

*Texas A&M University Central Texas*  
*Department of Humanities*

**Spring 2020**

**American Military History**

**HIST 3316-110**

**Military History of the United States**

Instructor: Dr. Timothy C. Hemmis

Meeting Room: Founder's Hall 209

Meeting Time: TR 11:00-12:15PM

Office: HH 216H

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Phone: 254-501-5931

Office Hours: 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**

#### **Textbooks**

Herrera, Ricardo A. *For Liberty and the Republic: The American Citizen As Soldier, 1775-1861*. New York: New York University Press, 2018.

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.

Wiest, Andrew. *The Boys of '67: Charlie Company's War in Vietnam*. Oxford: Osprey Publishing, 2013.

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                   | Throughout the semester              |
| Veteran Interview | 200 points                   | 04/23/2020                           |
| Book Reviews      | 200 points (100 points each) | See Schedule                         |
| Quizzes           | 200 points (50 points each)  | Throughout the semester – see canvas |
| Midterm Exam      | 100 points                   | 03/05/2020                           |
| Final Exam        | 200 points                   | TBD                                  |

### **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 online. There are numerous quizzes based on assigned reading throughout the semester. Since the quizzes will be on Canvas there is no reason to miss one.

### **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 Military 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.

### **Veteran Interview**

Each student will interview a veteran. The student will have to write a 4-5 page paper on the subject of the interviewee and their role in American armed forces. Outside sources will be expected for context. More information will be distributed in class.

### **Oral Presentation**

The Oral Presentation will be highlighting a battle. The will have to give a five minute presentation on that particular battle. The Battle will be chosen at the beginning of the semester and will present during the week of the particular topic at the start of class. They must include the lessons learned from the battle. Students are expected to research the battle before their oral presentation to the class. Students will be graded on their oral presentation.

### **Important Reminder**

No late papers will be accepted unless extreme circumstances. Extensions maybe granted if asked before 48 hours of the due date.

## **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:

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

Subsequent citations:

<sup>5</sup> Young, *The Shoemaker and the Tea Party*, 74.

## **Unexcused/ Late Work or Absences from Exams:**

The only valid excuses for missing an exam 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 (Jan 14 and Jan 16) **Class Introduction and Colonial Wars**

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

Week 2 (Jan 21 and Jan 23) **Seven Years War**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 20-43

Week 3 (Jan 28 and Jan 30) **American War for Independence**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 44-76

Week 4 (Feb 4 and Feb 6) **The Early Republic and Conflicts**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 77-107

Week 5 (Feb 11 and Feb 13) **The War of 1812**

Reading Assignment: Reread the section on War of 1812

- Herrera Due 2/13/19

Week 6 (Feb 18 and Feb 20) **The Mexican American War**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 108-141

Week 7 (Feb 25 and Feb 27) **The American Civil War**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 142-217

Week 8 (Mar 3 and Mar 5) **The Imperial Nation and its conflicts**

**MAR 5 MIDTERM EXAM**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 218-281

Week 9 (Mar 10 and March 12) **SPRING BREAK**

Week 10 (Mar 17 and Mar 19) **The Great War**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 282-338

Week 11 (Mar 24 and Mar 26) **The Second World War**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 339-439

Week 12 (Mar 31 and Apr 2) **The Pacific War**

Reading Assignment:



Week 13 (Apr 7 and Apr 9) **The Cold War Conflicts**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 440-506

Week 14 (Apr 14 and 16) **Vietnam**

- **Wiest Review Due 4/16/2020**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 507-568; MM pp 569-605

Week 15 (Apr 21 and 23) **Modern Conflicts**

**INTERVIEW PAPERS ARE DUE 04/23/2020**

Week 16 (Apr 28 and APR 30) **The Global War on Terror and the Future**

Reading Assignment: MM pp 606-680

APR 30 will be an online class.

Final Exam: TBD