

Political Science 4040: Military History and Politics

Fall 2011

Class Location: 218 Coates

Professor: David Sobel (dsobel@isue.edu)

Office Phone: 578-2134

Office Location: Stubbs 211

Office Hours: Th 1:00-10:00

Wednesday 9:00-10:00

Teaching Assistant: Jacob Seidler

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Summary:

This class examines the link between war and politics. In particular, how does the conduct of war relate to the construction and function of states? While the same framework.

In 7th and 8th century, the Islamic conquests in the Middle East led to a significant role in founding Islamic Caliphates. How does this relate to larger societal and political movements? At the end of the semester we will address issues that arise in the modern era and how events may develop in the future.

Required Books:

Hanson, Victor Davis. 2003. *The Western Way of War: Infantry Battle in Classical Greece*. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN-10: 0-520-2199-2

Oman, Charles W. 1960. *Art of War in the Middle Ages A.D. 378-1515*. Cornell: Cornell University Press. ISBN-10: 0-8014-9062-6

De Crespigny, Ronald. 1990. *The Fall of Nanyang: Dying Light*. Sydney: Sydney University Press. ISBN-10: 0-8047-1849-0

Thomas, James. 2000. *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Optional Books:

Blanchard, Roger. 1990. *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Blanchard, Roger. 1990. *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Blanchard, Roger. 1990. *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Blanchard, Roger. 1990. *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Chicago: University of Chicago Press. ISBN-10: 0-226-86711-4

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ISBN-10: 0-521-47058-4

Assignments:

Term Paper (25%): You will have to write one 5-7 page term paper which is due November 17th.

For this assignment you need to read one of the optional books and discuss it with the rest of the class.

The main themes of the course.

where you will be required to answer 2 essays (out of 4 possible choices)

essay and you will be required to answer 2 cumulative questions (these will be choices). The final

exam is scheduled for December 1st, 10:00-11:00am.

My own (Sunday). This is an option to discuss with both the writer and myself.

you in some circumstances, but I need as much advance notice as possible.

Academic Honesty: It is assumed that your performance in this class is solely yours. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated to any extent. My working philosophy is that every work is the

Reading Schedule:

Part 1: The State: What is it and why is it important?

Week 1 (8-23, 8-25)

Poggi- pages 3-34

Week 2 (8-30, 9-1)

Poggi- pages 34-69.

Week 3 (9-6, 9-8)

Poggi- pages 86-107.

Class Meeting 1003: "Distributing Democracy" 1. Democracy 2. American Democracy

Science Review: 81507-10.

Part 2: Classical Greece: The Phalanx, Decisive Battles, and

Week 5 (9-20, 9-22)

Hanson- pages 55-135.

Week 6 (9-27, 9-29)

Hanson- pages 135-197

Week 7 (10-4, 10-6)

Hanson- pages 135-197

October 13: Fall Break

Hanson- pages 197-229

Part 3: The Supremacy of Cavalry and the Development of Feudalism

Week 9 (10-18, 10-20)

Oman- pages 111-116.

10-20: Midterm

Week 10 (10-25, 10-27)

Oman- pages 31-116.

Week 11 (11-1, 11-3)
Oman- pages 116-167.

Part 4: Military History and the Future of Politics

~~Week 12 (11-8, 11-10)~~
~~Townshend pages 3-55.~~

Week 13 (11-15, 11-17)
Term Paper due on 11-17.
~~Townshend pages 55-94~~

Week 14 (11-22, 11-24)
November 24th: Thanksgiving Break
~~Townshend pages 117-201~~

Week 15 (11-29, 12-1)
Townshend- pages 117-201, continued

Final Exam: Tuesday December 6th 10AM-Noon