History 230, American Military History, 1609-Present, Fall Semester 2011

Meeting times and location:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:50-2:40 PM;
Classroom: HRE 105

Instructor Information:
Professor Brian McAllister Linn
Office: 200A Glasscock Bldg Phone: 845-5172 (office) or 845-7151 (Dept):
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Office Hours: 2:50-4:00 Mon and Wed and by appointment

Course Description:
This course explores the main events, personalities, and technologies related to American military history. It explores the following themes: How has US military policy changed over time and in what ways has it remained constant? How have the US armed forces evolved and adapted in peace and war? How have Americans tried to balance their need for national security with civilian control of the military? How has the United States begun, waged, and ended its wars? How has the American public's and the armed forces' interpretation of the 'lessons of history' influenced how the US prepares for war?

Core Objectives for American History Foundational Component Area

Critical Thinking (to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information)

Communication (to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication)

Social Responsibility (to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities)

Personal Responsibility (to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making)

Prerequisites:
None.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Through this course, students will be able to:

1) evaluate and synthesize primary and secondary historical writings related to American military history from 1609-present.

2) express their own ideas effectively in written and oral form.

3) identify historical and social contexts that created diversity in past American military history and in present-day human cultures.
4) apply knowledge about the human condition in the past and present American military to their personal lives and studies.

**Textbooks and required resources:**
Joseph P. Martin, *Memoir of a Revolutionary Soldier*
Eugene Sledge, *With the Old Breed*

i˃dicker (be sure to check that you do NOT purchase an eclicker)

**Grading Policies**
Grade Scale:
- Participation (i˃clicker polls)=15 points;
- 7 quizzes (10 points each)=70 points;
- Midterm Exam=100 points.
- Final Exam=115 points.
- Total: 300 points.

**Grade Distribution** (based on points):
- A=270-300;
- B=240-269;
- C=210-239;
- D=180-209;
- F=below 180 points

Participation (via i˃Clicker): A maximum of 15 points will be given for student participation via i˃clicker polls. There may be more than ten polls, so students should not assume that once they have taken ten polls they have ‘maxed’ their participation grade. All polls must be done via i˃clicker.

All students must purchase and register an i˃clicker by 2 September. Students who have already purchased an i˃clicker1 can use them. Students needing to purchase an i˃clicker should consider the i˃clicker2. i˃clickers will be used for all quizzes and polls (participation points) and should be brought to every class. Students are responsible for bringing backup batteries to class. i˃clicker registration:
[http://www.iclicker.com/support/registeryourclicker/](http://www.iclicker.com/support/registeryourclicker/) Use your email (the one registered on Howdy) for your Student ID.

Quizzes: There will be seven quizzes. All quizzes will be multiple choice. All quizzes will be taken via i˃clicker. Students should bring their i˃clicker to class each day. Students who do not have an i˃clicker on quiz dates will not be permitted to take the quiz in any other format. **Taking another student’s exam or quiz is a violation of the Honor Code.**

Exams: Exams will be essay format and must be taken in a blue book. They will consist of short (1 page) answers based on both the reading and the lectures. At least one question will be specifically on readings from either *Memoir of a Revolutionary Soldier* or *With the Old Breed* (final exam). Answers that do not show a university-level understanding of the readings will receive no credit (i.e., you are quite free to write an answer even if you haven’t read the assignment, and the instructor is equally free not to give it any credit).
Attendance Policy and Makeup Examinations: I will handle all absences and work related to them in accordance with TAMU Student Rules. Please see http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule7.htm for Texas A&M's policy on university-excused absences.

Attendance and Lecture Notes: The skill of taking detailed notes from lectures is a learning objective in this course. This means more than copying the slides, it means following the lecture’s narrative, details, and argument. Students who miss lectures should visit the instructor during office hours or by appointment. The outline of each lecture is available on-line, but the detailed discussion of the lecture outline is only available in the instructor’s office during office hours or by appointment. The complete lecture slides will not be emailed or copied or otherwise made available to students outside the instructor’s office. For syllabus and lecture outline slides: http://www.tamu.edu/history/faculty/linn.htm

Academic Integrity:
Academic Integrity: “An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do.” All students are expected to be aware of the Aggie Honor Code and the Honor Council Rules and Procedures, stated at http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor.

Americans with Disabilities Act Statement:
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, in Cain Hall, Room B118, or call 845-1637. For additional information visit http://disability.tamu.edu. It is the student’s responsibility to discuss this matter with the professor.

COURSE TOPICS and READINGS
Students should complete the readings for the entire week by Monday

Week 1:
29 Aug.--Introduction to U.S. Military History. (Common Defense, Intro. and Ch. 1, Between War, pp. 1-21)
31 Aug.–Frontier Warfare (Common Defense, Chs. 1-2)
2 Sept.–War of Independence (Common Defense, Ch. 3; Between War, pp. 21-42; Memoir of a Revolutionary Soldier). First poll on 2 Sept

Week 2:
5 Sept.–War of Independence (Common Defense, Ch. 3; Between War, pp. 21-42; Memoir of a Revolutionary Soldier).
7 Sept.–Military and Naval Policy, 1783-1812 (Common Defense, Ch. 4)
9 Sept.–War of 1812 (Common Defense, Ch. 4) Quiz 1

Week 3:
12-14 Sept.–Naval/Military Policy (Common Defense, Chs. 4-5) Quiz 2 on 14th

**Week 4:**
19-23 Sept.--Civil War (*Common Defense*, Chs. 6-7; *Between War*, pp. 107-28)

**Week 5:**
26-30 Sept.-Military and Naval Policy, 1865-1898 (*Common Defense*, Ch. 8) **Quiz 3 on 30th**

**Week 6:**
3-5 Oct.-Imperial Wars, (*Common Defense*, Ch. 9; *Between War*, pp. 155-78)
7- Oct.-Military and Naval Reform, 1898-1917 (*Common Defense*, Ch. 10)

**Week 7:**
10 Oct.-Military and Naval Reform, 1898-1917 (*Common Defense*, Ch. 10)
12-14 Oct.-World War I (*Common Defense*, Ch.11; *Between War*, pp. 179-96)

**Week 8:**
17 Oct. **Midterm Exam**

**Week 9:**
26 -28 Oct.--World War II(*Common Defense*, Chs. 13-14; *Between War*, pp. 197-218 or 220-36) **Quiz #4 on 28th**

**Week 10:**
31 Oct.-4 Nov.--World War II(*Common Defense*, Chs. 13-14; *Between War*, pp. 197-218 or 220-36)

**Week 11:**
7 Nov.-Demobilization, Atomic Air Power, and Cold War (*Common Defense*, Ch. 15) **Quiz 5**

**Week 12:**
14-16 Nov.- New Look to Flexible Response (*Common Defense*, Ch. 16)
18- Nov.-Vietnam, 1960-76 (*Common Defense*, Ch. 17; *Between War*, pp. 259-80)

**Week 13:**
21 Nov.-Vietnam, 1960-76 (*Common Defense*, Ch. 17; *Between War*, pp. 259-80) **Quiz 6**
23 Nov.-Doctor Strafgelove
25: No Class-Thanksgiving Break

**Week 14:**
28 Nov.-Impact of Vietnam (*Common Defense*, Chapter 18) **Quiz 7**
30 Nov.-2 Dec.-Cold War to Iraq/Afghanistan (*Common Defense* all Ch. 18; *Between War*, pp. 302-22)

Redefined day:
5 Dec.-Cold War to Iraq/Afghanistan (*Common Defense* all Ch. 18; *Between War*, pp. 302-22)

**Final Examination: Tuesday, 13 December 10:30-12:30**