1. This request is submitted by the Department of History.

2. Course prefix, number and complete title of course: HIST 646, Readings in Military History

3. Catalog Course description (not to exceed 50 words): Selected topics and themes in military history; preparation for and conduct of war in different nations and among different peoples; social and cultural changes caused by military conflicts; developments in leadership, technology, military institutions, and civil-military relations. May be taken three times as content varies.

4. Prerequisite(s): Approval of instructor and Director of Graduate Studies; graduate classification

5. Is this a variable credit course? No

6. Is this a repeatable course? Yes

7. Has this course been taught as a 489/689? No

8. This course will be:
   a. required for students enrolled in the following degree program(s) (e.g., B.A. in history)
   b. an elective for students enrolled in the following degree program(s) (e.g., M.S., Ph.D. in geography)

9. If other departments are teaching or are responsible for related subject matter, the course must be coordinated with these departments. Attach approval letters.

10. Prefix | Course # | Title (excluding punctuation) | Lect. | Lab | SCH | CIP and Fund Code | Admin. Unit | Acad. Year | FICE Code | Level | Date

   HIST 646 | Readings in Military History | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 3-23-09

   Approved recommended by:
   [Signature]
   Department Head - Type Name & Sign
   Date: 3/10/09

   Chair, College Review Committee
   Date: 3/23-09

   Dean of College
   Date: 5/14-09

   Dean of College
   Date: 4/14/09

   Submitted to Coordinating Board by:
   [Signature]
   Date:

   Effective Date:

   Questions regarding this form should be directed to Sandra Williams at 845-8201 or sandra.williams@tamu.edu
History 646
Readings in Military History

Professor Joseph Dawson
Office: 201A History Building
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Office phone: 845-7182

Office Hours: to be announced & by appointment

History 646 offers an opportunity to read, discuss, and analyze selected works in the field of military history. Required Readings may include historiographical surveys as well as studies of theory, doctrine, strategy, and operations. Students will read and review selected works, using a review format found in several history journals. The student is also required to meet periodically with the professor to discuss assigned works. An end-of-term paper rounds out the assignments.

Prerequisites: Approval of instructor and Director of Graduate Studies; graduate classification.

Course Objectives: The course objectives are for students to recognize and address the differences in interpretations of leading authors in military history. Also: to know and use format of writing reviews likely to be used in history journals; demonstrate the capability of writing an analytical paper assessing, comparing and contrasting authors' theses and conclusions.

Required Readings in sequence:


Week 8: Baer, George. One Hundred Years of Sea Power: U.S. Navy, 1890-1990 (1994)


**Discussions:** Discussions will be held regularly during the term. Percent of Final Grade: 30%.

**Reviews:** Each student will submit a written review of each required book, book chapter, and journal article. Each review will be between 600 words for journal articles and 800 words for books, including the bibliographic heading. The professor will specify each review's length at the time of the assignment. On a cover page for each review, students need to list their name, History 646, and the word count of the review. Percent of Final Grade: 50%.

**Final Paper:** An end-of-term historiographical paper of no less than 3,000 words of text will survey the assignments and draw conclusions about the persuasiveness of the authors of Required Readings. Separate from the text, end notes will be double spaced at the end of the paper. Percent of Final Grade: 20%.

**Grading Scale** (percentages):

- 90-100: A
- 80-89: B
- 70-79: C
- 60-69: D
- 59 and below: F

**Disabilities:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Office of Support Services for Students with Disabilities in Room B-118 Cain Hall (845-1637).

**Plagiarism:** Academic Integrity: "An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do." You are expected to be aware of the Aggie Honor Code and the Honor Council Rules and Procedures, stated at [http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor](http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor).
Selected References:


**Significant Theorists:**


Jomini, Antoine Henri. *Summary of the Art of War*. Trans. and ed., G. H. Mendell and W. P. Craighill (1862; reprint, 1971). (Jomini opens his book by writing that war and statesmanship are related, pp.13-15. See military spirit of a nation/morale, pp. 60-61; on Napoleon, p. 23; concept of a people in arms, p. 32; relying on military professionals to lead the nation in war, pp. 34-35; "A fine retreat [is] . . . equal to a great victory," p. 63; war is not an exact science, p. 344; "War is always to be conducted according to great principles of war," p. 15; "orders of battle" equal geometric maneuvers vital to good generalship and can be means of conducting scientific battles, pp. 188-203; stressing that relying on principles and carefully orchestrated maneuvers will probably produce certain desired results, p. 333; critical of Clausewitz for stressing battle over maneuver, p. 178). [Note the alternate English translation by O. F. Winship and E. E. McLean, 1854).

Sun Tzu. *The Art of War*. Trans. by Samuel B. Griffith. Based on Griffith's translation: War is a matter of vital importance to the State," p. 63; "All warfare is based on deception," p. 60; "In war, numbers alone confer no advantage. Do not advance relying on sheer military power," p. 122; 'What is supremely important in war is to attack the enemy's strategy," p. 77; "To subdue the enemy without fighting is the acme of skill," p. 77; "To capture the enemy army is better than to destroy it," p. 77; "A victorious army [or navy?] wins its victories before seeking battle; an army destined to defeat fights in the hope of winning," p. 87.)