**GROSSMONT COLLEGE**

**COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD**

Curriculum Committee Approval: 05/18/2021

GCCCD Governing Board Approval: 06/15/2021

# **HISTORY 113 - AMERICAN MILITARY HISTORY**

1. **Course Number Course Title Semester Units**

HIST 113 American Military History 3

**Semester Hours**

3 hours lecture 48-54 total hours 96-108 outside-of-class hours 144-162 total hours

2. **Course Prerequisites**

None

**Corequisite**

None

**Recommended Preparation**

None

3. **Catalog Description**

This course introduces the student to military history of the United States from the colonial period to the present with emphasis on institutional, technological, social, political, cultural, and diplomatic contexts in times of peace and conflict. Major themes and coverage of noted wars will focus on three periods: colonial, continental expansion, and overseas expansion.

4. **Course Objectives**

The student will:

1. Analyze historical sources to formulate a purposeful historical thesis.
2. Explain relationships between causes of historical events and their effects.
3. Identify ways in which military institutions and missions have changed over time from the colonial period to the present.
4. Compare military developments in the United States with contemporaneous military developments in other countries.
5. Examine the theory and practice of war as a military strategy and policy.
6. Identify key persons in America’s military history.
7. Examine the contributions of key military history individuals to the major events and in the development of military institutions in periods of war and peace.
8. Explore the causes, conduct, and consequences of the major conflicts throughout American history and how they affected the American military.
9. Identify the relationship between technology and the military.
10. Analyze the relationship between military policies and activities and social groups and social change.
11. Explore the inter-relations of the military with issues of race and gender in U.S. history.
12. Discuss the transformation and evolution of the U.S. military from a citizen militia force to a 20th century global professional force.
13. Analyze and interpret maps, historical data and charts.

5. **Instructional Facilities**

Standard classroom

6. **Special Materials Required of Student**

None

7. **Course Content**

1. The Colonial Period (1607-1763)
2. Naval power and empires
3. Colonial militias
4. Native American military styles
5. Colonial wars against European powers and Native Americans
6. Wars of Empire
7. The American Revolution and the Early Republic (1763-1815)

Continental Army and militias

1. Foreign Diplomatic and Military Support
2. Early republic and the frontier
3. Conflicts with Native Americans
4. Conflict between Britain and France
5. Emergence of the institutional military
6. U.S. War Department
7. Role of Presidential Commander-in-Chief
8. Quasi Naval War with France
9. Creation of Department of Navy and U.S. Marines
10. Barbary Pirates in North Africa/Tripolitan War
11. West Point
12. American Military Operations in Gulf of Mexico
13. War of 1812
14. National Expansion (1815-1860)
15. American Military Operations in Caribbean
16. Seminole Wars in Spanish Florida
17. Native-American relocations
18. American and British Canada Border Issues – Caroline Affair
19. Texas Revolution (1836)
20. Mexican-American War
21. U.S. Navy in China and Japan
22. The Civil War (1861-65)
23. Armies of the North and the South
24. Civilian and military leadership
25. Military tactics, strategies, and organization
26. Impact of the war and Union blockade on civilian populations
27. Famous Battles – Bull Run, Shiloh, Gettysburg, Vicksburg, etc.
28. Famous Commanders – Grant, Lee, Sherman, Jackson, etc.
29. Role of women (administration, nursing, in the ranks and home front)
30. Immigrants and African-Americans
31. The economy and war
32. Internal dissent and resistance to military activity
33. The role of government in the Civil War.
34. The Post-Civil War Military (1865-1898)
35. The Frontier and Western Theater

2) Native American Wars – Battle of Little Bighorn, Sand Creek Massacre, etc.

1. U.S. Military Operations in the Pacific – Samoa, Hawaii
2. Emerging Empire and Global Mission (1898-1914)
3. Military intervention in Latin America, Asia, and the Pacific
4. Spanish-American War
5. Philippine insurrection
6. Mexico – Tampico Affair, Occupation of Vera Cruz
7. U.S. occupation of Haiti (1915-1934)

6) Emergence of air power, fleet modernization and other technologies

7) Organizational changes and reforms on the eve of World War I

1. World War I (1914-18)
2. The response to developments in Europe
3. Military and governmental mobilization for the war
4. Civilian population and the war
5. War production and military technologies
6. Propaganda, censorship, repression, and dissent; warfare in Europe and the Atlantic
7. Famous WWI battles of American participation – Belleau Wood, Meuse-Argonne offensive, etc.
8. Famous Commanders – John J. Pershing, etc.
9. Woodrow Wilson and the Treaty of Versailles
10. Military Policy Between Wars (1919-1939)
11. Isolation and demobilization
12. U.S. military involvement in Latin America and Asia
13. Neutrality and the response to developments in Asia and Europe
14. Preparations for war
15. Development of American Military Aviation
16. Naval Disarmament Treaties

j. World War II (1939-1945)

1. Government and the military (impact of the Roosevelt administration)
2. Impact of World War II on important groups in American society
3. Women, African-Americans, Japanese Americans, gays and lesbians, Latinos and other social groups
4. Industry, migration and the war—the rise of the sunbelt and the West
5. Foreign aid and assistance
6. Submarine and naval technologies, strategic bombing
7. Armored warfare, amphibious assault and other new forms of warfare
8. Strategies and tactics of the war
9. Atomic bomb
10. Famous Battle in European and Pacific Theaters – D-Day, Bulge, Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, etc.
11. Famous Commanders- Eisenhower, Patton, MacArthur, Bradley, Nimitz, etc.

k. The Cold War (1945-1991)

1. Rise of conflict between the Soviet Union and the United States
2. National Security Act of 1947, NSC-68 and the rise of a large peacetime military establishment
3. The draft and racial integration
4. Emergence of strategic nuclear forces
5. Third World conflicts, limited warfare, and clandestine operations, i.e. the role of the CIA
6. The Korean War
7. Vietnam and U.S. Involvement in Southeast Asia
8. Global strategies and threats, regional alliances
9. Foreign bases and deployment
10. World-wide mission of the military
11. Military uses of the space program

l. The Post-Cold War World (1991-present)

1. End of the Cold War
2. The SALT process and other treaties
3. The emergence of a professional military force
4. Social structure and composition of the military
5. Computers and other technologies and the military
6. U.S. military involvement in Middle East
7. The Gulf War, Bosnia and the Iraq War
8. Impact of terrorism

9) War in Afghanistan

10) U.S. Military involvement in Africa – Somalia, etc.

