

WAR, TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY

INSTRUCTOR: Peter Rutland; office PAC 203; tel. 2483; email prutland@wesleyan.edu
office hours PAC 203 Tuesday, 10.00-12.00, Friday 11.00-12.00.

ASSESSMENT: Out of 100 points, as follows:

- 1) Three short papers, 3-4 pages in length, to be submitted in class on class on February 13, March 8 and April 12. (2 points per day penalty for late submission.) One of the three papers will be the basis of a class presentation. [15 points each]
- 2) Research paper, 10-15 pages in length. A list of possible topics will be given out after spring break, you can also propose your own topic subject to instructor approval. A 1-2 page outline must be submitted to the instructor in class on March 27, and the final version to the Government Department office no later than 4.00 pm on May 12. (2 points per day penalty for late submission) [40 points]
- 3) Class participation. Required reading is marked with an asterisk.* Failure to attend three classes without prior notification to the instructor will be considered a withdrawal from the class and will result in a failing grade. Students will sign up for a short (5 minutes) class presentation on a topic of their choice. [15 points]

BOOKS

Recommended for purchase:

Robert O’Connell	<i>Of Arms and Men</i> (1990)
Barbara Ehrenreich	<i>Blood Rites: Origins and History of the Passions of War</i> (1998)
John Keegan	<i>The Face of Battle</i> (1983)
John Ellis	<i>The Social History of the Machine Gun</i> (1986)
Macgregor Knox &	<i>The Dynamics of Military Revolution</i> (2001)
Williamson Murray (eds.)	

Suggested for purchase:

Sven Lindqvist	<i>History of Bombing</i> (2003)
William McNeill	<i>The Pursuit of Power</i> (1984)
Evan Wright	<i>Generation Kill</i> (2004)

* signifies that the book or article is required reading. [Packet] refers to short articles that will be emailed to you.

Jan 30 WHY DO MEN FIGHT WARS?

A discussion of the Ehrenreich book. What role does warfare play in structuring social relations and particularly gender relations?

- * Barbara Ehrenreich *Blood Rites: Origins and History of the Passions of War*
- * Frans B.M. De Waal ‘We’re all Machiavellians,’ *Chronicle of Higher Education*, 23 Sep. 05

What are the goals of war in pre-modern societies? How is the fighting organized? What weapons are used?

- * Robert O’Connell *Of Arms and Men*, pp. 3-83

Supplementary reading:

Lawrence Keeley	<i>War Before Civilization: The Myth of the Peaceful Savage</i>
John Keegan	<i>A History of Warfare</i> , pp. 77-136, 237-63
Victor Hanson	<i>The Western Way of War</i>
Harry Turney-High	<i>Primitive War</i>
Jonathan Haas (ed.)	<i>The Anthropology of War</i> , pp. 1-25
Robert O'Connell	<i>Ride of the Second Horseman</i>

Feb 1-6

THE RISE OF THE KNIGHT

Warfare was pivotal to the emergence of the feudal order in Europe. What new technologies were key to the rise of the knight? Why did this social formation emerge in Western Europe? What was the role of *money* and of *honor* in feudal warfare? How did Japanese feudalism compare with the European model?

*	John Keegan	<i>The Face of Battle</i> , pp. 78-116 on Agincourt
*	Robert O'Connell	<i>Of Arms and Men</i> , pp. 84-107
*	Clifford Rogers	'As if a new sun had arisen: England's 14 th century RMA,' ch. 2 in M. Knox and W. Murray (eds), <i>The Dynamics of Military Revolution</i>
	William McNeill	<i>The Pursuit of Power</i> , pp. 1-63
	Lynn White	'The stirrup,' <i>Medieval Technology and Social Change</i> , pp. 1-38
	Charles Oman	<i>The Art of War</i>
	John Beeler	<i>Warfare in Medieval Europe</i>
	Philip Contamine	<i>War in the Middle Ages</i>

For the Japanese case, see:

Karl Friday	<i>Hired Swords: the Rise of Private Warrior Power in Japan</i>
William Farris	<i>Heavenly Warrior: the Evolution of Japan's Military</i>

Feb 8

THE GUNPOWDER REVOLUTION 1400-1600

How was gunpowder used in medieval battles and sieges? Why did it undermine the feudal order in Europe (but not in Japan)?

