

University of Calgary  
Department of History/Military and Strategic Studies

HTST/STST 655  
Classics of Strategy  
Fall 2016

**Instructor:** Dr. T. Stapleton

**Office:** SS632

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**Office Hours:** Monday and Wednesday 10am to 10:50am (and by appointment)

**Time:** Monday 1530-1815

**Location:** SS623

**Description:**

With a global approach, this course examines the work and historical context of strategic thinkers from ancient times to the modern period. While Sun Tzu of ancient China and Carl von Clausewitz of early nineteenth century Prussia are currently the most well-known and well-studied writers of this genre, others have been just as influential in different times and places. European Medieval and Early Modern nobility frequently went to war carrying copies of the late Roman work of Flavius Vegetius, American Civil War generals had studied the writing of Napoleonic era Swiss-French general Antoine Henri Jomini, late nineteenth century British senior officers were required to master a textbook by Victorian general Edward Bruce Hamley and many successful guerrilla leaders of the late twentieth century had been inspired by the work of Chinese revolutionary Mao Zedong or Argentine icon Ernesto “Che” Guevara. Other strategic thinkers contributed to emerging fields such as naval and air power, geopolitics, nuclear warfare and counter-insurgency. As a history graduate seminar, this course revolves around student presentations and discussions with the instructor serving as a mentor, facilitator and guide.

**Evaluation:**

Participation = 20%

Oral Presentations 1 = 10%

Oral Presentation 2 = 10%

Paper 1 = 30%

Paper 2 = 30%

**Deadlines for Submission:**

Paper 1 = 30 October 2016

Paper 2 = 05 December 2016

**Reading:** This course will emphasize reading and discussing original texts (or translations). Most of the relevant works are available online and links to these are provided below, and many are also available online via the University of Calgary Library website. All of them are available as hardcopies in the library.

**Participation:** Each student is expected to read at least one book a week from the list below and contribute to the discussion on the relevant theme. Although this is not prescriptive, students are encouraged to select a book to read from among those being presented that week.

**Oral Presentations:** Each student will give two oral presentations to the class. Each oral presentation will focus on one of the books listed below. There will be no duplication of presentations. No student will present more than once in a single session. Students should see the instructor as soon as possible to sign up for the books they wish to present. A schedule will be circulated. There will be no more than 2 (or perhaps 3) presentations per session. Students are strongly encouraged to select books from different periods. Each presentation is expected to take around 30 minutes. The presentations will launch the group into a broader discussion on the topic for that session.

**Papers:** Each student will submit two papers to the instructor. Each paper will analyse the works of one of the theorists listed below and apply those views to the study of a particular example from the history of warfare (a campaign, an operation, a battle etc.). The example should not be one that is discussed in the theorist's work. There is no requirement to sign up for topics and several students could work on the same theorist. Students are once again encouraged to select two theorists related to vastly different periods. Students are permitted to write their papers on theorists they have covered in presentations though they are also free to look at others. Each paper should be around 3000 words long and supported by appropriate citation methods. In preparing the papers, students are expected to make extensive use of relevant scholarly literature on both the selected theorists and the examples selected from military history. The suggested background reading will represent a helpful starting point in research for the papers. The submission dates for the papers are given above.

### **Suggested Background Readings:**

Freedman, Lawrence, *Strategy: A Short History* (Oxford University Press, 2013)  
 Handel, Michael, *Masters of War: Classical Strategic Thought* (London: Frank Cass, 2001)  
 Murray, Williamson; Knox, MacGregor and Bernstein, Alvin (eds.), *The Making of Strategy: Rulers, States and War* (Cambridge University Press, 1994).  
 Sloan, Elinor, *Modern Military Strategy: An Introduction* (New York, Routledge, 2012)  
 Stone, John, *Military Strategy: The Politics and Technique of War* (London: Continuum, 2011)

**Instructor Availability:** I have an open-door policy which means that students are encouraged to drop by my office whenever they like. Of course, there are times when I might not be available so specific appointments can be made via email.

