Catalog Description: Analysis of the military history of the United States from the colonial period to the present. The course examines the development and use of the U.S. armed forces in the context of the social, cultural, political, economic, and technological development of the nation. It will not only examine such themes as leadership, combat operations, military technology, and strategy and tactics, but also the impact of warfare on society, civilian-military relations, foreign and domestic policy, and ordinary men and women in uniform. Prerequisite: Junior standing or instructor’s permission. Occasional offering.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior standing or instructor’s permission.

Text(s): The **required** text must be assigned and supplemented with a minimum of two **recommended** texts. Additional primary and secondary sources may be assigned as well. Most current editions of the following:

**Required:**


**Recommended:**


Other appropriate scholarly monographs may be assigned.

**Course Objectives:**
- To appreciate the American approach to warfare, the principle of civilian control of the military, and the evolution of military forces, strategies, doctrine, and tactics
- To explore the interrelationships between domestic events, foreign policy, and military policy
- To compare and contrast various historiographical perspectives on the American armed forces.

**Measurable Learning Outcomes**
- Describe the structure and employment of American military forces in each major period of American history.
- Analyze significant factors that shaped the evolution of American military forces.
- Explain the use of American military power within the context of domestic and global events.
- Differentiate the major objectives, campaigned, and outcomes of America’s wars.
- Describe the strategies and campaigns of military leaders as well as the tactics used in combat.
- Study the experiences of ordinary soldiers from their first-hand accounts.
- Analyze the factors contributing to American military successes and failures.
- Describe the influence of American society on its armed forces and the role of the military in government and society.
- Evaluate the strengths, weaknesses, and trends in the historiography of the American military.

**Topical Outline:**
Because the course represents an upper level history elective, it bears a distinctive responsibility for teaching advanced knowledge within the discipline. It must be distinguished as an advanced course by three structural components: extensive reading, intensive writing, and historiographical thinking. It must require advanced students to complete both in class and out of class projects (i.e., midterms, finals, team reports, quizzes, research papers). It must demand a minimum of 1,000 pages of required text reading, 1,000 words of type-written word, and a consideration of the range and variance of historical scholarship. Finally, it must develop student skills and abilities for researching diverse sources of knowledge and organizing findings.
through synthesis. The Colonial period and the American militia
- The Colonial period and the American militia
- The American Revolution
- Military policy and forces of the early republic
- Naval power and the War of 1812
- Westward expansion, the Mexican War, the Indian Wars
- The Civil War
- The Spanish American War – developing a global force
- Turn of the century reorganization and modernization
- America’s role in “The Great War”
- The development of mechanized warfare and air power
- World War II – strategies, campaigns and battles in global war
- Waging the Cold War – forward deployments, nuclear deterrence, alliances and containment
- Cold War hot spots – Korea, Vietnam, Cuba, Berlin, the Middle East, and the Third World
- Reshaping the post-Cold War military – the Gulf War, Afghanistan, Iraq and combating international terrorism.

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 35

Library Resources: Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

Prepared by: Brad Lookingbill

Date: April 1, 2005

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

Office of Academic Affairs
12/04