*	Robert O'Connell	<i>Of Arms and Men</i> , pp. 108-47
	William McNeill	<i>The Pursuit of Power</i> , pp. 63-117
	Bruce Porter	<i>War and the Rise of the State</i> , pp. 23-62
	Geoffrey Parker	<i>The Military Revolution</i>
	Noel Perrin	<i>Giving Up the Gun: Japan's Reversion to the Sword, 1543-1879</i>

FIRST ASSIGNMENT to be submitted in class on Feb 13.

Write a 3-4 page report in which you analyze and critique the main arguments of one of the SUPPLEMENTARY books or articles on the syllabus up to and including Feb 20. You should not write a report on any of the required texts (Ehrenreich, O'Connell, Knox, Keegan) although you can refer to them in discussing your chosen book/article.

Feb 13

THE RISE OF THE PROFESSIONAL ARMY 1600-1750

What were the advantages and disadvantages of mercenary armies? What technologies and social institutions were behind the emergence of the first professional armies since Roman times? What role did armies and warfare play in the rise of the modern state? How did states *differ* in the way they organized their military forces?

* Robert O’Connell	<i>Of Arms and Men</i> , pp. 148-66
* John A. Lynn	‘Forging the Western army in 17 th century France,’ ch. 3 in Knox and Murray (eds.) <i>The Dynamics of Military Revolution</i>
William McNeill	<i>The Pursuit of Power</i> , pp. 117-184
Brian Downing	<i>The Military Revolution and Political Change</i>
Janice.E. Thomson	<i>Mercenaries, Pirates and Sovereigns</i>
Bruce D. Porter	<i>War and the Rise of the State</i> , pp. 63-104
John Lynn (ed)	<i>Tools of War</i> Richard Hellie on Russia pp. 74-99; Bruce Lenman on India pp. 100-30; Dennis Higginbotham on America pp. 131-53

Feb 15

THE NAPOLEONIC WARS

Napoleon revolutionized warfare – but without any particular technological breakthrough. Napoleon’s way of war reflected political change: the rise of nationalism.

* John Keegan	<i>The Face of Battle</i> , Waterloo pp. 117-206
* Robert O’Connell	<i>Of Arms and Men</i> , pp. 167-88
* Macgregor Knox	‘Mass politics and nationalism: the French revolution,’ ch. 4 in Knox and Murray (eds.) <i>The Dynamics of Military Revolution</i>
William McNeill	<i>The Pursuit of Power</i> , pp. 185-222
Jareed Diamond	<i>Guns, Germs and Steel</i>
Bruce Porter	<i>War and the Rise of the State</i> , pp. 104-47
John Lynn	<i>Tools Of War</i> , ‘The origins of the revolutionary attack,’ pp. 154-76
Peter Paret (ed)	<i>Makers of Modern Strategy</i> , pp. 123-142.
David Chandler	<i>The Campaigns of Napoleon</i>
Movie	<i>Waterloo</i>

Feb 20

THEORISTS OF MILITARY STRATEGY

It was Clausewitz who turned the Napoleonic doctrine into a systematic military philosophy. Contrast his writing with the ancient Chinese classic Sun Tzu’s *Art of War*. Both are required reading for US army officers. Which better explains US military performance in Iraq ?

[Packet]	‘Strategy’
Carl von Clausewitz	<i>On War</i>
Ralph Sawyer	<i>Sun Tzu: The Art of War</i>
Peter Paret (ed)	<i>Makers of Modern Strategy</i>
www.sonshi.com	Sun Tzu fan website
http://www.clausewitz.com/	Clausewitz fan website

Feb 22-27

AMERICAN CIVIL WAR: THE FIRST MODERN WAR?

