

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: HIST 313		Number of Credits: 4 Course credit policy (105)													
Course Full Title: War and Society in the Ancient and Medieval West Course Short Title: War in Ancient & Medieval West															
Faculty: Faculty of Humanities		Department (or program if no department): History													
Calendar Description: Examines the development of warfare in the ancient and medieval West. Considers technical and tactical innovations as they pertain to land and sea warfare, and emphasizes how war was shaped by social, cultural, and political contexts.															
Prerequisites (or NONE):		9 credits of lower-level history or 45 university-level credits.													
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):		None.													
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):		None.													
Antirequisite Courses <i>(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)</i> Former course code/number: Cross-listed with: Equivalent course(s): <i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>		Course Details Special Topics course: No <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i> Directed Study course: No <i>(See policy 207 for more information.)</i> Grading System: Letter grades Delivery Mode: May be offered in multiple delivery modes Expected frequency: Every other year Maximum enrolment (for information only): 30													
Typical Structure of Instructional Hours <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Lecture/seminar</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total hours</td> <td>60</td> </tr> </table>		Lecture/seminar	60									Total hours	60	Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) PLAR is available for this course. Yes	
Lecture/seminar	60														
Total hours	60														
Scheduled Laboratory Hours Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		Transfer Credit <i>(See bctransferguide.ca.)</i> Transfer credit already exists: No Submit outline for (re)articulation: No <i>(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)</i>													
Department approval		Date of meeting: March 2023													
Faculty Council approval		Date of meeting: May 5, 2023													
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval		Date of meeting: December 15, 2023													

Learning Outcomes *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze key components in European military history from Antiquity to the Middle Ages with particular emphasis placed on the varied relationship between warfare and socio-political developments across the period and region studied.
2. Debate themes and issues related to the development of warfare as a cultural and professional pursuit.
3. Articulate historical debates on the subject and the interdisciplinary methods used to resolve them in a context of limited written records.
4. Explain the importance of context, evidence, perspective, and research in the study of history, with a particular emphasis on the problem of source availability and interpretation for premodern subject matter.
5. Employ multiple sources, both primary and secondary in support of an historical argument.
6. Write using historical conventions and consciousness while recognizing the interdisciplinary nature of pre-modern research.

Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Final exam:	25%	Assignments:	75%	%
	%		%	%

Details:

Assignments (75%): 10% summary of sources that address the problems of doing pre-modern military history; 25% book review; 40% main research paper (with proposal): this can be submitted as a work of historical fiction with an attached commentary on the historical context and sources used, or as a standard research paper.

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Texts and Resource Materials *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. [Open Educational Resources](#) (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the [Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form](#).)*

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1. Textbook	Nicholson, Helen	Medieval Warfare	2003
2. Textbook	Lendon, J.E.	Soldiers and Ghosts	2006
3. Article	Various	Current online academic articles	
4.			
5.			

Required Additional Supplies and Materials *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)*

None

Course Content and Topics

- Course introduction: what is military history?
- The meaning of "war" and its origins; problems with sources
- The chariot and near eastern warfare to the Persians
- The warring city states: warfare in archaic and classical Greece
- The Macedonians and the Hellenistic period
- Rome: the evolution of the Roman Army – from clans to cohort
- Rome: the social and economic origins of the Legions – from citizen to professional
- The "barbarization" of the Empire or the Romanization of the Germans? Influences on the post-Roman West
- Who fought in the Middle Ages?
- The "feudal system" and the triumph of the knight: myths and realities
- Siege warfare and innovation in war technologies: engineering and firepower
- Infantry resurgent: the re-discovery of discipline
- France and the state: the first "modern" army?