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## Political Science 279/479 War and the Nation-State

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### Hein Goemans

Harkness 320

Office Hours: Monday 4{5

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### Course Information:

Fall 2010

Thursday 16:50{19:30

Harkness 329

This course examines the development of warfare and growth of the state. In particular, we examine the phenomenon of war in its broader socio-economic context between the emergence of the modern nation-state and the end of World War II. Students are required to do all the reading. Student are required to make a group presentation in class on the readings for one class (25% of the grade), and there will be one big final (75%).

### *Course Requirements*

Participation and a presentation in the seminar comprises 25% of your grade. A final exam counts for 75%. The final exam is given during the period scheduled by the University. In particular instances, students may substitute a *serious* research paper for the final. Students interested in the research paper option should approach me no later than one week after the mid-term.

### *Academic Integrity*

Be familiar with the University's policies on academic integrity and disciplinary action (  
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### 3. On World War I

<http://www.duke.edu/~hgoemans/WWI.htm>

<http://www.lib.byu.edu/~rdh/wwi/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/war/wwone/index.shtml> and from there:

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/war/wwone/launch\\_ani\\_western\\_front.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/war/wwone/launch_ani_western_front.shtml)

### 4. On World War II

[http://dobi.as.webz.cz/m\\_dohoda\\_de.htm](http://dobi.as.webz.cz/m_dohoda_de.htm) (Munich Agreements 1938)

<http://www.duke.edu/~hgoemans/WWII.htm>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/war/wwtwo/index.shtml> and from there

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/war/wwtwo/launch\\_ani\\_campaign\\_maps.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/war/wwtwo/launch_ani_campaign_maps.shtml)

<http://orpheus.ucsd.edu/speccol/dspolitic/>

## Texts

I may make some minor tweaks in the syllabus during the semester, but the course largely builds on the following books which should be available in the bookstore or | cheaper | at Amazon.com. Since this is a long list, I list in bold books that you definitely should get.

1. **William H. McNeill, *The Pursuit of Power, Technology, Armed Force, and Society since A.D. 1000*, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1982**
2. Michael Howard. *War in European History*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, Paperback, 1976
3. **Hew Strachan, *European Armies and the Conduct of War*, Boston: Unwin Hyman, 1983**
4. Paul Kennedy, *The Rise and Fall of British Naval Mastery*, Atlantic Highlands, NJ: The Ashfeld Press, 1986
5. Paul Kennedy, *Strategy and Diplomacy*, London: Fontana Press, Paperback, 1989
6. Steven E. Miller, Sean M. Lynn-Jones, and Stephen Van Evera, eds., *Military Strategy and the Origins of the First World War, Revised and Expanded Edition*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1991
7. Akira Iriye, *The Origins of the Second World War in Asia and The Pacific*, New York: Longman, 1987
8. David Kennedy, *Over Here*, New York: Oxford University Press, 1980
9. **Alistair Horne, *The Price of Glory: Verdun 1916*, New York: Penguin Books, 1964**
10. Liddell Hart, *The Real War 1914{1918*, Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1964
11. Paul Fussell, *The Great War and Modern Memory*, New York: Oxford University Press, 1975
12. **Alan Clark, *Barbarossa: The Russian-German Conflict, 1941{45*, New York: William Morrow and Co., 1985**
13. **R. J. Overy, *Russia's War*, Penguin Books, New edition, 1998**
14. Schaefer, *Wings of Judgment*, New York: Oxford University Press, 1985

# Course Outline

Thursday September 2

## 1. Introduction

### General Themes

no class. annual convention of political science association

Thursday September 9

## 2. Background of the Napoleonic Wars

William H. McNeill, *The Pursuit of Power*, Chapters 3{5, pp.63-184

Michael Howard, *War in European History*, chapters 4{5, pp.54{93

Hew Strachan, *European Armies and the Conduct of War*, chapters 2{4, pp.8{59

### Optional:

Brian M. Downing, *The Military Revolution and Political Change, Origins of Democracy and Autocracy in Early Modern Europe*, Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1992, Chapters 3{5, pp.56{139

Thursday September 16

## 3. Nationalism and War

Clausewitz, *On War*, Books 1, 2 and 8.

