

**HISTORY 382-001**  
**WAR, TECHNOLOGY and SOCIETY 1500-1914**

Spring 2018	Dr. K.W. Schweizer
Office Hours:	Federated Dept. of History, NJIT/Rutgers
Mondays: 4:30 – 5:30 pm or	Office: Cull. 308
Thursdays: noon – 12:30 pm or	Email: <a href="mailto:Schweizer@adm.njit.edu">Schweizer@adm.njit.edu</a>
By appointment	
Class: Monday evenings 6 – 9 pm Kupfrian 206	

**Course Description:** This course will examine important themes in the inter-relationship between warfare, politics, technology, and society from the beginnings of modern warfare until World War I. Primary emphasis will be on the historical connections between violent conflict, the technical means by which this is carried out, the socio-political environment within which war takes place, the diplomatic context and consequences of large-scale armed conflict as well as the evolution of tactical doctrine. It will demonstrate that societies determine the nature of warfare, and war likewise affects the evolution of society.

Among the themes to be explored are the nature and role of technical change, the relationship between military and political developments (via strategy), ideological justifications of power and territorial expansion, the impact of power transitions as well as the rise of a world market economy sustained by maritime capability.

**Course Goals:** By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand the intricate connections between international relations and war, tested against historical evidence. This will enhance their understanding of world politics, systemic power distribution as well as economic patterns and trends.
- Appreciate how “Great Powers” have affected world systems’ dynamics by determining the structure, major processes and general evolution of the international system.
- Understand war as part of the wider panorama of human development.
- Realize how military strategy has always and continues to translate armed force into intended political effects. This will enable students to better understand the core dynamics behind contemporary global security dilemmas.
- Write effective papers that critically analyze in fluent prose key elements of the recurrent technology/military interface and illustrate its abiding importance today.

**Assignments and Marks:**

Book Review	20%	due: Monday, February 19
Essay	30%	due: Monday, April 16
Midterm Quiz	20%	Monday, March 19
Wrap up Quiz	20%	Monday, April 30
Class Participation	10%	

**Grading Scale for Assignments and Participation:**

A = 85 – 100	B+ = 80 – 84.5	
B = 75 – 79.5	C+ = 69.5 – 74.5	
C = 65 – 69.5	D = 50 – 64.9	F = 49.9 - 0

Texts: (required readings)

Richard A. Preston & Sydney Wise, Men in Arms: A History of Warfare and its Interrelationship with Western Society (1991).

Michael Howard, War in European History (Oxford, 2009).

Gunther Rothenberg, The Art of Warfare in the Age of Napoleon (Bloomington, IN 1981).

John Stone, Military Strategy: The Politics and Techniques of War (London, 2011).

Semester Schedule:

**Monday, Jan. 22 and Jan. 29:**

Introduction: Medieval Warfare: State, Society and Military Development in an Age of Transition.

Readings: Preston and Wise, ch. 6; Howard, ch. 1.

**Monday, Feb. 5 and Feb. 12:**

The Advent of Modern War: Technology, Diplomacy, Emergent Capitalism and Shifts in Global Power patterns. New Developments in Military Administration and Logistics.

Readings: Modelski, "Wars and the Great Power System"; Schweizer, "Diplomacy," to be supplied; Preston and Wise, ch. 7; Howard, ch. 4.

**Monday, Feb. 19 and Feb. 26:**

Sea Power: "Wars of the Merchants."

Readings: Howard, ch. 3; Preston and Wise, chs. 8, 10.

***Book review is due Monday, February 19.***

**Monday, Mar. 5:**

Advances in the Art of War, 1600-1789: Aspects of Science, Technology, State Building and Power Expansion. Review for mid term quiz

Readings: Jack Levy, "World System Analysis: A Great Power Framework," to be supplied; K.W. Schweizer, "The Seven Years War: A System Perspective," to be supplied; Howard, ch. 4; Preston and Wise, ch. 9.

**March 11 – March 18: Spring Break**

**Monday, Mar. 19: *Mid Term Quiz***

**Monday, Mar. 26:**

Neo-Classical Warfare: Constraints on Military Transformation: 1660-1789: Technological, Fiscal, Social, Ideological, Diplomatic.

Readings: Preston and Wise, ch. 9; Rotenberg, ch. 1

**Monday, Apr. 2:**

Military Strategy and Tactics:

a) Strategic Theory and Historical Practice.

b) Political Contexts.

Readings: Stone, Intro.; Rothenberg, ch. 3; K.W. Schweizer, "Clausewitz Revisited," (to be supplied).

**Monday, Apr. 9:**

Warfare in the French Revolution and the Age of Napoleon.

Readings: Howard, ch. 6; Stone, ch. 1; Rothenberg, chs. 2 and 4.

