



**HIS386: The Military & War
in America (CID 4527)**

3 credit hours

MWF: 11:00-11:50 am

Fall 2007

AB4 Room 307

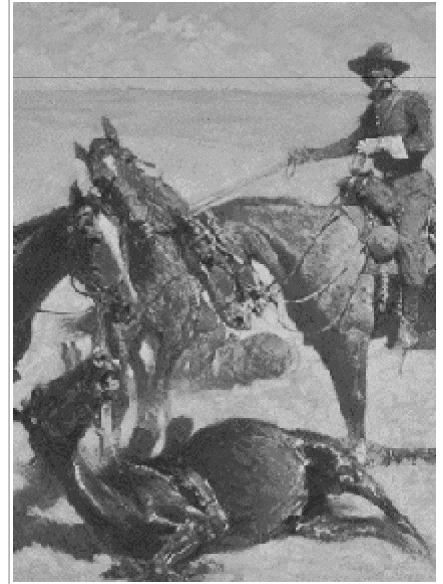
Dr. Susannah U. Bruce

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**Office Hours: MWF 12-1pm,
Fridays 9-10 am, 12-1 pm & by
appointment**



[Click here to jump to the "Schedule of Lecture Topics and Readings"](#)
[Click here for your Exam #3 Review Sheet](#)

Course Description:

This course is a survey of the American military experience from the Colonial period to the present, emphasizing the growth of the military institution and the relationship between that institution and American society. Credit 3. Due to the significant time-span and subject matter covered in this course and my areas of expertise, eighteenth and nineteenth-century American conflicts will be the focus of this course. The twentieth-century American wars will be covered, but not with as great of detail.

Course Requirements:

Students will enhance their understanding of American military history by attending lectures regularly, completing reading assignments and writing a short paper based on the readings in this course. There will be four examinations with multiple choice, mapping, and chronology questions, as well. The writing assignment will be an analysis of a particular commander or participant (to be approved by me) and his role in a battle covered in our readings. This will be a 4-6 page brief summary of this individual's role in the fighting, supported by endnotes to support the evidence and/or arguments you present (endnotes must follow Chicago Manual of Style), and a bibliography (also following Chicago Manual of Style).

Required Textbooks:

Center for Military History. *American Military History*. Washington, D.C.: Center for Military History, 1989. This is FREE online at <http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/books/AMH/AMH-toc.htm>

Chambers and Piehler, eds., *Major Problems in American Military History: Documents and Essays*. Houghton Mifflin, 1998. (Paperback)

I may assign additional small assignments from additional sources, usually found free online, throughout the semester.

OFFICE HOURS:

I hold regular office hours on MWF from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm, and starting Sept. 14, most Fridays from 9-10am as well. I am also available by appointment--in person or by phone. I strongly encourage you to come see me during these times to discuss any questions you might have about the class, study methods, and history in general. **NOTE: The moment you sense that you are falling behind, PLEASE come see me. The sooner we discuss the problem the sooner you can get back on track, and the better you'll do in the class.** If you just have a quick question and don't have time to stop by my office, you can always email me at sbruce@shsu.edu

EXAMINATIONS:

There will be four examinations in this class, each worth 100 points. They will generally follow a format of multiple choice, mapping, and chronology. For every exam you will need a [Scantron Form No. 882-E or 882-ES](#) and a #2 pencil.

One week before each examination, I will post a review sheet to guide your studies at the top of the syllabus and in the "Schedule of Readings and Lectures."

MAKE-UP EXAMS: If you miss a test due to illness or family emergency, you must have documentation of your absence, such as a doctor's note, and then you will make-up the exam(s) on the last Friday of the semester, December 7, 2007.

WRITING ASSIGNMENT -- Each student is required to write a 4-6 page brief summary of this individual's role in the fighting, supported by endnotes to support the evidence and/or arguments you present (endnotes must follow Chicago Manual of Style), and a bibliography (also following Chicago Manual of Style).

REMEMBER:

- The individual you choose to study must have participated in a battle we discuss in class or cover in our readings.
- I strongly encourage you to consider one of the commanders, on either side, at the Battle of San Jacinto. You will have an opportunity this semester to participate in a detailed study of this battlefield by walking the ground and discussing the decisions commanders made during the fighting. If this interests you, I encourage you to read the recommended sources on this battle that I will be posting in the first month of the semester.
- Your paper is limited to 1000-1500 words (4-6 pages--enforced maximum)
- Your paper will include endnotes and a bibliography (which are not included in the 4-6 page limitation and each of which start on a separate page with a heading--Endnotes or Bibliography).
- When writing you should always work to be clear and concise, and make sure your spelling and grammar is accurate. Any paper that has spelling and grammatical errors automatically drops to a C, and may lose more points for other mistakes.
- When you quote from, refer directly to one of these works, or paraphrase material located there, use an endnote to cite your reference (*Chicago Manual of Style*, 15th Edition; or see the *Turabian Guide*). Both are available in the SHSU Newton Gresham Library and online via the online catalog.
- Your paper should include a separate title page that includes title, author (you), class, date, my name

- You may use Arial or Times New Roman 12 pt font, and your margins must be 1" all around.
- Number all of your pages
- **This assignment is due in my office by Monday, Nov. 19, 2007 by 5:00 pm**

COURSE GRADING:		GRADING SCALE:	
First Exam:	100 points	A	90%-100% or 448-500 points
Second Exam:	100 points	B	80%-89% or 398-447 points
Third Exam:	100 points	C	70%-79% or 348-397 points
Fourth Exam:	100 points	D	60%-69% or 298-347 points
Paper:	100 points	F	59%-0% or 297-0 points
Total Points Possible	500 points		

ASSISTANCE WITH LEARNING:

Before we go any further, I'd like to encourage you again to contact me and/or the [SAM Center](#) (Student Advising & Mentoring Center) as soon as you find yourself confused by the material we're reading and discussing or if you're falling behind on your work. Some of you may wish to work with the [SAM Center](#) even if you're doing well, but wish to do better. They are "a resource dedicated to helping students adjust to academic life at Sam Houston State University. Services available include career testing, aid with time management and/or study skills," and *much* more. These services are available to you as an SHSU student, and I encourage you to take advantage of them.

