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COURSE DESCRIPTION
The development of U.S. military strategy and policy from the Colonial Wars through the Gulf Wars.

I encourage you to ask questions and make comments in class and/or during office hours. If these hours are not convenient, please feel free to make an appointment with me. This is particularly important in this course, for the U. S. military is notorious for having developed specialized jargon and confusing acronyms. In addition, there are a number of specialized terms relating to military issues, organization, and ordnance. I will try to reduce this to a minimum, but if you don’t understand a term I use in class, please ask me to explain it. You’ll be doing yourself (and undoubtedly some other bewildered classmate) a favor.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
Through essay exams, readings quizzes, and a research paper, students who successfully complete this course will:

1. Understand the events, personalities, and ideas which have shaped U. S. military history;
2. Place America's military past within its larger national and international contexts;
3. Construct persuasive essays using sound logic and concrete examples;
4. Become more skilled in the art of primary research and historiographical analysis.

COURSE POLICIES
Please read the course requirements listed below with care. It is important that there is no misunderstanding regarding them, so if you have any questions concerning them, be sure to ask. I will operate under the assumption that you are aware of and understand them.

1. Lectures and Attendance -- The lectures are designed to be the foundation for the course. As such, regular class attendance is essential if you hope to pass the course. I assume that when you sign up for the course, you are committing yourself to be in class on a regular basis. Further, it is essential that you pay close attention and take good notes when you are here. Despite the help of PowerPoint screens to guide you, this is not always easy in a lecture setting. The screens are just an aid, and merely copying what is on them will not be enough.

2. Examinations
   First Exam: Section One of the lectures; Major Problems in Military History, Chapters 1-5
   Second Exam: Section Two of the lectures; Major Problems in Military History, Chapters 6-10
   Final Exam: Section Two of the lectures; Major Problems in Military History, Chapters 11-15

   There will be three exams. These exams will be drawn from the lectures as well as the readings, and will consist of a series of chronology questions (20%), identifications (30%), and an essay (50%). Subject matter for the chronologies and identifications from the readings will be listed on a study guide, but there will be no such guide covering potential subject matter from the lectures. All essay questions will be drawn from a study guide.

   On exam days and during the readings quizzes, electronic devices will not be permitted. In order to do well on the exams, it is essential that you attend class regularly, take good notes, and read your assigned materials. There are no short-cuts to academic success. It demands energy and effort on your part.

3. Make-up Examinations – For those students who miss the first exam, all makeups will be given April 10. You should immediately reserve this date and time in your calendar. Because of the nature of the course, you are strongly advised to take the exams at the originally scheduled time. You are expected to show up for the make-up without being prompted,
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and must rearrange your schedule in order to take the make-up at the time noted above. It is your responsibility to make-up the test, and your responsibility to make the necessary arrangements to take the makeup at this scheduled time. The make-up will cover the same materials and use the same study questions as the regular examination.

4. Readings quizzes – There will be seven quizzes over the assigned reading during the semester. Consisting of multiple choice, true-false, and short answer questions, each quiz should take about fifteen minutes. The subject matter for each quiz will be described in a readings quiz guide covering the reading in question. Your five highest quiz grades will be used to calculate your semester quiz grade. No makeups will be given for any quiz unless you have an excuse for a verified university function, or an emergency for which you must provide documentation approved by the Student Affairs office. To encourage you to take notes on your reading, you may use handwritten notes when taking the quizzes.

5. Extra Credit -- You have enough of importance to do in the regular assignments for this course. No extra credit opportunities will be available.

6. Grade Appeals during the semester -- In grading your assignments the primary concern is to maintain fair standards. You have the right to appeal if you believe that you have received an exam grade which does not reflect the quality of your work, or if you do not understand why an answer you gave was graded in the manner in which it was. Please feel free to bring the matter to my attention.

7. Assistance – Office hours are intended to make this course less forbidding. I encourage you to come by and talk with me during office hours. If you cannot make these times, ask to make an appointment.

8. Freedom of Speech -- Feel free to raise your hand with a question or comment. Reducing confusion, providing clarification, or responding to student curiosity is an important part of the classroom process and will be undertaken to the extent that time and class size permit. In most cases, if you did not understand something, it is because I did not explain it clearly, so you will be doing your colleagues and yourself a service if you request a clarification.

9. Academic etiquette -- Universities must maintain standards of academic etiquette in order to affect an atmosphere conducive to learning. You are expected to demonstrate courtesy to one another in and out of the classroom. Turn off your cell phones, blackberries, etc., and use electronic devices only for legitimate academic reasons. Talking to one’s neighbor(s) during class lectures or general discussions, chronic lateness, using cell-phones or text message gadgets in class, surfing the web, leaving class before it has been dismissed, etc., is inherently disruptive and thus injurious to the rights of others to the opportunity to learn. As such, it is unacceptable in a university classroom. Students who are unable to abide by these rules of academic etiquette and normal civility will be removed from the class.

10. Academic Integrity -- Cheating or plagiarism on an assignment or test, or failure to complete any of the course requirements, will result in a zero grade for the assignment in question, and, in more serious cases, lead to further academic penalty. For definitions of and penalties for plagiarism, see University Procedures, 13.02.99.C3.01 "Procedure for Academic Misconduct Cases" at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/students/130299C301.pdf See also the guidelines for your research paper.

11. Dropping a Class – I hope no student needs to drop a course. However, events sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. April 11 is the last day to drop a course for the semester with an automatic grade of “W”.