The ACW saw a massive wave of innovation: in guns, in logistics, and in the principle of total war. What were the respective strategies of the North and South – how did they hope to win? What motivated the troops on both sides?

- * Mark Grimsley 'Surviving military revolution: the US civil war,' ch. 5 in Knox and Murray (eds.), *The Dynamics of Military Revolution*
- William McNeill *The Pursuit of Power*, pp. 223-61
- James McPherson *What They Fought For 1861-1865*
- Michael Shaara *Killer Angels*
- James MacPherson *Battle Cry of Freedom*
- James A. Huston *The Sinews of War*, pp. 198-239
- Jay Luvaas *The Military Legacy of the Civil War*, pp. 1-51
- Edward Hagerman *The American Civil War and the Origins of Modern Warfare*
- Herman Hattaway & Archer Jones *How the North Won*, especially the appendix on tactics
- Movies: *The Red Badge of Courage; Glory*

Mar 1

THE PRUSSIAN MODEL

European 19th century warfare was dominated by the rise of the Prussian model. Prussia used Clausewitz's doctrine in three aggressive wars which led to the forging of the German Empire in 1871. The beginning of the industrialization of warfare in Europe.

- * Denis Showalter 'The Prusso-German RMA,' ch. 6 in Knox and Murray (eds.), *The Dynamics of Military Revolution*
- * Robert O'Connell *Of Arms and Men*, pp. 189-241
- William McNeill *The Pursuit of Power*, pp. 262-307
- Martin Van Crefeld *Supplying War: Logistics*
- John Lynn (ed) *The Tools of War*; pp. 211-37 on Crimea; 177-210 on Prussia
- Michael Howard *The Franco-Prussian War*
- Azar Gat *The Development of Military Thought*, pp. 46-113 on Germany
- Michael Howard (ed) *The Theory and Practice of War*, pp. 21-42, 69-94
- G. Rothenberg 'Moltke and Schlieffen,' in Peter Paret (ed.) *Makers of Modern Strategy*, 296-325.

Mar 6- 8

COLONIAL WARS

Guest speaker: Onek Adyanga, University of Connecticut.

How come small groups of Europeans were able to conquer entire continents ?
How did colonial war differ from European warfare ?

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| * | John Ellis | <i>A Social History of the Machine Gun</i> |
| | James O. Gump
Douglas Porch | <i>The Dust Rose Like Smoke: the Subjugation of the Zulu and the Sioux</i>
'French colonial warfare' in Peter Paret (ed) <i>Makers of Modern Strategy</i> , pp. 376-407 |
| | Sven Lindqvist | <i>Exterminate All the Brutes</i> |
| | Huw Strachan | <i>European Armies and the Conduct of War</i> |
| | John Laband | <i>Kingdom in Crisis: Zulu response to the British Invasion of 1879</i> |
| | Adam Hochschild | <i>King Leopold's Ghost: Greed, Terror and Heroism in Colonial Africa</i> |
| | Movies: | <i>Burn !, Battle of Algiers</i> |

SECOND ASSIGNMENT **to be submitted in class on March 8.**

Write a 3-4 page report in which you analyze and critique the main arguments of one of the books or articles on the syllabus from February 13 to March 29. You should not write a report on one of the required course textbooks.

March 9-24

SPRING BREAK

Mar 27

THE GREAT WAR

The war to end all wars. Ferocious application of new technologies brings maximum destruction on the battlefield. Also an unprecedented mobilization of resources on the Home Front: economic, human and cultural. What was it like to be a soldier in this war? Why did the great naval race never lead to anything?

