**INTA 3XXX**

**War in the 20th Century**

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## Course Description

*War in the 20th Century* provides historical foundation and understanding of the causes, conduct and consequences of modern war to support informed discussion and analysis of contemporary crisis and conflict. The course emphasizes the constant interplay between technology, military science and society in determining the character and circumstances of belligerency. Through discussion and analysis of the influence of geography, politics, economics, technology and other factors on the conduct of war and its impact on society, you will become familiar with the evolution of Western political and military thinking on the character of war and warfare and how these theories were influenced in practice by technological and organizational innovation to produce a series of military revolutions generating dramatic and devastating changes in armed conflict during the 20th century. The course also will acquaint you with the impact of modern war on society and the resulting moral and ethical issues raised. Through the use of map exercises and readings on geopolitical analysis, you will gain an understanding of the impact of geography on the instruments of national power and its influence on national strategic options.

## Learning Outcomes:

Students will demonstrate the ability to describe the social, political, and economic forces that influence social behavior.

Students will demonstrate the ability to describe the social, political, and economic forces that influence the global system.

Students will explain the causal and determinant relationships between science and technology (S&T) and international affairs across different topic areas of comparative politics.

Students will demonstrate the ability to describe global events and analyze them using basic social science frameworks and theories.

Student will demonstrate proficiency in the process of articulating and organizing rhetorical arguments in written, oral, visual, and nonverbal modes, using concrete support and conventional language.

Students will demonstrate knowledge of basic global geography and its impact on global events.

Students will become more aware of the diversity of cultural and ethical systems in the world and be able to analyze key issues with respect for different variables.

Students will be able to identify and analyze the factors that separated success from failure in key operations, campaigns and wars.

Students will be able to describe major geostrategic theories and apply them in the interpretation of past conflicts as tools for insight to current national strategies and courses of action.

Students will understand and be able to analyze the impact of geography on the instruments of national power of other nations and its influence on their national strategic options.

Students will understand and be able to analyze the impact of modern war on society, the resulting moral and ethical issues raised, and the shaping of global attitudes toward the nature of war and its utility.

## Required Texts:

Jehuda L. Wallach, *The Dogma of The Battle of Annihilation: The Theories of Clausewitz and Schlieffen and Their Impact on the German Conduct of Two World Wars*

Richard A. Gabriel and Karen S. Metz, *A Short History of War*

Colin Gray, *War, Peace and International Affairs: An Introduction to Strategic History* Robert M. Citino, *Blitzkrieg to Desert Storm: The Evolution of Operational Warfare* Plus selected readings

## Requirements:

There will be two examinations worth a total of 75% of your grade. One will be given at mid-term and cover the course from onset until that point (35%). The second (40%) will be given during the final examination period and will cover material from mid-term until the end of the course. You will have one week’s notice before the mid-term examination, so keeping up with the readings is essential. You will be required to submit a talking paper summarizing potential courses of action on an historic decision or a related current event (10%). The final 15% of your grade will consist of a series of short announced quizzes that will be spaced throughout the semester to help you gauge your progress with the material. Assigned material must be submitted to receive credit.

Material submitted with 24 hours of the deadline without a justified explanation (see below) will receive a 15% deduction. Material submitted later than 24 hour past deadline receive no credit.

## Class attendance

Class attendance is mandatory as is completion of the reading assignments prior to class. Please let me know ahead of time if possible for unavoidable absences (job interviews, family emergencies, etc.) or as soon as possible for personal illnesses or other emergencies.

## ADAPTS

I will work with ADAPTS so that all students will have an equal opportunity for success. For more information on ADAPTS, see: [http://www.adapts.gatec.edu](http://www.adapts.gatec.edu/) Please talk to me if you need additional assistance.

## Honor Code

All work you submit for a grade will be assume to be your own **unless guidance for the assignment *specifically* states otherwise**. Plagiarism is defined by Webster’s as: “*the act of using another person's words or ideas without giving credit to that person*.” If caught plagiarizing, you will be dealt with according to the GT Academic Honor Code. For more information, see: [http://www.honor.gatech.edu](http://www.honor.gatech.edu/)

## The Course Schedule

Week 1: Introduction to Modern War

* *A Short History of War*, Ch. 5: Emergence of Modern War <http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/gabrmetz/gabr001b.htm>
* Gray, Introduction & Ch. 1, pp 1-14

Weeks 2-3: Revolutions in Military Affairs & The Evolution of Total War

* Gray, Ch. 2: Carl von Clausewitz and the theory of war
* Gray, Ch. 4: The nineteenth century, a strategic view
* Gray, Ch. 5, The nineteenth century, technology, warfare and international order Weeks 4-5: The Great War: Theory and Reality, Technology and Total War
* Wallach, Book Two, The Practice: Part I The War of 1914 – 1918: Implementation of Theories or Hotbed for New Ones? pp. 85 – 206
* Fuhrmann, Edwards, Salomone “The German Invasion of 1914” *Defense and Security Review* (available on T2)
* Gray, Ch. 6: World War I: Controversies
* Gray, Ch. 7: World War I: Modern warfare Weeks 6-7: The Interwar Period
* Wallach, Part II The Inter-War Period: A Theoretical Entr’Acte, pp. 207 – 241
* Citino, Toward World War II: The Quest for Decisive Victory, pp. 11 – 35
* Gray, Ch. 8, The twenty-year armistice, 1919-1939
* Gray, Ch. 9, The mechanization of war Weeks 8-10: The Second World War
* Wallach, Part III Hitler’s War: Traditional Theories in a Changed Environment, pp. 247 – 310
* Citino, In Search of the Impossible: The German Operational Breakdown in World War II, 1940 – 1942, pp. 36 – 74
* Citino, The Allies in Search of Decisive Victory, pp. 75 – 115
* Biddle, Tami Davis: “Dresden 1945: Reality, History and Memory” *Journal of Military History*

August 2008. (Available on T2)

* Gray, Ch. 11: World War II in Europe: Understanding the war
* Gray, Ch. 12: World War II in Asia-Pacific: Japan and the politics of empire
* Gray, Ch. 13: World War II in Asia-Pacific: Strategy and warfare Week 11: The Cold War
* Gray, Ch. 14: The Cold War: Politics and ideology
* Gray, Ch. 15: The Cold War: The nuclear revolution Weeks 12-13: Vietnam
* Citino, The U.S. Army: Collapse and Rebirth, pp. 226 – 266
* Stulberg, Salomone & Long chapter 6, *Counterinsurgency in Vietnam: Shirking Transformation*, pp. 153 – 180 (available on T2)

Weeks 14-15: After Vietnam and Towards Desert Storm

* Berenson, Paul J. “Follow-On Forces Attack (FOFA)” (Available on T2)
* Salomone, Michael D. “Organization Theory and Real-Time Decisionmaking: The Case of Evolving NATO Strategy” (Available on T2)
* “The Gulf War: A Chronology”. *Air Force* Magazine 84:42 January 2001” (Available on T2)
* Citino, The U.S. Army at War: Desert Storm, pp. 267 – 300
* Chipman, Don. "Desert Storm and the Triumph of Joint Warfare Planning." *Air Power History*, 52.1 (2005): 52-65. (available on T2)