Course Credit Hours: 4

Prerequisites: None.

Instructors:
MAJ David Wyche
Military History Instructor
Phone – (301) 237-3883
Primary: david.wyche@gmail.com
Alternate: dawythe@pvamu.edu

Class Meeting Times: Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays 1200-1245

Class Location: Army ROTC BLDG

Course Description: This course provides you with a historical perspective to decisions made by American military leaders. Whatever challenges you encounter as a leader – battlefield complexity, resource limitations, teamwork deficiencies – whatever comes your way, requires an informed decision. Leaders who served before you confronted many of the same issues; drawing from their experiences and approaches arms you to create your own solution. This will help make you a stronger leader.

In this course, you will cover major military engagements from the colonial period through the current operating environment. We will examine the strategies, operations and tactics of military warfare, and explore how social, economic, political, and technological factors produced the distinct patterns of war that characterize the struggles of the past 350+ years. By analyzing how the principles of war applied to these engagements, and how leadership decisions affected the outcomes of battle, you can call on the experience of historical commanders to assist you in making future tactical decisions.

As you study American Military History, you will see how former officers’ decisions went through the same processes and considered the same elements that you are learning as a cadet. You will examine how these leaders motivated their men, devised battle strategies, implemented rules of engagement, and managed supplies, transportation, and logistics for their troops. You will also learn the approaches officers used throughout history to lead their men into battle and inspire them to victory.

Course Objectives: This course fulfills the Professional Military Education requirement (U.S. Military History) for Army SROTC Cadets and provides an opportunity for non-ROTC students to increase their understanding of America’s military history and traditions. The course’s objectives assist students in increasing their critical-thinking skills and enhance their ability to employ the understanding of U.S. military history as an aid to their professional development as future leaders. The course is open to the general student population as an additional elective option. Upon completion of this course you will be able to:

- Describe the military’s role in society
- Examine the evolution of war and the progression of military professionalism
- Analyze the major wars fought by the US Army, using the principles of war
- Discuss the role of the US military in joint operations
Discuss the role of the US Army in humanitarian operations and nation-building at home and abroad

Analyze lessons learned from military history to the Contemporary Operating Environment

MSL 240 Course Requirements:

Class Participation/Homework - 30%
You are expected to participate actively in learning through critical reflection, inquiry, and dialogue. Your class preparation will be assessed and graded by your contribution to the class discussion.

Battle Analysis Paper - 10%
Students will write one 4-6 page paper (APA formatted, 12 pt Arial Font, double-spaced, 1.0 inch margins). The paper will include a 1 page proposal with a tentative outline and bibliography due prior to topic approval. The paper must have a clear thesis statement, use correct grammar, be factually accurate, have a consistent argument with logical progression, and a use minimum of four outside sources (not the course publications). Write a Battle Analysis from America’s Military past analyzing three of the Principles of War. You may choose any battle during WWII that occurred having a significant U.S. participation after World War I. Examples include – battles during and prior to Korea or Vietnam; Panama or Grenada; specific operations in the 1990 Gulf War; or specific operations during the Global War on Terror. Paper proposals are due NLT 14 FEB, first drafts are due 20 MAR, and final papers are due NLT 24 APR.

Quizzes/Homework – 30%
There will be a small number of quizzes (x 30) throughout the semester to test your knowledge of course material.

Mid-Term - 15%
A mid-term exam will be given to assess your knowledge achieved during the first half of the quarter. It will include but not be limited to multiple choice, short answer/essay exam covering key terms, tactics, warfare patterns, military technologies, key military figures, and strategy.

Final Exam - 15%
A cumulative Final Exam will be given to assess your knowledge attained throughout the course of the semester. It will include but not be limited to multiple choice, short answer/essay exam covering key terms, tactics, warfare patterns, military technologies, key military figures, and strategy.

Evaluation and Grading:

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Preparation/Homework</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz (x 30)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Battle Analysis Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
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The following grading scale will be used based on 100 points possible:

Every attempt will be made to offer adequate written assessments in explaining evaluations. All late papers and assignments will receive a 10% reduction in grade.

Academic Honesty:
If caught cheating or plagiarizing, a student will receive an “F” for the exam/paper and an “F” for the course. If cheating occurs, the matter will be referred through the Cal Poly petition process.

Missed/Rescheduled Exams:
The exam and paper due dates are indicated on the attached sheet. Missed test dates will result in an “F” unless you coordinate with me ahead of time and the excuse is legitimate. If this class does not fit into your schedule, then you should find another class. Exam dates are seldom rescheduled. Students who miss exams will receive make-up exams only if they have a valid and documented excuse. For
example, if you missed an exam because of a broken leg, a copy of the doctor’s report must be presented. The report must have contact information to verify the absence.

