

**HI 284**  
**History of War**  
Professor Cathal J. Nolan  
Executive Director, International History Institute

***“Homo homini lupus est”***

**Administrative Information**

**Office hours:** Tues. and Thur. 6:30-7:30 and Thursday 11:00 - noon. Location: B-13, 725 Commonwealth Avenue (in basement, across from bagel shop). Phone: (617) 353-1165 e-mail: [cnolan@bu.edu](mailto:cnolan@bu.edu)

**Required Readings**

I have changed the textbooks this year because the excellent two volume history I used in the past today costs over \$240.00, and I will not subject students to such price extortion. The books listed are available through B&N at BU, but you are free to buy used copies elsewhere if you prefer.

Keegan - Face of Battle, 76 (Peng USA), ISBN 9780140048971  
Townshend - Oxford History of Modern War, 05 (Oxf), ISBN 9780192806451  
Parker - Cambridge Illustrated History of Warfare, 08 (Camb), ISBN 9780521738064  
Keegan - Book of War, 99 (Peng USA), ISBN 9780140296556

And articles and review essays posted online to the HI 284 page on [Blackboard](#).

**Grading:**

Book review 1	20%	Due: October 9
Midterm	20%	Date: October 16
Book review 2	30%	Due: December 4
Final exam	30%	<b>T 12/16 6:00 – 8:00 PM</b>
Discussion group	up to 5%	To be assigned by TF as a <b>bonus</b> for participation

The penalty for lateness on assignments is **5% per day** (including weekends). After five days, papers will **not** be accepted and a grade of “0” will result. No extensions will be granted without evidence of illness or bereavement. **You must attend the final. Do not make travel plans that conflict with the exam.** You will not be exempted from sitting the final exam on the set date if you ignore this warning.

**Plagiarism policy:**

You **must** save all written work in **portable electronic form**, preferably on a CD. A *random selection* (with some targeted names included), will be made after papers are submitted. All students who are notified must submit a CD copy of their paper to be scanned by **anti-plagiarism software**. The *Academic Conduct Code* contains the BU definition of plagiarism. Familiarize yourself with it, since it governs all possible charges and penalties. To avoid unintended plagiarism, learn correct citation of sources. *The discussion groups may aid you in this task.*

For basic citation and other writing assistance consult your TF & the clear and concise *Writing Guide*, which is posted on the course Blackboard site in the folder “Tips on Writing.”

**NO “MLA” CITATION.** Do **NOT** cite sources inside the text (e.g., *Smith 1995*). Use footnotes or endnotes (Chicago style). **Failure to abide by this rule for History papers will result in a 5% penalty.**

This warning is ignored by some students every year, and every year someone surrenders 5% for failure to read and abide by course rules. Don't let it be you.

## Lecture And Reading Schedule

For the most part, lectures will *not* repeat information provided in the texts. Lectures are used to highlight signal changes in the history of modern warfare, sometimes by traditional focus on a battle or campaign, other times by exploring the experience of war by ordinary people. Approach the readings on a topical or weekly basis. It is, of course, best to read ahead. You should discuss readings in the TF group sections.

### Introduction

#### Online:

- Review: *Saving Private Ryan*
- **Watch the opening 22 minutes of the film**. Many of you will have seen this already.

### The Infantry and Gunpowder Revolutions

#### Online:

- "Military Revolutions of the Hundred Years' War"

Parker - *Cambridge Illustrated History of Warfare*

- New Weapons, New Tactics 1300-1500
- Gunpowder Revolution, 1300-1500

Oxford History of Modern War: "Military Revolution I"

Keegan, *The Face of Battle*: "Agincourt" (do **not** read the *Introduction*: it is misleading and dreadfully dull).

Keegan, *Book of War*:

- Froissart, Battle of Crecy
- Wavrin, A French Knight's Account of Agincourt

### War on the Margins of Empire

#### Online:

- "Aztec Religion and Warfare"

Parker - *Cambridge Illustrated History of Warfare*

- Conquest of the Americas

Keegan, *Book of War*:

- Mendoza, Botching, Disorder, and Chaos
- Clendinnen, Aztecs
- Regueneau, Attack by Iroquois Warriors
- Crockett, Davy Crockett

### From Galleys to Fighting Sail

Parker - *Cambridge Illustrated History of Warfare*

- Ships of the Line, 1500-1650

#### Online:

- Enlightenment at Sea: "The Soul's Right Hand": Command and Control in the Age of Fighting Sail

### Linear Warfare

Parker - *Cambridge Illustrated History of Warfare*

- Dynastic War, 1494-1660
- States in Conflict, 1661-1763

Oxford History of Modern War:

- "Military Revolution II"
- "Battle: The Experience of Modern Combat"

Keegan, *Book of War*:

- Dunbar, Braddock
- Southey, Battle of Blenheim
- Campbell, Hohenlinden

### Nations at War

Keegan, *The Face of Battle*, "Waterloo"

Parker - *Cambridge Illustrated History of Warfare*

- Nations in Arms, 1763-1815

Oxford History of Modern War:

- "Nation in Arms I"
- "Technology and War I (to 1945)"

Online:

- "Napoleon's foreign policy as a criminal enterprise"

Keegan, *Book of War*:

- A Gentleman, Battle of Vittorio
- Victor Hugo, Russia 1812
- Wheeler, Letters of Private Wheeler
- Wellington, Dispatch from Waterloo

## Midterm Exam

### October 23rd

### The Long 19th Century

Parker - *Cambridge Illustrated History of Warfare*

- Industrialization of War, 1815-1871
- Towards World War, 1871-1914

Oxford History of Modern War:

- "Nation in Arms II"
- "Imperial Wars"
- "Sea Warfare"

Online:

- Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address]
- Gettysburg Address
- Apache Wars
- Surrender oration of Chief Joseph (in *Course Documents* main folder)

Keegan, *Book of War*:

- Bodell, A soldier's view of Empire
- Freemantle, The Freemantle Diary
- Stephen Crane, War is Kind

## **World War I**

Parker - *Cambridge Illustrated History of Warfare*

- The West at War

Keegan, *The Face of Battle*: "The Somme"

Oxford History of Modern War:

- "The Great War"
- "War and the People: The Social Impact of Total War"

Online:

- "Shell shock as a social disease"

Keegan, *Book of War*:

- Rommel, Infantry Tactics
- Rogerson, Twelve Days
- Glubb, A Soldier's Diary
- Sassoon, The General
- Owen, Anthem for a Dead Youth

## **World War II**

Parker - *Cambridge Illustrated History of Warfare*

- The World in Conflict, 1919-1941
- The World at War, 1941-1945

Oxford History of Modern War:

- "Second World War"
- "Air Warfare"

Keegan, *Book of War*:

- Orwell, Wounded
- Churchill, May 1940 Broadcast
- Stahlberg, Bounden Duty (2) and (3)
- Osmont, Normandy Diary
- Pyle, Battle of Normandy
- Lawrence, Bombing Nagasaki

## **Post-1945 Warfare:**

Parker - *Cambridge Illustrated History of Warfare*

- The Post-War World, 1945-2007

Keegan, *The Face of Battle*: "The Future of Battle"

Oxford History of Modern War:

- People's War
- Women and War
- Against War
- Technology and War II (since 1945)

Keegan, *Book of War*:

- Fenton, Fall of Saigon
- McNab, Bravo Two Zero

Online:

- "Killing is fun"
- "Explaining wartime rape"
- "Portraits of Mars" (critique of war movies)
- "War: Is it a 'Male thing'?" (in *Course Documents* main folder)
- History of Post-Combat Disorders