

Texas A&M University Central Texas
Department of Humanities

Fall 2017

American Military History
HIST 3316-110 Military History of the United States

Instructor: Dr. Timothy C. Hemmis
Meeting Room: Founder's Hall 209
Office: 217C
E-Mail: themmis@tamuct.edu
Phone: 254-501-5931
Office Hours: TR 2:30-4:30PM, W 5:00-6:00PM or
by appointment.



Course Description and Objectives:

This class delves into America's Military History from 1607-2017. American Military History is a complex topic that is often neglected. Through lecture, discussions, readings, and multimedia, the course will examine conflict and its impact on colonial societies and people, move on to the monumental event of the American Revolution, the constitutional establishment of the new nation's armed forces, the American Civil War, the Twentieth Century wars, and the Global War on Terrorism. This course will strengthen your critical thinking, reading, and writing skills, and provide a foundation for understanding the modern world. You will demonstrate the ability to develop and focus on one topic in writing assignments and present ideas in an organized, logical, and coherent form. You will also demonstrate the ability to use Standard English grammar, punctuation, spelling, and usage. Lastly, you will hopefully leave this class with a better understanding of America's past and how it has shaped the present.

Required Texts

Rampolla, Mary Lynn. *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*. 2015.

Textbooks

Grenier, John. *The First Way of War: American War Making on the Frontier, 1607-1814*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008.

Millett, Allan Reed, Peter Maslowski, and William B. Feis. *For the Common Defense: A Military History of the United States of America from 1607 to 2012*. New York: Free Press, 2012.

Neiberg, Michael S. *The Path to War: How the First World War Created Modern America*. 2016.

There will be other articles and book chapters that the Professor will provide electronically each week.

Course Requirements

Grades will be determined on the following basis:

Oral Presentation	100 points	
Poster	200 points	
Book Reviews	200 points (100 points each)	
Quizzes	200 points (50 points each)	
Midterm Exam	100 points	
Final Exam	200 points	

Scoring:

Final Grades will be determined based upon the following scale:

A	=	900-1000 points
B	=	800-899 points
C	=	700-799 points
D	=	600-699 points
F	=	Below 600 points

Attendance and Participation

Class attendance and participation are crucial elements of the learning experience. Attendance is your responsibility. Attendance will be taken daily. In addition, attendance means staying for the whole class. Do not leave early without speaking to me beforehand. Failure to regularly attend class will result in dire consequences such as failing the class. Please come to class prepared and ready to discuss the readings assigned for the day.

Quizzes

Reading quizzes will be either announced or unannounced. There are numerous quizzes based on assigned reading throughout the semester. Missed reading quizzes may not be made up. There will be one map quiz as part of the reading quiz. The students will be tested on the geographic layout of the United States including battlefields, cities, villages, and major geographic features.

Exams

There will be two exams in this class. The exams for this class will be cumulative, although they will reflect persistent themes, ideas, and terminology that run throughout American History. The exams will be identification terms and essays.

Writing Assignments

The book reviews will be 900-1100 words long and be modeled after critical reviews in academic journals such as the *American Historical Review* or *The William and Mary Quarterly*. A book review concentrates on identifying and critiquing on the author's thesis. What is the author trying to argue, what evidence do they use, and do you agree and disagree? It is not just a simple summary of the book.

Primary Document Paper

Each student will find a substantial primary source document via the digital history archives on American Military History. They must read and write a two page summary and background analysis of the document. The student will determine why the document is valuable to the study of history and the study of war and society.

Oral Presentation

Each student will choose a battle, individual, or unit from American Military History. They will have to give a five minute presentation on that person of interest. They must include why and how they were involved in the US armed forces. Students are expected to research the person before their oral presentation to the class. Students will be graded by their oral presentation. Additionally there will be some worksheets that go along with the research

Poster

Each student will create a poster that highlights a battle, individual, or unit in American Military history. The student will write a brief summary about the subject and display it on a poster board. Graphics and photographs are encouraged in the assignment. There will be a work cited section attached to the poster. There will be worksheets on this project, as well.

Important Reminder

Late Papers will be penalized 10% (or 1 letter grade) for every class day they are late. Weekends do not count as class days.

