 – P. 280-310
- 9/19 – P. 311-318, Pericles Funeral Oration
- 9/21 – Hanson, *The Western Way of War*, selections.

Week 6: The Supremacy of Cavalry and the Development of Feudalism

- 9/24 – Oman, *The Art of War in the Middle Ages*, P. 10-42
- 9/26 – P. 43-70
- 9/28 – P. 71-85

Week 7: The Supremacy of Cavalry and the Development of Feudalism cont.

- 10/1 – P. 86-129
- 10/3 – P. 130-166
- 10/5 – P. 167-179

Week 8: Nationalism, the French Revolution, and Total War

- 10/8 – Fuller, *The Conduct of War*, selections.
- 10/10 – Clausewitz, *On War*, selections.
- 10/12 – EXAM

Week 9: Modern Military History and the Future of Politics

- 10/15 – Townshend, *The Oxford History of Modern War*, P. 3-39
- 10/17 – P. 40-73
- 10/19 – NO CLASS

Week 10: Modern Military History and the Future of Politics cont.

- 10/22 – P. 74-137
- 10/24 – P. 138-176
- 10/26 – P. 177-223

Week 11: Modern Military History and the Future of Politics cont.

- 10/29 – P. 224-244
- 10/31 – P. 245-279
- 11/2 – P. 280-302

Week 12: Modern Military History and the Future of Politics cont.

- 11/5 – P. 303-316
- 11/7 – P. 317-340
- 11/9 – P. 341-363

Week 13: Modern Issues in Military Policy and Politics

- 11/12 – Betts, *Enemies of Intelligence*, selections.
- 11/14 – Rovner, *Fixing the Facts*, selections.
- 11/16 – Zegart, *Eyes on Spies*, selections.

Week 14: Modern Issues in Military Policy and Politics cont.

- 11/19 – Civil-Military Divide
- 11/21 – NO CLASS
- 11/23 – NO CLASS

Week 15: Modern Issues in Military Policy and Politics cont.

- 11/26 – Shah, Aqil. 2018. “Do U.S. Drone Strikes Cause Blowback? Evidence from Pakistan and Beyond.” *International Security* 42 (4). P. 47-84.
- 11/28 – Nye Jr., Joseph S. 2017. “Deterrence and Dissuasion in Cyberspace.” *International Security* 41 (3). P. 44-71.
- 11/30 – Downes, Alexander B. and Lindsey A. O’Rourke. 2016. “You Can’t Always Get What You Want: Why Foreign-Imposed Regime Change Seldom Improves Interstate Relations.” *International Security* 41 (2). P. 43-89.

Academic Misconduct Statement

Integrity, not industry or ingenuity, is the highest academic virtue. Lying, cheating, and plagiarism will not be tolerated.

According to section 10.1 of the LSU Code of Student Conduct, “A student may be charged with Academic Misconduct” for a variety of offenses, including the following: unauthorized copying, collusion, or collaboration; “falsifying” data or citations; “assisting someone in the commission or attempted commission of an offense”; and plagiarism, which is defined in section 10.1.H as a “lack of appropriate citation, or the unacknowledged inclusion of someone else’s words, structure, ideas, or data; failure to identify a source, or the submission of essentially the same work for two assignments without permission of the instructor(s).”

Disability Services Statement

According to the General Catalog, “The *Office of Disability Services* assists students in identifying and developing accommodations and services to help overcome barriers to the achievement of personal and academic goals. Services are provided for students with temporary or permanent disabilities. Accommodations and services are based on the individual student’s disability-based need.” Students seeking accommodations must provide current documentation of their disabilities to the course instructor. Students should contact the office early so that necessary accommodations can be arranged.

Humanities and Social Sciences Competency Statement

LSU graduates will demonstrate an understanding of the informing factors of global interdependence, including economic forces, political dynamics, and cultural and linguistic difference.