Course Description and Goals

This course examines the historical evolution of the conduct and outcomes of war from a theoretical and normative perspective. What elements of war have changed over time, and what core precepts remain the same? To what degree have advances in technology altered the conduct, and outcomes of war? Why have some weapons been deemed cruel and inhumane at times and merciful at others? We will explore the interrelationships among military technology, society, politics, and war, asking how different forces have shaped warfare from the introduction of gunpowder to the present, focusing on how and why different weapons have been used (or prohibited) over time.

Students will learn to perform basic research and analysis through writing and thinking about conflict from multiple different perspectives. Readings are drawn from historic and contemporary scholars of weapons, technology, and war, cover a wide variety of issues, and are presented in historical order. Assignments are a mixture of analysis, research, and experiential learning.

Requirements

Class Participation

Students will have the opportunity participate in the class both during and outside of classroom hours. Each student will be assigned to two to three days during the semester in which they will co-author a short memo (500 or so words) comparing and contrasting that day’s readings and posing questions for discussion. These memos should be posted in the forums on the course website by 8 PM the day before the readings are to be discussed. Students are encouraged to respond to the memos as part of their participation.

Readings

Readings for the course are drawn from books available at the bookstore as well as E-Readings, which can be downloaded directly from the links on the syllabus. Students are expected to bring a copy of the readings to class every day for reference. Readings marked “Further” are other relevant articles; they are not required for class. Five books are for sale at the bookstore and are also on reserve at the library. The library has 22 copies of Keegan and 20 copies of van Creveld; they can be checked out for the entire term if you are enrolled in the class. Since we will be reading Brodie and Brodie ($11.25 used) as well as Ropp ($16.50 used) throughout the semester, you should order both; any edition of any book will suffice. All but Biddle are available used on Amazon for essentially the cost of shipping.

Required

**Course Website**
Frequent reading of the course website will be helpful for success in the class. Discussion and collaboration with your peers is available to you through the website as well as in class; supplemental and core readings will be made available there; and assignments will be turned in electronically using the site.

**Assignments and Quals**
There are two formal assignments for this course. More details regarding the assignments will be available later. If you intend to qual in this course, you must let me know the first day.

- The first assignment (due March 3) will be a short (1600-2000 word) essay.
- The second assignment (due the end of week 14) will be a longer (3000-3500 word) essay.

**Recommended Films**
Due to restrictions on what can be demanded of students and liability problems, it is impossible for Reed College to send you to war (Your own government, on the other hand, is an entirely different matter). Consequently, the best we can do is to read about it and watch films. Below is a selection of films that you may find edifying. If time and enthusiasm permits, we may screen some of these during the semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>pre-20th Century Warfare</th>
<th>World War I</th>
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<tr>
<td>Henry V (Agincourt, 1415)</td>
<td>Paths of Glory</td>
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<td>Glory (American Civil War, 1863)</td>
<td>All Quiet on the Western Front</td>
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<td>Gettysburg (American Civil War, 1863)</td>
<td>Gallipoli</td>
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<td>Zulu (Zulu War, 1879)</td>
<td>Joyeux Noel</td>
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<td>Breaker Morant (Boer War, late 1800s)</td>
<td>Lawrence of Arabia</td>
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<td>World War II</td>
<td>Korea/Vietnam</td>
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<td>Thin Red Line</td>
<td>Pork Chop Hill</td>
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<td>Saving Private Ryan</td>
<td>The Bridges at Toko-Ri</td>
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<td>Das Boot</td>
<td>Apocalypse Now</td>
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<td>Patton</td>
<td>Platoon</td>
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<td>Bridge on the River Kwai</td>
<td>Full Metal Jacket</td>
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<td>Cold War</td>
<td>Contemporary Warfare</td>
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<td>Dr. Strangelove</td>
<td>Black Hawk Down</td>
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<td>The Killing Fields</td>
<td>Three Kings</td>
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<td>Crimson Tide</td>
<td>Hotel Rwanda</td>
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<td>Battle of Algiers</td>
<td>No Mans Land</td>
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<td>Thirteen Days</td>
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**Citation and Plagiarism**
A major goal of this course is to encourage good reading, research, and citation habits. Good research requires good documentation of sources and the ability to put one’s own analysis and thoughts into a paper rather than relying on others. Plagiarism and cheating are violations of academic integrity and thus violations of Reed’s Honor Principle. As specified by Reed’s academic conduct policy, such violations will result in disciplinary actions, including suspension or permanent dismissal from the College. For the purposes of this class, plagiarism is submitting a piece of work which in part or in whole is not entirely the student’s own work without attributing those same portions to their correct source. For examples of plagiarism and how to avoid it, see [http://www.csusb.edu/ssric-trd/howto/plagiarism.htm](http://www.csusb.edu/ssric-trd/howto/plagiarism.htm) For more information on Reed’s policies see: [http://web.reed.edu/academic/gbook/comm_pol/acad_honesty.html](http://web.reed.edu/academic/gbook/comm_pol/acad_honesty.html).

