

Historical Studies 483

Instructor: Dr. John Ferris
Office: SS 640
Telephone: 220-6407
E-mail: ferris@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: TBA
Class Times: T/R, 1100-1215 hours
Location

University of Calgary
2009-2010 Academic Year
Fall Session

The First World War

This course will study The First World War, the most significant event in modern history. In thematic terms, it will pay roughly equal attention to diplomatic and strategic, military, and social and political issues, and also will devote some attention to economic and cultural matters. In particular, the course will consider the interactions between military, social, economic and scientific spheres, and the real meaning of the idea, "total war".

Students are advised to examine the Department of History's Essay Guide, available both from the Department and on its webpage. These documents outline the Department's stance on plagiarism and the technicalities of the citation of sources; they also offer useful advice as regards the writing of term papers.

Students are required to consult the instructor before they select the topic for their term paper. **When term papers are submitted, students must also submit copies of their notes and at least one draft for this paper. Until this is done, no grades will be assigned for the course.** Term papers should be a minimum of 4000 words in length, be drawn from some or all of the most important works relevant to the topic, and make use of a substantial number of different sources (at a minimum, five monographs, or the equivalent in academic articles, roughly treating three articles as the equivalent of a book). The word "minimum" does not mean that such an effort will gain a grade of "A", it merely is enough to show that you have made a serious effort. In past experience, most "A" and many "A-" papers will be greater in length and research than the minimum figures listed here, though of course a short and good paper always will do better than a long and bad one.

In their term papers, students are expected to make use of academic articles, which often provide the best or most accessible treatment of important matters. Students easily can find relevant articles through compilations such as Historical Abstracts and American Life, accessible through the University Library webpage; these compilations also have useful search engines. If one selects one's term paper topic quickly, one also can expand one's access to material by making use of Inter-Library Loan facilities. Articles on The First World War may be found in hundreds of other periodicals, noted and obscure, and on the internet. Before students use any internet based source for a term paper, they must discuss the matter with me in advance, and give me hard copies of whatever material they intend to use, and the address of the website. While many authentic, useful and otherwise difficult to acquire documents and secondary works are available on the internet, many websites are also doubtful in value; simply because something can be accessed does not make it authoritative. Websites of value to this course include **First World War.com** <http://www.firstworldwar.com/> ; **World War One-- Trenches on the Web**, <http://www.worldwar1.com/> ; **The World War I Document Archive**, <http://www.lib.byu.edu/~rdh/wwi/> ; **War and Conflict-World War One**, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/war/wwone/> and **Canada and the First World War**, <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/firstworldwar/index-e.html>

Grades and assignments for the course are as follows:

Term Paper -- due Thursday, 1 November, 2009 50% of course grade
(I have a reasonably liberal attitude toward extensions, so long as students ask in advance and not for too much).

Midterm Exam: Thursday, 15 October, 2009_ 25% of course grade

Final Exam -- scheduled by Registrar 25% of course grade

Certain lectures have a “class discussion” component, and are linked to special readings. No grades are assigned for participation in these discussions, though I encourage everyone to use of the opportunity. These classes readings are marked “ * “.

Lectures in the course follow this structure, roughly speaking:

1. Introduction
2. Diplomacy and Strategy: The Origins of the War
3. 1914-17: A Diplomatic and Strategic Overview
4. The War at Sea
5. The Blockade and The World Economy
6. War on Land: The Western Front
7. War on Land: The Eastern Front.
8. The Middle East: War, Nationalism and Imperialism
9. War and Society: State, Society, Science ,Business and “Total War” *
10. War and Society: Serving on the Front
11. War and Society: Medicine, Psychiatry, Death and Mutilation
11. War and Society: The Home Front *
12. The First World War: Africa, Asia and Latin America. *
13. The First World War and Canada
- 14 .1918.
15. 1918-19: War, Revolution, Nationalism, Imperialism and Aftermath
16. War and Remembrance.