**Late Paper Policy:**
Extensions are normally not given. Papers are due at the beginning of class on the due date. Papers received late will be graded as such based on the paper grading rubric.

**Collaboration:**
You are encouraged to work together with your fellow Students and seek guidance and help from your instructor and other MSL cadre.

**Religious Accommodation:**
The Army places a high value on the rights of its Soldiers to observe tenets of their respective religions or to observe no religion at all. The Army will approve requests for accommodation of religious practices unless accommodation will have an adverse impact on unit readiness, individual readiness, unit cohesion, morale, good order, discipline, safety, and/or health. Requests for religious accommodation generally fall into five major areas:
- Worship practices.
- Dietary practices.
- Medical practices.
- Wear and appearance of the uniform.
- Grooming practices.

For more information please refer to AR 600-20, Army Command Policy, 6 November 2014, Chapter 5, paragraph 5-6.

**Special Needs:**
The American with Disabilities Act of 1990 requires universities to provide a reasonable accommodation to any individual who advises us of a disability. If you have a limitation that requires an accommodation or an academic adjustment, please arrange a meeting with me at your earliest convenience.

**Office Hours and Appointments:**
I am available by appointment only to meet with any of you to discuss assignments, issues, or concerns. **DO NOT TEXT CADRE – CALL!**

If you need to reach me call my office, cell phone or email me at one of the addresses above. I will respond as soon as I am available to do so. If you have an emergency and you cannot reach me, contact one of the other Cadre members and they will assist you and pass the message to me.

**Reading:**

Two textbooks will be provided and both must be returned no later than the final exam to receive course credit. Additional handouts and reading will be made available.

**Course Publications**


# CLASS SCHEDULE (subject to change):

### Week 1
- 13 Jan: TBD
- 15 Jan: TBD
- 17 Jan: TBD

### Week 2
- 20 Jan: MLK Observation (NO CLASS)
- 22 Jan: Course Overview / Introduction to Military History (AMH 1, Ch 1)
- 24 Jan: The Military Legacy of the Colonial Experience (AMH 1, Ch 2)

### Week 3
- 27 Jan: The American Revolution, 1777: Valley Forge – 1783 (AMH 1, Ch 3-4)
- 29 Jan: Defending the New Republic, 1784-1815 (AMH 1, Ch 5-6)
- 31 Jan: The Emergence of Professionalism, 1815-1860 (AMH 1, Ch 7-8)

### Week 4
- 3 Feb: The Civil War: Bull Run to Fredericksburg (AMH 1, Ch 9-10)
- 5 Feb: The Civil War: Chancellorsville to Appomattox (AMH 1, Ch 11-12)
- 7 Feb: Indian Wars & Reconstruction, 1862-1898 (AMH 1, Ch 13-14)

### Week 5
- 10 Feb: Buffalo Soldier War Museum (Houston, TX)
- 12 Feb: The Dawn of Empire and Imperial Policing (AMH 1, Ch 15-16)
- 14 Feb: WWI - The Great War

### Week 6
- 17 Feb: Washington Birthday (NO CLASS)
- 19 Feb: Battle Analysis
- 21 Feb: WWI – The Great War (AMH 2, Ch 1)

### Week 7
- 24 Feb: WWI – The Great War (AMH 2, Ch 1)
- 26 Feb: Wargame
- 28 Feb: Mid-Term Prep

### Week 8
- 2 Mar: Mid-Term
- 4 Mar: Between World Wars (AMH 2, Ch 2)
- 6 Mar: World War II: The Defensive Phase (AMH 2, Ch 3)

### Week 9
- 9 Mar: World War II: Grand Strategy (Ch 4)
- 11 Mar: World War II: European/Pacific Theater 1942-1945 (AMH 2, Ch 5-6)
- 13 Mar: Strategic Air Bombing Campaign

### Week 10
- 16 Mar: Transition to Limited War Korea (AMH 2, Ch 7 & 8)
- 18 Mar: Korean War (AMH 2, 7 & 8)
- 20 Mar: Battle Analysis (TBD)

### Week 11
- 23 Mar: US Cold War National Security Policy (AMH 2, Ch 9)
- 25 Mar: Vietnam Experience (AMH 2, Ch 10-11)
- 27 Mar: Vietnam Experience (AMH 2, Ch 10-11)
CLASS SCHEDULE (subject to change):

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