FORMATTING

Essays must comply with the following formatting guidelines. Writing assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date indicated. Essays must be submitted as hard copies (electronic copies of papers will not be accepted).

Your papers must be typewritten, with 12 pt. font in Times New Roman and double-spaced lines. The header of your paper should be single-spaced and in the following format:

Your Name
Paper, HIS 343
Dr. Timothy Hemmis
janedoe@yahoo.com
Due Date

Your paper should have 1” margins on the top and bottom and 1.25” margins on the left right margins. Evidence must be cited using footnotes. Use of alternate forms of citation, such as the MLA format, is not acceptable. Finally, your essays must be stapled (no “dog ears,” paper clips, or binders) and the pages numbered! If you have questions about the proper format of your essay, please see me during my office hours.

The essay must include evidence from the text, and you must cite that evidence using footnotes. Use the following examples as models:

First citation:

¹ Alfred F. Young, *The Shoemaker and the Tea Party: Memory and the American Revolution* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1999), 45.

Subsequent citations:

⁵ Young, *The Shoemaker and the Tea Party*, 74.

Unexcused/ Late Work or Absences from Exams:

The only valid excuses for missing an exam or failing to turn in a paper or homework on time are illnesses requiring medical care, required university activities, religious holidays, or a personal emergency of a serious nature. To be excused without penalty, documentation is required. In certain other circumstances, I will allow you to turn in an assignment early or take an exam in advance, but you must see me as soon as possible. Do not wait until the last possible minute.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

Drop Policy.

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a [Drop Request Form](https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf) [https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf].

Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the University Calendar for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Academic Integrity.

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

Academic Accommodations.

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier free education. The Department of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the University's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Department of Access and Inclusion at (254) 501-5831. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/access-inclusion) webpage [https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/access-inclusion].

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. For more information, please visit <https://www.tamuct.departments/index.php>. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines online](#), please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Tutoring.

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both on-campus and online. On-campus subjects tutored include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, or any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at 254-519-5796, or by emailing Larry Davis at lmDavis@tamuct.edu.

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log-in and receive FREE online tutoring and writing support. This tool provides tutoring in over forty subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

The University Writing Center.

Located in 416 Warrior Hall, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University-Central Texas is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10am-5pm Monday-Thursday with satellite hours in the University Library on Mondays from 6:00-9:00pm. Students may arrange a one-on-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by visiting the UWC during normal operating hours (both half-hour and hour sessions are available) or by making an appointment via [WCOOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu to schedule an online tutoring session. Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process.

While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the University Writing Center is here to help!

If you have any questions about the University Writing Center, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu.

University Library.

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 72,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On-campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available twenty-four hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and

laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](https://tamuct.libguides.com/) [https://tamuct.libguides.com/].

Course Schedule

Week 1 (August 29 and August 31) **Class Introduction and European Exploration**

Reading Assignment: Millett and Maslowski (MM) pp 1-19

Week 2 (September 5 and 7) **Colonial Wars**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 20-43

Week 3 (Sept 12 and 14) **American War for Independence**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 44-76

Week 4 (Sept 19 and 21) **The Early Republic and Conflicts**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 77-107

Week 5 (Sept 26 and 28) **The War of 1812**

Reading Assignment: Reread the section on War of 1812

- **Grenier Due**

Week 6 (October 3 and NO CLASS OCT 5 it is Research Day!) **The Mexican American War**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 108-141

Week 7 (October 10 and 12) **The American Civil War**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 142-217

SATURDAY October 14th Central Texas Military Symposium at Warrior Hall

930-300 PM (Please plan on attending for class)

Week 8 (October 17 and 19) **The Imperial Nation and its conflicts**

- **Oct 19th Midterm**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 218-281

Week 9 (October 24 and 26) **The Great War**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 282-338

- **Neiberg Due**

Week 10 (October 31 and November 2) **The Second World War**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 339-439

Week 11 (November 7 and 9) **The Cold War Conflicts**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 440-506

Week 12 (November 14 and 16) **Vietnam**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 507-568

- **Posters are due**

Week 13 (November 21 and No class on Thanksgiving Thursday) **Modern Conflicts**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 569-605

Week 14 (November 28 and 30) Oral **Presentations**

Week 15 (December 5 and 7) **The Global War on Terror and the Future**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 606-680

Final Exam: TBA