### **Session Outline:**

#### **Week 1: 12 September - Course Introduction**

#### **Week 2: 19 September – The Ancient World**

Sun Tzu, *The Art of War* (c.500 BCE)

<http://classics.mit.edu/Tzu/artwar.html>

Available online via U of C Library website

Thucydides, *The History of the Peloponnesian War* (c.400 BCE)

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/7142/7142-h/7142-h.htm>

Available online via U of C Library website

Chanakya, *Arthashastra* (c.350-275 BEC)

[https://archive.org/stream/Arthasastra\\_English\\_Translation/Arthashastra\\_of\\_Chanakya\\_-\\_English#page/n1/mode/2up](https://archive.org/stream/Arthasastra_English_Translation/Arthashastra_of_Chanakya_-_English#page/n1/mode/2up)

### **Week 3: 26 September - Ancient to Medieval**

Xenophon, *Anabasis (The Persian Expedition)* (c.400 BCE)

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/1170/1170-h/1170-h.htm>

Available online via U of C Library website

Julius Caesar, *The Gallic Wars* (c.50 BCE)

<http://classics.mit.edu/Caesar/gallic.html>

Flavius Vegetius Renatus, *Military Matters* (c.450 CE)

<http://www.digitalattic.org/home/war/vegetius/>

Nizam al-Mulk, *Rules for Kings* (c.1000 CE)

<http://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/001139702>

Available online via U of C Library website

### **Week 4: 03 October - Early Modern Europe**

Niccolo Machiavelli, *The Prince* (1532)

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/1232/1232-h/1232-h.htm>

Frederick the Great, *Military Instructions to His Generals* (1762)

<https://archive.org/stream/militaryinstruc00prusgoog#page/n4/mode/2up>

**10 October** – Thanksgiving Holiday

### **Week 5: 17 October – Legacy of the Napoleonic Wars**

Carl von Clausewitz, *On War* (1832)

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/1946/1946-h/1946-h.htm#link2HCH0045>

Available online via U of C Library website

Antoine Henri Jomini, *The Art of War* (1838 – English translation 1862)

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/13549/13549-h/13549-h.htm>

Available online via U of C Library website

### **Week 6: 24 October - Late Nineteenth Century Adaptations**

Helmuth von Moltke (the elder) (c.1869)

Daniel J. Hughes (ed.), *Moltke on the Art of War: Selected Writings* (Toronto: Random House, 1993). See U of C library for hardcopy.

Edward Bruce Hamley, *The Operations of War: Explained and Illustrated* (1866)

<https://archive.org/stream/operationsofware00haml#page/n7/mode/2up>

Available online via U of C Library website

Ferdinand Foch, *The Principles of War* (1903 – translation 1920)

<https://archive.org/stream/principlesofwar00foch#page/n7/mode/2up>

Available online via U of C Library website

### **Week 7: 30 October - Naval Strategy**

Alfred Thayer Mahan, *The Influence of Sea-power on History, 1660-1783* (1890)

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/13529/13529-h/13529-h.htm>

Available online via U of C Library website

C.E. Callwell, *Military Operations and Maritime Preponderance: Their Relations and Interdependence* (1905)

<https://archive.org/details/militaryoperatio00calliala>

Available online via U of C Library website

Julian Corbett, *Some Principles of Maritime Strategy* (1911)

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/15076/15076-h/15076-h.htm>

Available online via U of C Library website

Herbert Richmond, *National Policy and Naval Strength* (1928)

<https://archive.org/stream/nationalpolicyna00richuoft#page/n5/mode/2up>

### **Week 8: 07 November - The Inter-War Period**

Giulio Douhet, *The Command of the Air* (1921)

<https://archive.org/stream/dominiodellariae00unse#page/n3/mode/2up>

Available online via U of C Library website

William Mitchell, *Winged Defence: The Development and Possibilities of Modern Air Power: Economic and Military* (1925) - Available online via U of C Library website

J.F.C. Fuller, *The Foundations of the Science of War* (1928)

<https://archive.org/stream/foundationsofsci00jfcf#page/n7/mode/2up>

B.H. Liddel-Hart, *The Strategy of Indirect Approach* (1954 – originally published 1929)

<https://archive.org/details/strategyofindire035126mbp>

Vladimir K. Triandafilov, *The Nature of the Operations of Modern Armies* (1994 – originally published 1929) See U of C library for a hardcopy.