The textbook is: Hew Strachan, **The First World War** (Viking, 2003)

A set of supplementary readings address specific aspects of the course. They may be found through the electronic resources of the Library, via Historical Abstracts (and in many cases, also in the periodicals section of the Library). They will feature in discussions on specific aspects of the course, and in questions on examinations

For Lecture 9.

Andrew J. Hull, “Food for Thought?: The Relations between the Royal Society Food Committees and Government, 1915-19”, Annals of Science, 59, 2002, pp. 263-98.

Jeffery Allen Johnson, “Chemical Warfare in the Great War” Minerva, 40, 2002, pp. 93-106.

Paul Lerner, “Psychiatry and Casualties of War in Germany, 1914-1918”, The Journal of Contemporary History, 35/1, 1.00, pp. 13-28.

Willian Van Der Koot, “April 1915: Five Future Nobel Prize-Winners Inaugurate Weapons of Mass Destruction and the Academic-Industrial-Military Complex”, Notes of the Royal Society of London, 58/2, 2004, pp. 149-160.

For Lecture 11: (a)

Susan R. Grayzel, "The Outward and Visible Sign of her Patriotism: Women, Uniforms, and National Service During the First World War", Twentieth Century British History, 8/2, 1997, 145-64.

Lucy Noakes, "Gender, War and Memory: Discourse and Experience in History", The Journal of Contemporary History, 36/4, 10.01, pp 663-72

Melissa K. Stockdale, "My Death for the Motherland is Happiness": Women, Patriotism, and Soldiering in Russia's Great War, 1914-1917", American Historical Review, 2.04, pp 78-116

Susan Pyecroft, "British Working Women and the First World War", The Historian, 56/4, pp. 699-711

Paul Ward, "'Women of Britain Say Go': Women's Patriotism in the First World War", Twentieth Century British History, 12/1/, 2001, pp 23-45.

For Lecture 11: (b)

Keith Allen, "Sharing Scarcity: Bread Rationing and the First World War in Berlin, 1914-1923", The Journal of Social History, 32/2/. pp 371-404.

Martyn Lyons, "French Soldiers and Their Correspondence" Towards a History of Writing Practices in the First World War", French History, 17/1, 2003, pp 79-95.

Christoph Nonn, "Oh What a Lovely War? German Common People and the First World War", German History, 18/1, 200, pp 97-111

Richard A. Voeltz, "The Antidote to 'Khaki Fever'? The Expansion of the British Girl Guides during the First World War", The Journal of Contemporary History, 27, 1992, pp. 627-38.

Angela Woolacott, "'Khaki Fever' and its Control: Gender, Class, Age and Sexual Morality on the British Homefront in the First World War", The Journal of Contemporary History, 29, 1994, pp. 325-347.

For Lecture 12:

Michael Adas, "Contested Hegemony: The Great War and the Afro-Asian Assault on the Civilizing Mission Ideology", The Journal of World History, 15/1, 2004, pp. 31-63

Joe Lunn, "'Les Races Guerrieres': Racial Preconceptions in the French Military about West African Soldiers during the First World War", The Journal of Contemporary History, 34/4, 10.99, pp 517-36.

Tan Tai-Yong, "An Imperial Home-Front: Punjab and the First World War", The Journal of Military History, 64 (4. 00, pp 371-410

Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it's not.

As noted in the *Department of History Guide to Essay Presentation*, plagiarism may take several forms:

- (a) Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, ideas, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- (b) Borrowed, purchased, and / or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- (c) Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works. The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. A plagiarized paper will automatically be failed. Plagiarism may also result in a failing grade for the entire course and other penalties as noted in *The University of Calgary Calendar*.

Safewalk/Campus Security: 220-5333

Emergency Evacuation

Assembly Points have been identified across campus in case of an emergency evacuation. Should an emergency occur, our class would assemble at the Social Sciences Food Court. See the following link for a complete list of assembly points:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>