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| * | John Keegan | <i>The Face of Battle, on the Somme</i> , pp. 207-285 |
| * | Robert O'Connell | <i>Of Arms and Men</i> , pp. 241-270 |
| * | Jonathan Bailey | 'The First World War and the birth of modern warfare,' ch. 8 in
Knox and Murray (eds.), <i>The Dynamics of Military Revolution</i> |
| | William McNeill | <i>The Pursuit of Power</i> , pp. 307-61 |
| | Samuel Hynes | <i>The Soldier's Tale</i> , chs. 1-3 |
| | Michael Howard | 'The doctrine of the offensive,' in Peter Paret (ed.)
<i>Makers of Modern Strategy</i> , pp. 510-26 |
| | Bruce Porter | <i>War and the Rise of the State</i> , pp. 149-95 |
| | Paul Fussell | <i>The Great War and Modern Memory</i> |
| | Ernst Remarque | <i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i> |
| | Vera Brittain | <i>Testament of Youth</i> |
| | Richard Cork | <i>A Bitter Truth: Avant-Garde Art and the Great War</i> |
| | Movie | <i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i> |

TERM PAPER OUTLINE
should be submitted in class on March 27.

One to two pages long, it should state your title, your main arguments (in bullet points), and a list of likely sources. I will distribute a list of possible topics: you can also pick your own theme, subject to my approval of the outline.

An invaluable source to look for materials is the library page of the US Army Command and General Staff College. They have some reading lists on topics like counter-insurgency, also searchable databases that give you full text access to military journals that are not to be found in Olin. <http://www-cgsc.army.mil/carl/>

Mar 29 – Apr 3 WORLD WAR TWO: BLITZKRIEG IN EUROPE

What were the technological innovations that made ground combat in WW2 so different from WW1?
Why were the Nazis so successful in conquering Europe? Why did they fail to defeat the Soviet Union?
Could democracies persuade their citizens to fight in total war ?

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| * | Richard O’Connell | <i>Of Arms and Men</i> , pp. 270-95 |
| * | Williamson Murray | ‘May 1940,’ ch. 9 in Knox and Murray, <i>Dynamics...</i> |
| * | Morris Janowitz
& Edward Shils | ‘Cohesion and disintegration in the Wehrmacht,’ in
Edward Shils, <i>Center and Periphery</i> , pp. 345-383 |
| * | [Packet] | ‘The Good War’ |
| | Eliot Cohen and
John Gooch | <i>Military Misfortunes</i> , ‘Catastrophic failure: the
French Army in 1940,’ pp. 197-230 |
| | Dave Grossman | <i>On Killing: the Psychological Cost of Learning to Kill in War</i> |
| | Guy Sajer | <i>The Forgotten Soldier</i> |
| | Siegfried Knappe | <i>Soldat: Reflections of a German Soldier</i> |
| | Stephen Ambrose | <i>Citizen Soldiers</i> |
| | John Keegan | <i>Six Armies in Normandy</i> |
| | Richard Holmes | <i>Acts of War: The Behavior of Men in Battle</i> |
| | Paul Fussell | <i>Doing Battle: the Making of a Skeptic</i> |

April 5 THE WAR IN THE PACIFIC

What was the role of air power in WW 2 – the role that theorists envisioned, and the actual role ?
Could Japan have won the Pacific War? Why did we use the atomic bomb?

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| | Sven Lindqvist | <i>History of Bombing</i> |
| | Charles Messenger | ‘The influence of technology on air power 1919-45,’ pp. 93-112
in Ronald Haycock et al (eds.) <i>Men, Machines and War</i> |
| | David MacIsaac | ‘The Air Power theorists,’ in Peter Paret (ed)
<i>Makers of Modern Strategy</i> , pp. 624-47 |
| | Michael S. Sherry | <i>The Rise of American Air Power</i> |
| | Michael Barnhart | <i>Japan Prepares for Total War</i> |
| | Walter Boyne | <i>Clash of Wing: Air Power in World War Two</i> |
| | Robert Pape | <i>Bombing to Win: Air Power and Coercion in War</i> |
| | James Bradley | <i>Flags of Our Fathers</i> (on the battle for Iwo Jima) |
| | Theodore & Haruko Cook | <i>Japan at War: An Oral History</i> |

April 10-12

VIETNAM

Could the US have won the Vietnam war? How did it change the American way of waging war?