11) Future roles, missions and challenges of the American military

8. **Method of Instruction**

# Methods of instruction may include, but are not limited to:

# a. Lecture

# b. Discussion and interpretation of primary documents and/or historical topics

# c. Study guides or examination reviews

# d. Multi-media presentations

# e. Visual aids, such as PowerPoint slides, transparencies, video/DVDs, etc.

# f. Internet websites

# g. Guest speakers

h. Collaborative projects

i. Library resources: books, periodicals, databases, reference works, and internet resources

pertaining to American Military History

9. **Methods of Evaluating Student Performance**

a. Objective tests involving true or false questions, multiple choice, or multiple answer, mapping, or sequencing, which build on knowledge over modules.

b. Quizzes that assess module mastery and SLOs via multiple choice, multiple answer, t/f, sequencing, mapping, or short lists.

c. Oral and written reports on course material involving the use of primary and secondary source material to analyze topics, discuss cause and consequences, and demonstrate course level knowledge of relevant events and people.

d. Written essays based on prompts requirement students to discuss historical events in context, with reference to relevant individuals and case and consequences.

e. Group/Discussion activities involving the analysis of primary and secondary sources related to course material with an eye towards recognizing bias and presentism.

f. Research papers (6-8 pages minimum, 600 word minimum) on significant events, people, concepts, or socio-cultural developments understood within their historical context and demonstrating knowledge of changes over time and consequences.

g. Midterm and final exam with a strong writing (essay) component to assess students’ critical thinking skills as well as the course content. Other types of questions might include multiple choice, multiple answer, listing, defining, mapping, sequences, true/false, and short answer.

10. **Outside Class Assignments**

a. Prepare for an in-class essay of minimum 600 words about World War II by creating answers to sample essay questions, one of which will be asked in class. Preparation will involve reviewing evidence from lecture, discussions, readings and any supplemental materials to formulate a thesis in answer to the questions.

b. Prepare a research assignment outside of class, comparing and contrasting the interaction of government and the military during World War I and World War II, utilizing evidence from lecture, discussions, readings and any supplemental materials.

c. Conduct focused independent research and write a 6-8 page paper (minimum 600 words) on a famous and pivotal military battle of the student’s individual choice. The paper must demonstrate how their subjects relate to larger questions or themes in U.S. Military History.

d. Prepare for group discussions about the Vietnam War with each group focusing on different perspectives and experiences, such as noted leaders and tactics/strategies, utilizing evidence from course materials and independent research.

e. Library and internet research with multiple sources and websites.

f. Take-home exams.

11. **Representative Texts**

* 1. Representative Text(s):

1. Allison, William T., Jeffrey Grey, and Janet G. Valentine. American Military History: A Survey From Colonial Times to the Present. 2nd edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, 2012.
2. Lookingbill, Brad, ed. American Military History: A Documentary Reader. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.
3. Morris, James M. Readings in Military History Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, 2004.
4. Millett, Allan R., Maslowski, Peter and Feis, William B. For the Common Defense: A Military
5. **F**rantzman, Seth J. After ISIS: America, Iran, and the Struggle for the Middle East. Gefen Publishing, 2019.
6. Clemis, Martin G. The Control War: The Struggle for South Vietnam, 1968–1975. University of Oklahoma Press, 2018.
7. Gambone, Michael D. Long Journeys Home: American Veterans of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. Texas A&M University Press, 2017
8. Scully, Seanegan P. Contest for Liberty: Military Leadership in the Continental Army, 1775-1783.Westholme Publishing, 2019.
9. Oyos, Matthew. In Command: Theodore Roosevelt and the American Military.  
   University of Nebraska Press, 2018.
10. *Merriam- Webster Advanced Learner’s English Dictionary*. 9th Ed. 2016.

b. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

1. Herring, George C. *America’s Longest War: The United States and Vietnam, 1950-1975*. 6th ed. New York: John Wiley, 2020.
2. Frantzman, Seth J. After ISIS: America, Iran, and the Struggle for the Middle East. Gefen Publishing, 2019.
3. Clemis, Martin G. The Control War: The Struggle for South Vietnam, 1968–1975. University of Oklahoma Press, 2018.
4. Gambone, Michael D. Long Journeys Home: American Veterans of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. Texas A&M University Press, 2017
5. Scully, Seanegan P. Contest for Liberty: Military Leadership in the Continental Army, 1775-1783.Westholme Publishing, 2019.
6. Oyos, Matthew. In Command: Theodore Roosevelt and the American Military.  
   University of Nebraska Press, 2018.
7. Mikaberidze, Alexander. The Napoleonic Wars: A Global History.  
   Oxford University Press, 2020.
8. Sun Zi. *The Art of War: Sun Zi’s Military Tactics*. Columbia: Columbia University Press, 2009

**Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

1. Analyze primary and secondary sources and explain how they support a thesis statement
2. Explain relationships between the causes of historical events and their effects.
3. Describe a relevant individual involved in an historical event and explain his/her significance in this event.