

Winthrop University

Department of History

History 603-001 CRN 148426: America At War

Fall 2018 Wednesday 6:30-9:15 Bancroft 371

Instructor: Dr. Edward Lee

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Credits: 3 graduate hours

Office: Bancroft: 364

Office Hours: M/W 12:00-2:00
and by appointment

Scope Of Course

This graduate course examines the reasons that our nation has entered combat from the American Revolution to the War On Terrorism. Are wars , as Thucydides wrote more than 2000 years ago in his study of the Peloponnesian war, caused by honor, fear, and interest? Or are wars far more complex? Among the questions which we will consider this semester are: Was use of arms justified? How did combatants deal with battle? What were the effects on people back home? Why do wars continue? Can we not establish a lasting peace? Much emphasis will be placed on the Twentieth Century, beginning with World War I.

Course Requirements

A successful performance in History 603 requires completion of several tasks. After consulting with Dr. Lee, read and review a non-fiction book appropriate for History 603. This review is due on 9/26 and is worth 25% of the course grade. Book Review Instructions are attached and will be discussed with you during our orientation. Conduct an hour long interview with someone effected by war. Record, transcribe, and edit this interview. Supplement the interview with illustrations and documents. Beginning on 11/7, be prepared to share with your classmates some of your findings. These presentations should last a minimum of fifteen minutes each, and this project is worth 25% of your semester grade. All students will read and review Max Boot's The Road Not Taken. This review, worth 25% of your grade, is due 10/24. A final essay exam is required on 12/5 at 6:30. This exam is worth 25% of your semester grade.

Goals

This course allows all students to research, read, write, assess, and present. The requirements are designed to fulfill our Student Learning Outcomes because of their emphasis on critiquing historical literature, sharing research with classmates, and presenting findings to the class.

The Instructor

Dr. Edward Lee has taught at the university level for thirty-three years. He is the author of two books on the Vietnam War and frequently comments on and writes about a wide range of historical topics. He is the director of our department's graduate program.

Students With Disabilities

Dr. Lee will readily accommodate students with disabilities. If you have a disability and need accommodations, please contact the Office of

Accessibility (Third Floor Bancroft Annex) 323-3290, as soon as possible.
That office will coordinate accommodations with Dr. Lee.

Course Schedule

8/22 Orientation
8/29 American Revolution
9/5 1812, 1846-1848
9/12 Civil War
9/19 1898, World War I
9/26 Book Review I
10/3 WWI and World War II
10/10 WW II and the Korean War
10/17 Vietnam War and the Cold War
10/24 Review of The Road Not Taken
10/31 Research Day
11/7 Interviews due and presentations begin
11/14 Interviews continue
11/21 Thanksgiving
11/28 War On Terrorism
12/5 Final Exam, 6:30

Welcome To America At War!