

## HISTORY 3573

### GUERRILLAS AND GUNSHIPS: THE ENDURING FACE OF WAR SINCE 1945

Fall 2021

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Paul Doerr

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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 2 to 4 pm or by appointment.

The nature of war has changed dramatically since 1945. Intra-state wars have largely replaced wars between states. Non-conventional warfare takes precedence over conventional warfare. New technologies have made war more destructive. The authority of the state in the conduct of organized violence is being challenged by liberation movements, terrorists and insurgents. This course explores these developments.

“War is a matter of vital importance to the State; the province of life or death; the road to survival or ruin. It is mandatory that it be thoroughly studied.” Sun Tzu, *The Art of War*.

“War provokes more muddled thinking than any human activity I know of.” General Hunter Liggett, 1928.

“The redeeming feature of war is that it puts a nation to the test.” Karl Marx.

“War, what is it good for? Absolutely nothing!” Edwin Starr, 1969.

This course makes use of e-mail, Acorn, Power-point and anti-plagiarism software.

#### **TEXTS:**

Jeremy Black, *War Since 1945*. Students are **strongly** advised to read this over the duration of the course. Tutorial readings will be posted to Acorn.

#### **COURSE SCHEDULE:**

September 8: Course introduction

September 10: Global Politics since 1945 – an overview

September 13: Global Politics since 1945 cont'd

September 15: Early guerrilla theory

September 17: Mao 101

September 20: The Korean War

September 22: The Korean War cont'd

September 24: **First film quiz**

September 27: The First Indochina War

September 29: The Second Indochina War

October 1: **First Tutorial** – Revolutionary Movements. Readings will be posted on Acorn and will include excerpts from Che Guevara's *Guerrilla Warfare* and Mao's *On Guerrilla Warfare*.

October 4: The Second Indochina War cont'd.

October 6: The Trouble with Terrorism

October 8: **Second film quiz.**

October 11: Thanksgiving holiday – no class

October 13: The Trouble with Terrorism cont'd.

October 15: **Second Tutorial:** Terrorism (Readings from Charles Townshend *Terrorism: A Very Short Introduction*).

October 18: British Counter-Insurgency: Kenya and Malaya

October 20: French Counter-Insurgency: Algeria

October 22: **Third Tutorial:** Counter-Insurgency. Two readings: Paul Dixon, (2009) 'Hearts and Minds'? *British Counter-Insurgency from Malaya to Iraq*, *Journal of Strategic Studies*, 32:3, 353-381 and Jeffrey Grey, *Malaya, 1948-1960: Defeating Communist Insurgency*.

October 25, 27 and 29: Fall study break – no classes.

November 1: COIN Theorists

November 3: Nuclear Strategy part one.

November 5: **Third film quiz.**

November 8: Nuclear Strategy cont'd.

November 10: Conventional Warfare: The Mid-East Laboratory

November 12: **Fourth film quiz.**

November 15: Conventional Warfare: The Mid-East Laboratory cont'd.

November 17: Conventional Warfare: The Falklands

November 19: Afghanistan

November 22: Iran vs Iraq, 1980-88 and the lead up to the Longest War.

November 24: The Longest War: 9-11, Afghanistan and Iraq

November 26: The Longest War Part Two. **ESSAYS DUE!**

November 29: **Fourth Tutorial:** Advice to a Rogue State (Reading is from M. Gordon and B. Trainor, *Cobra II: The Inside Story of the Invasion and Occupation of Iraq*, New York, 2006.)

December 1: The Longest War, Part Three.

December 3: **Fifth Tutorial:** The Escalation Ladder (Readings TBA)

December 6: **Fifth film quiz**

## **COURSE GRADING:**

Written tutorial assignments (five, worth 5% each): 25%. These will be done via Acorn.

Film quizzes (five, worth 2% each): 10%. These also will be done via Acorn.

Essay, due November 26: 30%

Final exam: 35%

Students are reminded that plagiarism is a serious academic offense. Plagiarism will result in an automatic failing grade, possibly for the whole course. See the Acadia University Academic Calendar (Academic Integrity) for details.

Additional course resources:

*Encyclopedia of Conflicts Since World War Two*, Four volumes, D 843.E46 REF

*Encyclopedia of Guerrilla War*, U 240 B43 REF

*Cold War History*, (journal).

*Small Wars and Insurgencies*, (journal).

**Essay:**

Your essay must be typed, double spaced with numbered pages and a title page. Times New Roman font size 12 is highly recommended.

Footnotes (or endnotes) are mandatory, as is a bibliography which will have a minimum of 7 sources.

Length: 2000 to 2400 words **exclusive of footnotes and bibliography**. Use modified Chicago or Turabian style for your footnotes/endnotes.

All written work for this course will be grammatically competent and appropriate to a third-year university level.

A list of suggested essay topics will be circulated.

Late penalties: 5 % per day. Essays will not be accepted past the date of the final exam.