

University of Calgary – Department of History

Instructor: Dr Mattheis Bucholtz

Spring 2017

Office: Social Sciences, Room 615

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Office Hours: Saturdays 3-4

Class Time: Saturdays 9-2:50

Class Location: ES 054

HTST 483 – WORLD WAR ONE

This course will provide a general survey of a crucial moment in the history of the twentieth century – The First World War. Starting with a broad examination of the causes and events that led to the outbreak of the war, critical themes that will be discussed in this course include: war plans and expectations, static versus mobile warfare in the age of the trench, social and economic mobilization for war, propaganda and the war of morale, industrial war and industrial killing on the battlefield, 1918 and the last campaigns of the war, and finally, the Treaty of Versailles and the Paris Peace Conference. Particular attention will be paid, throughout the course, to examine and critically analyze popular myths and legends surrounding events during the war.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Students will be required to read:

- Strachan, Hew. *The First World War*. 2003
- John Keegan. *The Face of Battle*. New York: Viking, 1976.

Background or Supplemental Reading:

- Geoffrey Parker (ed.). *The Cambridge Illustrated History of Warfare: The Triumph of the West*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008.

COURSE AIMS

This course is designed to develop students' critical analytical abilities. Particular focus will be given to engaging in academic debates and discussion, specifically to make students aware of major differences between various schools of thought and the contested nature of historical analysis.

EVALUATION

Midterm: 30% - 3 June, 2017

Essay Assignment: 30% - 17 June, 2017

Final Exam: 30% - 24-26 June, 2017.

In Class Debate Session – 10% - See class schedule

MIDTERM

3 June, 2017

30% of Course Grade

Identification Questions: Students will pick 5 key figures, themes, or events from only the first half of the course material (out of a possible 10 options). Answers should be roughly a paragraph (5-6 sentences) in length.

Essay Component: Students will be given 3 short essay topics, spanning the MAJOR themes of the first half of the course. You will have to write on **ONLY ONE** of these topics.

RESEARCH PAPER

DUE: 17 June, 2017

30% of Course Grade

Students will analyze a major battle, campaign, or theme related to the First World War. Term papers should be 2500 words (about 8-10 pages) in length, and be drawn from some of the most important works relevant to the topic. You must make use of a reasonable number of different sources—at least **SIX** monographs, or the equivalent in academic articles (about two articles are equivalent of one book). The course textbooks do NOT count toward this total. In most cases you will also be able to use primary sources, which are available in many forms in the university library and on the library website. If you wish to use an internet source, you **MUST** have it approved by the instructor first.

ESSAY TOPICS MUST BE APPROVED BY 27 MAY, 2017. Students will hand in a brief description and proposed thesis of their essay on 27 May, including a short bibliography or potential research sources.

FINAL EXAM

Take Home Examination

30% of Course Grade

June 24-26, 2017

Essay Component 1:

Students will answer 1 of 3 possible essay topics, concerning only the major themes of the second half of the course. You will have to write on **ONE** of these topics.

Essay Component 2:

Students will answer 1 of 3 possible essay topics, concerning major themes that spanned the entire duration of the course. These topics will focus on large overarching themes and questions that stretch over the entire length of the course. You will have to only write on **ONE** of these questions.

Essay Component 3: Students will answer one mandatory essay question on the central argument made by Sir John Keegan in his monograph *The Face of Battle*.

The Final Exam will be handed out on the last day of class. Students will have 48 hours to complete the exam in hand it in to the RED BOX outside of the History Department Main Office (SS 656) by 4:00 pm on June 26th, 2017.

Valid reasons for requesting a deferral of the final examination include: personal illness; bereavement; personal injury; and unavoidable and unanticipated demands in caring for dependents. The department chair may also consider other compelling reasons that are outside of the student's control. *If you are ill, please report to Health Services immediately. Proper paperwork for an exam deferral must be completed within 48 hours of the scheduled examination.*

IN CLASS DEBATE SESSION

See Class Schedule and Sign Up Sheet

10% of Course Grade

Each student is responsible for signing up for one group discussion session. THIS IS NOT A GROUP PROJECT. Instead this is to prepare students for seminar style discussions concerning particular topics covered in class. On the week the student signs up for, they will be required to come to class prepared to engage in a short, 45 minute, moderated discussion of the topic at hand. Each group have up to 6 students, and those students in that week's discussion group will be given time to comment. All other questions from the audience will be held until after the 45 minutes, so as to give each person a chance to express their views. The purpose is to engage in the subject matter.

TOPIC 1 – Victory in 1914? War Plans and “Home By Christmas”

TOPIC 2 – Stalemate 1915-1916: The Somme and Verdun

TOPIC 3 – War and the Home Front: Mobilizing Societies for Mass Industrial Warfare

TOPIC 4 – Tanks and Aircraft: Tactical and Operational-level Warfare, 1917-1918

TOPIC 5 – The War to End All Wars – The Treaty of Versailles and International Security

DEPARTMENTAL GRADING SCHEME

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-62	C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56-59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50-55	D	1.00	
0-49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

LATE WORK

Students will be penalized one-third of a letter grade per day for late work. I am very willing to work around scheduling conflicts and unexpected events and am usually open to extensions. However penalties for late work will be strictly enforced to ensure fair treatment for all students.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not.

Plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.

- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. A plagiarized paper will automatically be failed. Plagiarism may also result in a failing grade for the entire course and other penalties.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1 May 20	Introduction - Syllabus	Readings:
	Before the War The Outbreak of the War	Introduction Chapter 1
	War Plans	Chapter 2
Week 2 May 27	The East - Tannenberg	Chapter 3
	The West – The Marne, 1914 DEBATE ONE	Chapter 4
	Stalemate 1915	
Week 3 June 3	Verdun	Chapter 5
	The Somme	
	DEBATE TWO	
	MIDTERM EXAM (3 June)	
Week 4 June 10	The War at Sea	
	Re-Mobilizing for Total War	Chapter 6
	DEBATE THREE America and Russia	Chapter 7
Week 5 June 17	DEBATE FOUR Operation Michael: Germany's Bid to Win the War	Chapter 8
	The Hundred Days Collapse of the Central Powers ESSAY DUE (17 June)	Chapter 9
Week 6 June 24	Peace and Aftermath The Treaty of Versailles	Chapter 10

	Collective Security DEBATE FIVE	
	Conclusion TAKE HOME FINAL EXAM HANDED OUT	

Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

For updates and notifications, follow our departmental twitter @ucalgaryhist

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. For detailed information on common academic concerns, you can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email artsads@ucalgary.ca, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.
- For registration issues, paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK (7625), visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block (MLB) or their website at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.

Writing:

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

Writing Support:

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL). Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Copyright:

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational

exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

Red Box Policy:

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (Social Sciences, Room 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: 1) **course name and number**, 2) **instructor**, 3) **your name** and 4) **your student number**. Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook*

(http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf), plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses

(www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI surveys.

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS). The SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected grounds other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

Other Useful Information:

- Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.
- Campus Security & Safewalk: 403-220-5333, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>.
- Freedom of Information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>.
- Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>.
- Student Union Information: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>.
- Graduate Student Association: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>.
- Student Ombudsman Office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>.

Spring/Summer 2017