R. R. Palmer, \Frederick the Great, Guibert, Bulow: From Dynastic to , Pric



# Causes of the World Wars

Thursday October 14

## 7. Causes of World War I Military Strategy

Michael Howard, "Men Against Fire: Expectations of War in 1914," in Miller, ed., *Military Strategy and the Origins of the First World War*, 2{19

Jack Snyder, "Civil-Military Relations and the Cult of the Offensive, 1914 and 1984," in Miller, ed., *Military Strategy and the Origins of the First World War*, 20{58

Stephen Van Evera, "The Cult of the Offensive and the Origins of the First World War," in Miller, ed., *Military Strategy and the Origins of the First World War*, 59{108

Scott D. Sagan, "1914 Revisited: Allies, Offense, and Instability," in Miller, ed., *Military Strategy and the Origins of the First World War*, 109{133

Marc Trachtenberg, "The Meaning of Mobilization in 1914," in Miller, ed., *Military Strategy and the Origins of the First World War*, pp.195-225

Terence Zuber, "The Schlieffen Plan Reconsidered." *War in History*, 1999 6(3),: 262-305

## Domestic Politics

Immanuel Geiss, "The Outbreak of the First World War and German War Aims," *Journal of Contemporary History*, Vol.1, No.3 (July 1966), pp.75{91

Eckart Kehr, "Anglophobia and Weltpolitik," in his *Economic Interest, Militarism and Foreign Policy*, pp.22{49

Thursday October 21

## 8. Causes of World War I Systemic Explanations

A. F. K. Organski, *World Politics*, Chapter 13

Robert Powell, "Stability and the Distribution of Power," in *World Politics*, Vol. 48 #2 (January 1996), pp.239{67

Edward D. Mansfield, "The Concentration of Capabilities and the Onset of War," *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, Vol. 36 No.1 (March 1992), pp.3{24.

R. Harrison Wagner, "Peace, War and the Balance of Power," *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 88(3) (September 1994), pp.593-607

Ludwig Dehio, *Germany and World Politics in the 20th Century*, Chapters 1-3

Dale C. Copeland. *The Origins of Major War*, Chapters 1{4, pp.1{117.

Thursday October 28

9. **Causes of World War II**  
**Versailles and its consequences**

Holger Herwig, "Clio Deceived, Patriotic Self-Censorship in Germany after the Great War," in Miller, ed., *Military Strategy and the Origins of the First World War*, pp.262-301

John Maynard Keynes, *The Economic Consequences of the Peace*, introduction, Chapter 6

**Deterring the Third Reich**

Kennedy, *The Rise and Fall of British Naval Mastery*, Chapter 10

Kennedy, *Strategy and Diplomacy*, Chapter 1

John Mearsheimer, *Conventional Deterrence*, Chapters 3-4

David Reynolds, "Churchill and the British 'Decision' to Fight on in 1940: Right Policy, Wrong Reasons," in Richard Langhorne, ed., *Diplomacy and Intelligence During the Second World War*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 1985, pp.147-167

**Deterring the Empire of the Rising Sun**

Akira Iriye, *The Origins of the Second World War in Asia and The Pacific*, entire book

## **Conduct of the World Wars**

Thursday November 4

10. **Conduct of World War I**  
**The Homefront**

David Kennedy, *Over Here*, prologue, Chapters 1, 2 and 6

Stephane Audoin-Rouzeau, *Men At War, 1914-1918, National Sentiment and Trench Journalism in France during the First World War*, Oxford: Berg, 1992.