12. Late Work – If you turn in an assignment late without a valid reason (verified extended illness, accident, or unavoidable circumstance cleared by the professor in advance) you will be assessed a penalty of ten points per weekday you turn in that assignment late.

13. Electronic submissions of assignments – This is not an on-line course. You must submit hard copies of each assignment at the beginning of the class period in which it is due. Electronic submissions will not be accepted.

14. Blackboard – This syllabus, as well as class handouts, are available through the Blackboard Learn website, which may be accessed through the University “Island Online” webpage at https://distance-education.tamucc.edu/. You should check
it regularly.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Office at 825-5816 or visit their office in Driftwood 101.

**VETERANS**

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at 825-5816.

**GRADE APPEALS PROCESS**

Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

**ACADEMIC ADVISING**

Academic advisors are available to assist students with course selection, degree plans, and other academic matters. Each college has an academic advising center, staffed by full-time, professional advisors. In our college the undergraduate advisor is Linda Miller (825-3466, Linda.miller@tamucc.edu). The graduate advisor is Rachelle Stanley (825-3466, Rachelle.stanley@tamucc.edu). Both are located on the second floor of Driftwood. Students who have yet to declare a major are advised by the Academic Advising Transition Center. For more information please call (361) 825-5931 or log on to http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac.

**REQUIRED READING**

John Whiteclay Chambers II and G. Kurt Piehler, eds., *Major Problems in American Military History*

For those seeking a textbook, Alan Millett and Peter Maslowski, *For the Common Defense*, is on reserve in the library.

**COURSE GRADES**

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<td>First Exam</td>
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<td>Readings quizzes 15%</td>
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<td>Second Exam</td>
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<td>Research Paper 35%</td>
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**PAPER REQUIREMENTS**

You will also write a ten to twelve page paper, which must be based on a theme from one of the chapters of the Chambers and Piehler reader, *Major Problems in American Military History*. In addition to using all appropriate sources included in Chambers and Piehler, you will be required to include materials from at least ten additional sources (five primary and five secondary) into your paper. Please see the “U.S. Military History Paper” and “History Area Style Guide” handouts for further information and requirements. Please read the “Style Guide” with care, and follow the rules set forth therein for matters of organization, quotations, names, style and clarity, format, plagiarism, primary and secondary sources, documentation, footnotes/endnotes, and bibliography.

In order to encourage you to think of writing a paper as a process, rather than something done hurriedly in the last week before the assignment is due, the paper assignment will include the following elements, with the percentage of the paper grade in parentheses:
1) Paper proposal (1-2 pages), summarizing the key themes raised in the chapter you’ve selected to base your paper on and proposing a specific topic (10% of paper grade). Due February 11.

2) A complete bibliography, using proper bibliographic techniques. We’ll go over the proper bibliographic forms in class; see also the “History Area Style Guide.” (10% of paper grade). Due March 6.

3) Four pages of draft text for your paper (“I’ve started to write” assignment). This draft will be graded on its completeness. Does it have a theme? Are you making some form of argument? Is there enough evidence? Are your citations done properly? (10% of paper grade). Due April 15.

4) The final research paper itself. This paper will be graded according to the quality of evidence, depth of analysis, and effectiveness of organization, style, and presentation (70% of paper grade). Due April 29.

COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to change)

Section 1: The Military and the Formation of the United States

Jan. 23 Introduction; Major Problems, Chapter 1

28 Colonial Military Traditions; Major Problems, Chapter 2; Reading and analyzing primary documents. BRING CHAMBERS AND PIEHLER TO CLASS!

30 The American Revolution, part 1

Feb. 4 The American Revolution, part 2; Major Problems, Chapter 3
Readings Quiz 1

6 The Military and the Early Republic; Major Problems, Chapter 4
Paper Workshop; BRING CHAMBERS AND PIEHLER TO CLASS!

11 The Sword of the Republic; Major Problems, Chapter 5; One page proposal for paper topic due
Readings Quiz 2

13 The Sword of the Republic, part 2

18 First Exam

Section 2: The Military and the Growth of an American Empire

Feb. 20 The Civil War: The Early Years

25 The Civil War: Turning the Tide; Major Problems, Chapter 6

27 The Union Triumphant

March 4 Reconstruction and the Wars against the Indians; Major Problems, Chapter 7
Readings Quiz 3

6 Paper workshop; Paper bibliography due

March 10-14 Spring Break
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>National and International Frontiers</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>The Emergence of a Modern Navy; <em>Major Problems</em>, Chapter 8</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>The Great War</td>
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<td>The American Expeditionary Force; <em>Major Problems</em>, Chapter 9</td>
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<td><strong>Readings Quiz 4</strong></td>
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<td>April 1</td>
<td>The Long Armistice; <em>Major Problems</em>, Chapter 10</td>
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**Section Three: The Military of a World Power**

| April 8 | Pearl Harbor |
| April 10 | Paper Workshop; Makeup Exams |
| 11    | **Last day to drop a course with an automatic “W”** |

Note: During the lectures on World War II, you’ll need to read Chapters 11 and 12 in *Major Problems*

| May 15 | World War II, part 1; **I’ve started to write assignment due** |
| May 17 | World War II, part 2 |
|        | **Readings Quiz 5** |
| May 22 | World War II, part 3 |
| May 24 | Indochina in Flames; *Major Problems*, Chapter 13 |
|        | **Readings Quiz 6** |
| May 29 | The Wars in Vietnam; *Major Problems*, Chapter 14; **Research papers due** |

**FINAL EXAM** – Tuesday, May 13, 4:30-7:00