**Accommodations**
If you’d like to request academic accommodations due to a disability, please contact Associate Dean of Student Services, Sarah Parshley, Eliot 218, 503/777-7521, parshles@reed.edu. If you have a letter from Student Services, please let me know so we can discuss those accommodations.
Theories of Outcomes, Conduct, and Technology

1/29/08: 00.0. Introduction

1/31/08: 01.0. Outcomes (104 Pages)

2/5/08: 01.1. Conduct (137 Pages)
- Beth Kier (1996) Culture and French Military Doctrine before World War II. In Katzenstein The culture of national security, 186–215 EReading

Further

2/7/08: 01.2. Technology (104 Pages)
- Andrew F. Krepinevich (1994) Cavalry to computer; the pattern of military revolutions. National Interest.(37)Fall, 30–42 EReading

War before 1900

2/12/08: 02.0. War Before 1450 (103 Pages)
• Bernard Brodie and Fawn M. Brodie (1973) Antiquity. In Brodie and Brodie From crossbow to H-bomb, 14–27
• Bernard Brodie and Fawn M. Brodie (1973) The Middle Ages. In Brodie and Brodie From crossbow to H-bomb, 28–40
• Martin L. van Creveld (1989) Field Warfare. In van Creveld Technology and war, 9–24

Further
• Martin L. van Creveld (1989) The Infrastructure of War. In van Creveld Technology and war, 37–50
• Martin L. van Creveld (1989) Naval Warfare. In van Creveld Technology and war, 51–66

2/14/08: 02.1. Agincourt 1415 and the Hundred Years War (88 Pages)
• M. M. Postan (1942) Some Social Consequences of the Hundred Years’ War. The Economic History Review. 12(1/2), 1–12 <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0013-0117(1942)12:1/2%3C1:SSCOTH%3E2.0.CO;2-J>, ISSN 00130117 EReading

2/19/08: 02.2. War 1450-1830 (142 Pages)
• Theodore Ropp (1962) Land Warfare from the Renaissance to the Neoclassical Age (1415-1789). In Ropp War in the Modern World, 19–59
• Bernard Brodie and Fawn M. Brodie (1973) The Impact of Gunpowder. In Brodie and Brodie From crossbow to H-bomb, 41–73
• Bernard Brodie and Fawn M. Brodie (1973) War and Science in the 17th Century. In Brodie and Brodie From crossbow to H-bomb, 74–99
• Bernard Brodie and Fawn M. Brodie (1973) The 18th Century and Napoleonic Wars. In Brodie and Brodie From crossbow to H-bomb, 100–123

Further
• Martin L. van Creveld (1989) The Infrastructure of War. In van Creveld Technology and war, 111–124
• Theodore Ropp (1962) Naval Warfare from the Renaissance to the Neoclassical Age (1417-1789). In Ropp War in the Modern World, 60–75

2/21/08: 02.3. Waterloo 1815 and the Napoleonic Wars (132 Pages)

2/26/08: 02.4. War 1815-1914 (161 Pages)
• Peter Paret (1986) Clausewitz. In Paret, Craig and Gilbert Makers of modern strategy, 186–216 EReading
• Martin L. van Crevel (1989) Mobilization Warfare. In van Crevel Technology and war, 153–166

Further

• Martin L. van Crevel (1989) Command of the Air. In van Crevel Technology and war, 183–198
• Martin L. van Crevel (1989) Sea Warfare. In van Crevel Technology and war, 199–216

2/28/08: 02.5. Gettysburg 1863 and the American Civil War (98 Pages)


3/4/08: 02.6. War at the turn of the Century (114 Pages)


War between 1900 and 1945

3/6/08: 03.0. Democracy and War (89 Pages)


3/11/08: 03.1. World War I Part 1 (153 Pages)

• Bernard Brodie and Fawn M. Brodie (1973) World War One, the Use and Non-Use of Science. In Brodie and Brodie From crossbow to H-bomb, 172–199

Further

3/13/08: 03.2. World War I Part 2 - The Somme (111 Pages)


Spring Break - No Class

3/25/08: 03.3. Between World Wars (102 Pages)

- Edward L. Katzenbach, Jr. (1958) The Horse Cavalry in the Twentieth Century. Public Policy. 7, 120–149 EReading

3/27/08: . No Class

4/1/08: 03.4. World War II Part 1 (155 Pages)

- Phillip A. Karber et al. (1979) Assessing the Correlation of Forces: France, 1940. BDM Corporation Technical report EReading

4/3/08: 03.5. World War II Part 2 - Normandy (80 Pages)


War After World War II

4/8/08: 04.0. Conflict Post-WWII (129 Pages)

  <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0043-8871(197501)27:2%3C175:WBNLSW%3E2.0.CO;2-W> EReading

4/10/08: 04.1. Vietnam (104 Pages)

  <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0162-2889(199023)15:2%3C103:CAPITV%3E2.0.CO;2-W> EReading
4/15/08: 04.2. Gulf War (145 Pages)


Further


4/17/08: 04.3. Kosovo and Afghanistan (112 Pages)


- Stephen Biddle (2003) Afghanistan and the future of warfare. Foreign Affairs. 82, 31–45, ISSN 00157120 EReading

4/18/08: 04.4. Nuclear War (makeup class) (107 Pages)


Contemporary Issues

4/22/08: 05.0. Who Suffers? (173 Pages)

- Inger Skjelsbaek (2001) Sexual Violence and War: Mapping out a Complex Relationship. European Journal of International Relations. 7(2), 211–237 <http://ejt.sagepub.com/cgi/content/abstract/7/2/211> EReading


Further

4/24/08: 05.1. Who Fights? (68 Pages)
  <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0022-0094(199801)33:1%3C5:CAEIWD%3E2.0.CO;2-N>, ISSN 00220094 EReading
  <http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/international_security/toc/ins27.2.html> EReading

4/29/08: 05.2. The Future of War (136 Pages)

5/1/08: 05.3. A Revolution in Military Affairs? (88 Pages)
  <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=mth&AN=17539669>, ISSN 01402390 EReading
  <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=mth&AN=17539670>, ISSN 01402390 EReading
  <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=mth&AN=17539673>, ISSN 01402390 EReading
  <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=mth&AN=17539672>, ISSN 01402390 EReading
  <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=mth&AN=17539668>, ISSN 01402390 EReading

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