**Monday, Apr. 16:**

War, Society and the Industrial Revolution: 1815-1900.

Readings: Stone, ch. 2; Rothenberg, ch. 6; Howard, ch. 6.

*Essay is due Monday April 16.*

**Monday, Apr. 23:**

The Prelude to World War I: Warfare of the Technologists. Review for Wrap Up Quiz.

Readings: Howard, ch. 7; Stone, ch. 2; Preston and Wise, ch. 13.

**Monday, Apr. 30: *Wrap up quiz.*****Additional Suggested Reading:**

R. O'Connell, Soul of the Sword (NY, 2002).

John Keegan, Mask of Command (1989).

J. Black, European Warfare 1494-1660 (Exeter, 2002).

G. Parker, The Military Revolution (Cambridge, 1996).

M. Duffy, The Military Revolution and the State 1500-1800 (1980).

D. E. Showalter, The Wars of Frederick the Great (1996).

Kelly de Vries (ed.), Medieval Warfare 1300-1450 (2010).

T. Ropp, War in the Modern World (1976).

John Roberts, The Jacobite Wars (2002).

C. Duffy, The Military Experience—The Age of Reason (1987).

G. Sheffield (ed.), War Studies Reader (London, 2010).

J. Riley, Napoleon as a General (2007)

K.W. Schweizer and M. Schumann, The Seven Years War: A Transatlantic History (London, 2010).

K.W. Schweizer, War, Politics and Diplomacy (Oxford, 2001).

D. Eltis, The Military Revolution in 16<sup>th</sup> Century Europe (NY, 1995).

W.H. McNeill, The Pursuit of Power (1981).

A. Gat, The Origins of Military Thought (Oxford, 1991).

Wayne, Lee, Waging War (Oxford, 2016).

**Course Requirements:**

- Hist 382 requires one book review (approximately 5- 6 pages) based on a book relating to themes of the course, chosen by the student (with Professor's approval). Book review guidelines will be provided.
- This book may not be one of the course texts. Novels, autobiographies, memoirs are **not acceptable**.
- This book review is due on **Monday, February 19** and will count for 20 percent of the final grade.
- The review has to be handed in at the beginning of class—hard copy, not email.
- Moreover, students are required to prepare a properly researched and documented essay of 8-10 pages on a topic related to the central themes of the course. A research paper guideline will be provided.
- The essay, hard copy not email, is due on **Monday, April 16** at the beginning of class and will count for 30 percent of the final grade.
- There will be a midterm quiz and a wrap-up quiz. The midterm is worth 20 percent and the final is worth 20 percent. A review will be given in the classes before the quizzes.
- Attendance will be taken at each class and this will count as part of the class participation which is worth 10 percent of the final grade.

## Policies:

- This is an **intellectually demanding course** and all students will be expected to do all the readings listed in the syllabus and start work on their written assignments before the submission date, ideally as soon as the book and/or subject has been approved.
- A sign-up sheet will be circulated in class weeks prior to book reviews due. After choosing your book be sure to check the sign-up sheet to make sure that your choice has been approved by the Professor.
- Once your book and later your essay topic has been approved it is the student's responsibility to bring these to completion using the guidelines in the handouts without further professorial input.
- Attendance will be taken during each class and it is the student's responsibility to sign the attendance book. Absences will be excused only with documentation from the Dean of Students.
- Assignments **MUST** be submitted on time. Excuses for work submitted late will **not** be accepted (medical reasons, death in family apart). There are **no** exceptions (except as noted below). Late submissions will have grades deducted (one grade per day of lateness) unless a valid reason given (i.e. illness, supported documentation from the Dean of Students). This point **must** be clearly understood before students **agree** to take this class. Last minute pleas based on undocumented reasons **will** be rejected.
- It is the **student's** responsibility to ascertain that all assignments have been duly submitted and all required term work completed **prior** to termination of the semester. By signing the attendance book, students explicitly **acknowledge** their understanding and **acceptance** of this condition.
- Plagiarism in any written assignment will result in an automatic failure and will be reported to the Dean of Students.
- Students **must not** put assignments under the professor's office door. They should be submitted on the due date at the beginning of the class or taken to the History office where the secretary will date stamp them.
- Assignments are to be submitted as hard copy. Email attachments will not be accepted.
- There will be no "make-up" exam. If you miss the midterm quiz or wrap-up quiz for any reasons other than those applying to written assignments listed above, you will receive an F.
- There will be no "re-writing" of book reviews. Students having problems with written English must consult the Humanities Dept. Writing Center (Cullimore, 4<sup>th</sup> floor), Professor Janet Bodner.
- All submitted work must contain the following signed statement: **I have fully complied with the NJIT Honor Code. Signed: Your Name.**