- * Le Ly Hayslip *When Heaven and Earth Changed Places*, pp. 194-215
- * William Broyles 'Why men love war,' *Esquire*, November 1994.
- * [Packet] 'Why were we in Vietnam?' (*New York Times* articles)

- Bill McCloud *What Should We Tell Our Children About Vietnam?*
- Samuel Hynes *The Soldier's Tale*, ch. 5
- Stanley Karnow *Vietnam: a History*
- David Hackworth *About Face*
- Tim O'Brien *The Things They Carried*
- Robert Mason *Chickenhawk*
- Harold G. Moore & J. Galloway *We Were Soldiers Once, and Young*
- Walter Capps (ed) *A Vietnam Reader*
- Bao Ninh *The Sorrow of War* (Vietnamese soldier's novel)
- Video *The Fog of War*

THIRD ASSIGNMENT to be submitted in class on April 12.

Write a 3-4 page report in which you analyze and critique the main arguments of one of the books or articles on the syllabus from March 6 to May 8. You should not submit a report on one of the course texts.

April 17

GENDER AND WAR

What roles do women play in wartime? Why do men usually exclude them from combat roles?

- * Susan Faludi 'The Naked Citadel,' *The New Yorker*, 5 November 1994
- * Anonymous *A Woman in Berlin*, pp. 166-73

- Joshua Goldstein *War and Gender: How Gender Shapes the War System*
- Jean Elshtain *Women and War*
- Miriam Cooke & Angela Woollacott (eds) *Gendering War Talk*
- Caroline Moser *Victims, Perpetrators or Actors? Gender, Armed
& Fiona Clark Conflict and Political Violence*
- Slavenka Drakulic *Balkan Express*
- Svetlana Alexievich *Zinky Boys: Soviet Voices from the Afghanistan War*
- Movies *Private Benjamin, G.I. Jane*

April 19

THE VISION: THE MILITARY REVOLUTION OF THE 1990s

The 1991 Gulf War and 1999 Kosovo war saw the US deploy new technologies that some believed would change the face of war: precision weapons, information warfare, the electronic battlefield. Funnily enough this vision captivated, for a while, both militarists and left-wing critics of war.

*	[Packet]	'Bombing in the Gulf War,' 'Transformation'
	James Der Derian	<i>Virtuous War</i>
	Bruce Berkowitz	<i>The New Face of War</i>
	Chris Hables Gray	<i>Postmodern War. The New Politics of Conflict</i>
	Jean Baudrillard	<i>The Gulf War Did Not Take Place</i>
	Norman Schwarzkopf	<i>It Doesn't Take a Hero</i>
	Michael Gordon & Bernard Trainor	<i>The Generals' War</i>
	US NEWS	<i>Triumph Without Victory: Unreported History of the Persian Gulf War</i>
	Martin Van Crefeld	<i>The Transformation of War</i>
	Benjamin Lambeth	<i>The Transformation of American Air Power</i>
	Anthony Cordesman	<i>Lessons and Non-Lessons of the Air Campaign in Kosovo</i>
	Thomas Hicks	'The price of power,' <i>Wall Street Journal</i> , 11 November 1999

April 24

THE REALITY: HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTIONS

"Humanitarian interventions" such as Somalia (1993), Rwanda (1994), Bosnia (1995), and Kosovo (1999) posed acute moral, political and military dilemmas for US forces.