The [SAM Center](#) is located in room 210 in Academic Building IV, which is south of the Lee Drain Building at the corner of Avenue I and Bowers Blvd. You may contact them to make an appointment at SAMCenter@shsu.edu or by telephone (936) 294-4444.

My office is in AB4 room 455 and my office hours are listed above. **Don't forget that while I will not do the work for you, I am dedicated to doing all I can to help you learn history and excel in this class, so be sure to contact me the minute you feel yourself falling behind or failing to meet your expectations in this course.**

Schedule of Lecture Topics and Readings

These reading assignments are structured to correspond to the lectures to best assist you in understanding the subjects being discussed. The topics and reading schedule may be adjusted to accommodate the pace of this course. Outlines for lectures and study questions for documentaries (which you **do not** have to turn in, but should use to help you remember the material that will appear on exams) are posted via links below

Week	Lecture Topics	Reading Assignment	Exams / Important Dates
Week of	Introduction/Why Study Military History?	AMH, Intro and Chap. 1	

Aug. 20	America's Colonial Wars: Lecture Outline	¹ , <i>MP</i> Chap. 1	
Week of Aug. 27	Road to Revolution Lecture Outline The American Revolution, 1775-1777 Lecture Outline	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 2 <i>MP</i> Chap. 2	
Week of Sept. 3	Mon., Sept. 3 = Labor Day Holiday--No Class The American Revolution, 1775-1777 Lecture Outline	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 3 <i>MP</i> Chap. 3	
Week of Sept. 10	The American Revolution, 1777-1783 Lecture Outline	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 4	Exam #1 on Friday of this week Review Sheet
Week of Sept. 17	Federalist Military Policy The War of 1812	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 5-6 <i>MP</i> Chap. 4	
Week of Sept. 24	The War of 1812 Early Republic Indian Wars Mexican War	Read these two articles on James Madison and the War of 1812 "Timid President? Futile War?" "If Only Mr. Madison had Waited" <i>AMH</i> , Chap. 7-8 <i>MP</i> Chap. 5	
Week of Oct. 1	The Union in Crisis	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 8	
Week of Oct. 8	Election of Lincoln and Fort Sumter	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 9	Exam #2 on Friday of this week Review Sheet
Week of Oct. 15	Election of Lincoln and Fort Sumter	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 9-10	
Week of Oct. 22	The American Civil War: Battle of First Manassas Battle of Hampton Roads Civil War 1861-1862	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 9-10	
Week of Oct. 29	Civil War 1862-1863 (incl. mil signif of emancip.) Civil War 1864-1865	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 11-12 <i>MP</i> Chap. 6	
Week of Nov. 5	Indian Wars Spanish-American War	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 13-14 <i>MP</i> Chap. 7	
			Exam #3 on

Week of Nov. 12	Indian Wars Spanish-American War	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 15-16 <i>MP</i> Chap. 8	Friday of this week Review Sheet
Week of Nov. 19	World War I Rise of Nazi Germany Rise of Imperial Japan Thanksgiving Holiday -- No class on Wed. or Fri.	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 17-20 <i>MP</i> Chap. 9-10	Writing Assignment is due this Monday, Nov. 19, 2007 by 5 pm in my office
Week of Nov. 26	U.S. and World War II in Europe U.S. and World War II in the Pacific The Cold War	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 21-23 <i>MP</i> Chap. 11-12	
Week of Dec. 3	The Korean War The Vietnam War	<i>AMH</i> , Chap. 24-28 <i>MP</i> Chap. 13-15	Fri., Dec. 7 = Make-up Exam Day at regular class time and location--must have my approval to take this
Week of Dec. 10	Final Exam Schedule (scroll down)	Review Sheet for Exam #4	Final Exam is in our regular classroom, 307, on Wed., Dec. 12 at 11:00 am

COURSE POLICIES

NOTE: Student enrollment in this course confirms that you have read and accepted the following policies.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on the exam, paper, or project; failure in the course; and/or expulsion from the university. The SHSU Student Guidelines academic honesty policy states:

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

See <http://www.shsu.edu/students/guide.html>

Please read Jules Benjamin's (A Student's Guide to History) [discussion of plagiarism](#) as well for further clarification

Classroom Rules of Conduct:

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts

the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins. Students are prohibited from using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy. The Code of Student Conduct and Discipline is found at the following link: <https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html> Section 5.2.22 defines classroom disturbances.

ADA Accommodations

Any student who may require an accommodation under the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the instructor on this matter as soon as possible to ensure a positive learning environment. It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If a student has a disability that may affect adversely his/her work in this class, then the student is encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with the instructor about how best to deal with the situation. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center.

Classroom Visitors:

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

Religious Holidays:

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. "Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

Instructor Evaluations

You will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

Copyright Statement

The materials presented in this syllabus and course are copyrighted. Reproduction of these

materials for commercial purposes without the express permission of the copyright holder is prohibited. Tape-recording of lectures is not permitted.

This course was designed and is maintained by Dr. Susannah U. Bruce
Late update: November 2007