**Attrition Warfare**

B. H. Liddell Hart, *The Real War 1914-1918*, entire book

John Keegan, *The Face of Battle*, Chapter 4

Alistair Horne, *The Price of Glory: Verdun 1916*, entire book

Thursday November 11

11. **Conduct of World War II**  
**The Ground War on the Eastern Front**

R. J. Overy, *Russia's War*, Penguin Books, New edition, 1998.

Or, alternatively:

Alan Clark, *Barbarossa: The Russian-German Conflict*, New York: William Morrow and Co., 1985.

Thursday November 18

**Conduct of World War II**  
**The Killing Machine and the Eastern Front**

Omar Bartov, "Soldiers, Nazis, and the War in the Third Reich,"



13. **Conduct of World War II**  
**War with Japan**

Randall Jarrell

"Death of the Ball Turret Gunner"

From my mother's sleep I fell into the State,  
And I hunched in its belly till my wet fur froze.  
Six miles from earth, loosed from its dream of life,  
I woke to black ruck and the nightmare fighters.  
When I died they washed me out of the turret with a hose.

Schaefer, *Wings of Judgment*, Chapters 2, 6{8

Kennedy, *Strategy and Diplomacy*, Chapter 7

**Optional:**

Iris Chang. *The Rape of Nanking*. New York: Penguin Books, c1997.

Of interested might be this "Nanking-denier": Masaaki, Tanaka. *What Really Happened in Nanking: The Refutation of a Common Myth*. Tokyo: Sekai Shuppan, 2000.

Hal Gold, *Unit 731 Testimony; Japan's Wartime Human Experimentation Program*. Tokyo: Yenbooks. 1996.

John W. Dower, *War Without Mercy; Race and Power in the Pacific War*, New York: Pantheon Books. 1987.

For racial attitudes check out:

[http://orpheus.ucsd.edu/speccol/okgyHi/c/.9552Tf293.7740Td64.533435\(T\)81\(o\)1\(ky4](http://orpheus.ucsd.edu/speccol/okgyHi/c/.9552Tf293.7740Td64.533435(T)81(o)1(ky4)

Gary Bass, "Jus Post Bellum" in *Philosophy & Public Affairs*, 32(4) (Fall 2004), pp.384{412.

G. John Ikenberry, *After Victory*. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press, 2001. Chapters 5 & 6, pp.117{214.

**Highly recommended:**

Erich Maria Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front*.

Robert Graves, *Good-Bye to All That*.

Ernest Hemingway, *Farewell to Arms*.

Sebastien Japrisot, *A Very Long Engagement*.

Saturday December 19 at 12:30

**Exam**

## Questions to consider in formulating and evaluating social science research

### 1. *What is the central question?*

Why is it important (theoretically, substantively)?

What is being explained (what is the dependent variable and how does it vary)?

How does this phenomenon present a puzzle?

### 2. *What is the central answer?*

What is doing the explaining (what are the independent variables and how do they vary)?

What are the hypotheses, i.e., what is the relationship between independent and dependent variables, what kind of change in the independent variable causes what kind of change in the dependent variable?

What are the causal mechanisms, i.e., why are the independent and dependent variables so related?

How do the independent variables relate to each other?

What assumptions does your theory make?

Is the theory falsifiable in concept?

What does this explanation add to our understanding of the question?

### 3. *What are the possible alternative explanations?*

What assumptions are you making about the direction of causality?

What other explanations might there be for the phenomenon of study, and to what degree do they conflict with the central answer?

Could the hypothesized relationships have occurred by chance?

### 4. *Why are the possible alternative explanations wrong?*

What is the logical structure of the alternative explanations (compare 2)?

What is the empirical evidence?

### 5. *What is the relationship between the theory and the evidence?*

What does the research design allow to vary, i.e., in this design are the explanations variables or constants?

What does your research design hold constant, i.e., does it help to rule out the alternative competing explanations?

How are the theoretical constructs represented empirically, i.e., how do you know it when you see it (measurement)?

### 6. *How do the empirical conclusions relate to the theory?*

How confident are you about the theory in light of the evidence?

How widely do the conclusions generalize, i.e., what might be the limitations of the study?

What does the provisionally accepted or revised theory say about questions of broader importance?