

History 250 American Military History

Instructor: Dr. Graham Haslam
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Texts:

James A. Morris, *America's Armed Forces, A History*. (2nd Edition)

Introduction:

This course introduces the military history of the United States from its foundation to the end of the 20th century. We will seek to analyze the causes of wars and engagements fought by American armed personnel, understand military objectives, and gain an appreciation of the kinds of weapons and tactics American soldiers employed. Military endeavor, as any human activity, requires an understanding of the personalities and major figures involved in the conflicts studied.

Military developments are in part technological. Armaments have changed profoundly over time and place. These changes have fundamentally affected the organization, fighting potential, and strategic possibilities of the armed services. The evolution of ship technology, the invention of aircraft, and the development of nuclear and biological weapons have impacted how the military reacts to threats, and projects American power in the world.

Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, successful students will be able to:

1. Define and explain the significance of key facts and events of the period under study, and develop criteria to judge events, people, and processes from an historical-cultural perspective.
2. Determine an historical thesis and judge the appropriateness of both the argument and its development.
3. Adapt scholarly processes of analysis, interpretation, and synthesis to articulate an original point of view demonstrating a command of relevant facts and a framework of logical deduction.
 - Drawing inferences from discrete data
 - Differentiating between facts, value judgments, and generalizations
 - Differentiating between description and explanation
 - Synthesizing data and interpretation
 - Recognizing the role of cause and effect in historical analysis and avoiding *post hoc ergo propter hoc* fallacies.
4. Expand their vocabulary
5. Demonstrate the importance of traditions of thought and ethical values in the process of historical change.

Tasks:

No grading curve will be used in this course. Four tasks must be accomplished by students. There will be two exams, a mid-term and a final. Each will consist of a long essay question, and a section of short identification essays. The mid-term exam will count 15% and the final will count 25% of the total grade. Students who improve their score from mid-term to final, demonstrating a "learning curve", will receive greater weight for the final grade. Additionally, there will be a weekly quiz held on any day of the week at the instructor's discretion. This will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. The lowest two scores will be discarded, the remaining averaged, and that score will represent 20% of the total grade. There are no make-up quizzes offered.

Each student will write a paper of five to eight pages in length, typed, double-spaced, using a ten, eleven or twelve font. This paper will be written in standard format using the conventions adopted by historians. This will be explained in class on January 15th. The paper topic will involve a battle or campaign of the student's choice. The analysis should include armaments, strengths of contending forces, biographies of important figures, and an analysis of the action and its outcomes. Each student must consult individually with the instructor during office hours or at another mutually convenient time before embarking on research for the paper. The instructor will cover in class appropriate sources, and discuss style and conventions. This paper requires additional research beyond the text for the course. The paper will represent 25% of the total grade. The remaining 15% of the class grade will be assigned based upon class participation, and deportment in class. This is explained on the first day of class.

Reading Assignments:

Week	Morris
Jan 3-7	Chapters 2
Jan. 10-14	Chapter 3
Jan. 18-21	Chapter 4
Jan. 24-27	Chapter 5
Mid-Term Exam, Feb. 4	
Jan. 31-Feb. 4	Chapter 6-7
Feb 7-11	Chapters 8
Feb. 14-18	Chapter 9
Feb. 22-25	Chapter 10
Writing Tutorials, Feb. 28-March 4	
Feb. 28-March 4	Chapter 11
Final Essays due March 7-11	
March 7-11	Chapter 12-13
March 14-18	Chapter 14

Final Exam, Wednesday, March 23rd from 11:30-1:20

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the [Disability Resource Centre](#) (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*