

U.S. Military Course Syllabus

Course Description:

- United States Military History is an academic and project-based learning course that examines America's unique experience of warfare and the development of military institutions and military policy in the United States. It covers military thought and theory, U.S. military history from the Colonial Period to the present, and a unit on global terrorism. A strong component of the course is a project-based learning module that includes student interviews with American veterans, the publishing of their stories in a bound volume book, and the video-taped interviews sent to the Library of Congress. Ancillary components include a formal public book signing reception in the spring and assembly for interviewed veterans on Veterans Day.

Textbooks, Supplemental Materials, and Oral Histories

- There is no formal textbook for this course. Students will receive a substantial amount of material from the writings of noted military strategist such as Sun Tzu, Clausewitz, Jomini, Douhet, Mahan, Corbett, and Mao Tse-tung.
- Particular attention will be given to the readings of Millet, Allen & Peter Maslowski, *For the Common Defense: A Military History of the United States of America*, Weigley, Russell F., *The American Way of War: A History of United States Military and Strategy and Policy*, and Chambers III, John Whiteclay & G. Kurt Piehler, *Major Problems in American Military History*.
- A strong component of the course material will be the oral histories of interviewed veterans that will be generated in class from interviewed veterans in the Tucson community.
- The video series of Medal of Honor Recipients' will be used to supplement curriculum content.

General Course Academic Outline

- Quarter #1: Military thought and theory
 - Examines the most influential military theoreticians and strategists from the period of the Thirty Years' War to the present.
 - Examines the theories of Clausewitz, Jomini, Douhet, Mahan, Corbett, and Mao Tse-Tung, as well as the theories of deterrence and nuclear war and post-Maoist revolutionary warfare.
- Quarters 2 & 3: Exclusive U.S. Military History
 - Examines America's unique experience of warfare and the development of military institutions and military policy in the United States.
 - Explores the country's military history from the Colonial era to the present, with an emphasis on the Revolutionary War, Civil War, frontier wars, America's rise to great power status, World War I and World War II, and the conflicts of the Cold War era.
 - Covers the complex issues surrounding racial integration in military institutions, including questions about citizenship and ethnicity.
 - Examines the history of women's participation in warfare and issues of gender integration in the military.
- Quarter 4: International Terrorism
 - Explores the concept of terrorism, the types of terrorism and prominent terrorist groups
 - Evaluates the international measures to curb terrorism and explores the role of business and media sectors in countering terrorist activities, while examining emerging trends in terrorism.
 - Examines U.S. Governmental response to global terrorism.

General Course Project Based Learning Outline (Veteran's Oral Histories)

- Quarter #1
 - Introduction of all materials needed for veteran interviews including book publishing release, Library of Congress release, and school district release.
 - Introduction and initial training for successful interviewing techniques
 - Introduction and training for InDesign and Photoshop software programs.
 - Conduct a minimum of ten classroom interviews
- Quarter #2
 - Conduct a minimum of 20 classroom interviews
 - Training and detailing for annual Veterans Assembly to be held at University High
 - Execution of Veterans Assembly
 - Complete the layouts of all veteran interviews for assembly in the spring book publication
- Quarter #3
 - Final layouts and editing of all veteran stories to be completed
 - Final submission of book to be sent to publisher
 - Planning and training for April book signing
- Quarter #4
 - Nine veteran interviews to be completed
 - Execution of public book signing and reception for all veterans included in this year's book
 - Completion of materials, including biographies and video-taped interviews, to be sent to the Library of Congress

Assessments

- Students will be assessed on lecture material with two tests per quarter
- Students will produce one approved research paper per quarter on a topic relevant to the academic content (instructor approval needed for each research paper)
- Students will be assessed on their assigned task e.g. veteran interview, video-taping of interviews, InDesign layout, assembly and spring book signing public speaking.
 - Detailed rubrics to be provided at beginning of class
- Final Exam
 - A final exam will be administered each semester that will cover all academic content and details from the veteran interviews

Veteran Interviews

- All students in the class are expected to complete one interview for the school year.
- Student packet for the interviews is to be completed and followed precisely as developed
 - Forms and outline for interviews are enclosed with this syllabus
 - See Addendum #2
- All students are expected to complete their story within two weeks of the interview and have the written essay approved by the instructor and sent to the veteran within this time period.
- Final edits from the student must be made within one week of reception of the story from the veteran.
- All completed paperwork and video copies are to be sent to the Library of Congress by May 1, 2018.