

# War and Technology

...

Introduction

# Course instructors

Professor: Christopher Tozzi, [tozzic@rpi.edu](mailto:tozzic@rpi.edu)

Office: 5112 Sage. Office hours: Mondays, 2-4 p.m.

Teaching assistant: Yoehan Oh, [ohy@rpi.edu](mailto:ohy@rpi.edu).

Office: 5706 Sage. Office hours: Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Why take this course?

# Why take this course?

- Understand the meanings of “war” and “technology” by studying these concepts in various contexts
  - And from different scholarly perspectives
- Examine the relationship between war and technology
- Consider ethical questions raised by technology in warfare
- Anticipate how technology will impact warfare in the future

# Course expectations

- Attendance *and participation*
  - Group work
- Research paper
  - Analyze a scholarly argument
- Exams
  - Midterm, final exam
- Reading responses
  - Due weekly on Thursdays at 10 a.m.
  - Can respond to any reading or readings assigned for that week
  - DO NOT JUST SUMMARIZE THE READING; instead, RESPOND to it

# Readings

Required texts:

- Victor Davis Hanson, *The Western Way of War: Infantry Battle in Classical Greece* (University of California Press, 2009).
- Jared Diamond, *Guns, Germs and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies* (W.W. Norton, 1999).

For all other readings, see links on syllabus. Note that you may need to access some resources from on-campus, or use the VPN, in order to avoid paywalls.

# Other things to know about this course

Many of the weeks will focus on Europe and European history.

This course is designed to be paperless.

- Visit <http://lms.rpi.edu/> to download the syllabus and submit all assignments.
  - Caveat: The LMS gradebook does not accurately reflect your grades.
- Focus on arguments, not definitive answers.