	Mark Bowden	<i>Black Hawk Down: A Story of Modern War</i> (Somalia 1993)
	Thomas Hammes	<i>The Sling and the Stone: On War in the 21st Century</i>
	Wesley K. Clark	<i>Bosnia, Kosovo and the Future of Modern Conflict</i>
	Max Boot	<i>The Savage Wars of Peace</i>
	Jan Willem Honig	<i>Srebrenica: Record of a War Crime</i> (Bosnia 1995)
	John Nagl	<i>Learning to Eat Soup with a Knife, Counterinsurgency Lessons from Malaya and Vietnam</i>
	Movies:	<i>Black Hawk Down</i> , (Somalia) <i>Before the Rain, Savior</i> , (Yugoslavia) <i>Sometimes in April, Shake Hands With the Devil</i> , (Rwanda)

April 26

NEW WARS FOR OLD

The high-tech military revolution was accompanied by low-tech developments, such as the return of child soldiers, mercenaries, pirates and self-financing wars.

	Mary Kaldor	<i>New and Old Wars</i>
	William Reno	<i>Warlord Politics and African States</i>
	Peter W. Singer	<i>Corporate Warriors: The Rise of the Privatized Military Industry</i>
	Peter W. Singer	<i>Children at War</i>
	Mark Huband	<i>The Liberian Civil War</i>
	Video:	<i>Soldier Child</i>

May 1

THE WAR IN IRAQ (and Afghanistan)

- * Peter Maass 'Professor Nagl's war,' *New York Times*, January 11, 2004.
- Memoirs: Evan Wright *Generation Kill*
Anthony Swofford *Jarhead: A Marine's Chronicle of the Gulf War* (on the 1991 war)
Nathaniel Fick *One Bullet Away: The Making of a Marine Officer*
Sean Naylor *Not a Good Day to Die: The Untold Story of Operation Anaconda* \
Rick Atkinson *In the Company of Soldiers*
- Analysis: Anthony Cordesman *Iraq War: Strategy, Tactics, and Military Lessons*
Anthony Cordesman *The War after the War: Strategic Lessons of Iraq and Afghanistan*
George Packer *The Assassin's Gate*
Andrew Bacevich *The New American Militarism*
Williamson Murray & Robert Scales *The Iraq War: A Military History*
- Movies: *Jarhead, Gunner Palace, Three Kings, Control Room* (doc.)

May 3

THE US MILITARY TODAY

What does all this mean for the US military, now burdened with the task of being the world's sole superpower?
What kind of tasks can a democratic society expect of its armed forces in peacetime? Does military culture have to adapt to civilian norms, such as open access for women and gays?

- Richard Morin 'Gen Y goes AWOL,' *Washington Post*, April 8, 2001
Charles Moskos 'Success Story: Blacks in the military,' *Atlantic Monthly*, May 1986
James Fallows 'The civilianization of the army,' *Atlantic Monthly*, April 1981
Richard Kohn 'Out of control: the crisis in civil-military relations,' *National Interest*, spring 1994
- Catherine Lutz *Homefront: A Military City and the American 20th Century*
Stephanie Guttman *The Kinder, Gentler Military* (critic of opening the military to women)
Thomas E. Ricks *Making the Corps* (what Marine boot camp is like)
Colin Powell *My American Journey*
Michael Desch *Civilian Control of the Military*
David Morrison 'Not asking or telling, no remedy?' *National Journal*, 25 March 1995

May 8

THE NATURE OF WAR

Is war part of human nature ? How do we imagine war, and deal with its moral contradictions?
Which is worse, to leave it to the professionals, or to democratize it ?

- Chris Hedges *What Every Person Should Know About War*
Chris Hedges *War is a Force That Gives Us Meaning*
James Hillman *A Terrible Love of War*
Martin Cook *The Moral Warrior*
Susan Sontag *Regarding The Pain of Others*
David Perlmutter *Visions of War. Picturing Warfare from the Stone Age to Cyber Age*
Sam Keen *Faces of the Enemy*

TERM PAPER due on Friday, May 12

(10-15 pages long), submit to the Government Department office by 4.00 pm. Two points per day late penalty.