History 466S – Capstone Seminar: Western Militarization

Fall 2013
Room Carr 125
Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:05 – 4:20 PM

Dr. Andrew Byers
jab63@duke.edu
Office Hours: Mondays 1-2 PM, Wednesdays 2-3 PM, and by appointment in Carr 301

Course Overview:
The course will examine the concepts of militarism and militarization in Europe and the United States from the late nineteenth century through the present. As part of this examination, we will explore the dominance of some militaries over civilian authority, the prevalence of warlike values in society, and how civil societies organize themselves for war and the production of violence. We will pay close attention to the ways in which militaries and war have influenced culture, society, and individuals, as well as the relationships between the state, the military, individuals, and society across the western world.

Assignments and Evaluation:

- **Class Participation (25% of final grade):** You are expected to attend all class sessions, to do the assigned reading for each session, and to participate actively in class. I will take attendance at each class meeting and evaluate your participation, assigning daily participation grades. See below for participation grading rubric.

- **Take-Home Final Exam (25% of final grade):** Due Wednesday, December 11, by 5pm. This will be handed out on December 4, the last day of class.

- **Research Paper (50% of final grade):** You will write a research paper exploring one case study of militarization in Europe or the United States from the late nineteenth century to the early twenty-first century. See separate sheet for example topics. I will assist you in selecting a topic that is both interesting and manageable. You will turn in, separately, a paper proposal; a bibliography and outline; a rough draft; and a final draft for the paper. You will also lead the discussion of one of your colleagues' papers during our research paper workshop. Each of these assignments will be graded separately.

  1. **Paper Proposal (5%):** Due Saturday, September 14 by 5pm. The paper proposal should describe the proposed case study on which you plan to write your final paper (approximately 500 words). You should thoroughly describe the concept for your paper, go into a little detail on the kind of argument that you plan to make, and include a few notes on the sources you think you will use. I will provide feedback on your topic and make comments on suggested refinements and sources.

  2. **Paper Bibliography and Outline (10%):** Due Saturday, October 5 by 5pm. The bibliography should contain at least six sources and include both primary (government documents; personal narratives such as memoirs, diaries, interviews, published first-person accounts; magazine and newspaper articles; etc.) and secondary works (scholarly books or articles, etc.). The outline should be as fleshed out as possible and 750 words minimum. The more thought-out and organized your outline, the more I can help you refine your ideas. The outline **must** include a draft thesis (argument) for the paper.

  3. **Paper Rough Draft (required but ungraded):** Due three days prior to your assigned workshop date by 5pm posted to Sakai [workshops are November 18, 20, and 25]. The rough draft should be as polished as possible and approximately 2500-3500 words. I will provide feedback on the rough draft after the research paper workshop that you can use to improve your final draft. The rough draft will be ungraded, but if you do not submit a rough draft, I will take ten points off your final draft's grade. Because another student's grade depends on providing feedback on your work, I will take five points off your final draft's grade if it is late.

  4. **Research Paper Workshop Moderation and Commentary (10%):** Due the day prior to your assigned workshop date by 5pm [workshops are November 18, 20, and 25]. You will be assigned as the chief moderator for another student's paper discussion. You will lead class discussion of that paper and will offer written commentary to both me and the
student whose paper you are discussing. Your grade will be assessed based on your moderation of the discussion and written feedback.

5. **Paper Final Draft (25%)**: Due December 4 (last day of class) by 5pm. The final draft should be 6000-7500 words.
   - **Late Assignments**: You are expected to turn in your assignments on time. Late assignments will be penalized by ten points for each day (or fraction of a day) they are late. Please do not ask for an extension on any assignments; it would be unfair to the other students who are also under the same time pressures.

   **Grading Scale**:
   - A  93 – 100
   - A-  90 – 92
   - B+  87 – 89
   - B  83 – 86
   - B-  80 – 82
   - C+  77 – 79
   - C  73 – 76
   - C-  70 – 72
   - D+  67 – 69
   - D  63 – 66
   - D-  60 – 62
   - F  59 or below

**Course Policies**:
- **Attendance**: For each class, you will receive a grade of 0-4, according to the following rubric. Your three lowest class grades will be dropped.
  - 0: Did not attend class for any reason (excused or unexcused).
  - 1: Present in class, but did not participate in discussion.
  - 2: Slight to moderate level of participation; demonstrated some preparation and knowledge of readings.
  - 3: Active participation throughout the class session; clearly demonstrated familiarity with readings.
  - 4: Active, creative, and thoughtful participation in discussions; engaged with other students’ comments and the readings.
- **No Electronics in Class**: Please do not use laptops, cell phones, or other electronic devices during class. If you have a special need that requires the use of such a device, please see me.
- **Plagiarism and Cheating**: You are expected to adhere to the Duke University Community Standard at all times. You will receive a zero on any exam or assignment in which cheating or plagiarism has occurred. Violators will also be referred to the Associate Dean of Students in the Office of Student Conduct.

**Required Reading**:
- No textbooks will be used in the course. All assigned readings are carefully selected primary and secondary sources available electronically on the class Sakai site.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings and Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PART I: INTRODUCTION</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, August 26</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PART II: MILITARIZATION IN EUROPE</strong></td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>Monday, September 16</td>
<td>European Militaries, Civil Society, Propaganda, and Conscription</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, October 14</td>
<td>Class cancelled: Fall Break</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, November 13</strong></td>
<td>Class cancelled</td>
<td>None – complete your first drafts of the research paper</td>
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<td>PART IV: RESEARCH PAPER WORKSHOP</td>
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<td><strong>Monday, November 18</strong></td>
<td>Research Paper Workshop</td>
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<td>Wednesday, November 20</td>
<td>Research Paper Workshop</td>
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<td>Monday, November 25</td>
<td>Research Paper Workshop</td>
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<td>Wednesday, November 27</td>
<td>Class cancelled – Thanksgiving Break</td>
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| Wednesday, December 4 | Class cancelled                    | None – complete your final drafts of the research paper.  
**Final Draft of Research Paper due by 5 PM.** |
| Wednesday, December 11| No class                           | Take-Home Final Exam due by 5 PM.                                                       |