### **Week 9: 14 November – Geo-politics**

Harold J. Mackinder, *Democratic Ideals and Reality: A Study in the Politics of Reconstruction* (1919)

<https://archive.org/details/democraticideals00mackiala>

Available online via U of C Library website

Karl Haushofer, *Geopolitics of the Pacific Ocean* (1924)

L.A. Tambs and E.J. Brehm (eds.), *An English Translation and Analysis of Major General Karl Ernst Haushofer's Geopolitics of the Pacific Ocean* (Lewiston, NY: Edwin Mellen Press, 2002)  
– hardcopy in U of C library.

New World Order: consider the following three pieces equivalent to one book

Francis Fukuyama, “The End of History?” *The National Interest*, 1989

<http://www.wesjones.com/eoh.htm>

Samuel P. Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations,” *Foreign Affairs*, 1992

<http://edvardas.home.mruni.eu/wp-content/uploads/2008/10/huntington.pdf>

Robert Kaplan, “The Coming Anarchy,” *The Atlantic*, February 1994

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1994/02/the-coming-anarchy/304670/>

### **Week 10: 21 November – Nuclear Strategy**

Herman Kahn, *On Thermonuclear War* (1960) - hardcopy available in U of C library.

Bernard Brodie, *Strategy in the Missile Age* (1959)

[http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/commercial\\_books/2007/RAND\\_CB137-1.pdf](http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/commercial_books/2007/RAND_CB137-1.pdf)

### **Week 11: 28 November - Guerrilla Warfare**

T.E. Lawrence, *Seven Pillars of Wisdom* (1922/1926)

<http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks01/0100111h.html>

Mao Zedong, *On Guerrilla Warfare* (1937)

<http://www.marines.mil/Portals/59/Publications/FMFRP%2012-18%20Mao%20Tse-tung%20on%20Guerrilla%20Warfare.pdf>

Vo Nguyen Giap, *People's War/People's Army* (1961)

<https://www.marxists.org/archive/giap/1961-pwpa.pdf>

Ernesto “Che” Guevara, *Guerrilla Warfare* (1961)

[https://archive.org/stream/GuerrillaWarfare\\_856#page/n0/mode/2up](https://archive.org/stream/GuerrillaWarfare_856#page/n0/mode/2up)

Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth* (1961)

<http://home.ku.edu.tr/~mbaker/CSHS503/FrantzFanon.pdf>

Amilcar Cabral, *Unity and Struggle: Speeches and Writings* (London: Monthly Review Press, 1979) – hardcopy available in the U of C library

### **Week 12: 05 December - Counter-Insurgency**

C.E. Callwell, *Small Wars: Their Principles and Practise* (1899)

<http://cgsc.cdmhost.com/cdm/ref/collection/p4013coll11/id/394>

Available online via U of C Library website

Frank Kitson, *Gangs and Counter-gangs* (1960)

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/146706929/Kitson-Frank-Gangs-and-Counter-Gangs-1960>

David Galula, *Counter-Insurgency Warfare: Theory and Practise* (1964)

<http://louisville.edu/armyrotc/files/Galula%20David%20-%20Counterinsurgency%20Warfare.pdf>

Available online via U of C Library website

## **Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information**

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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, Social Sciences 102, 403-220-3580, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

**Departmental Twitter Handle @ucalgaryhist** - For departmental updates and notifications

### **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 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. 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](http://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 coursepack 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 (SS 656). 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.

### **Departmental Grading System:**

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.

### **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*, 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:**

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses ([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://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 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/](http://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\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf).

### **Other Useful Information:**

Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).

*Safewalk and Campus Security*: 403-220-5333.

Please also familiarize yourself about the following topics by consulting the information at these links:

*Freedom of Information*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>

*Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points*:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

*Safewalk*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

*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>