

Course Synopsis

Instructor: Richard Grippaldi, Ph.D.
Office: Van Dyck 208 (College Avenue)
Office Hours: Mondays & Thursdays 8:30 –
9:30am; 2:00 – 3:00pm; & by appointment

Mondays & Thursdays 10:20 – 11:40am
Campbell Hall A5 (College Avenue)
Email: rgrippal@rutgers.edu

Course Description: This is a study of the causes, course, and aftermath of World War II, with particular emphasis on the place of American culture and foreign policy within world politics.

In addition to discussing American grand strategy and the course of the war in both Europe and the Pacific, the class will consider such topics as the United States' mobilization for war; roles of women and minority groups in the war effort; the use of submarine and strategic air warfare; and the use of nuclear weapons against Japan.

Special Permission Numbers: If you have not taken a course previously with the instructor, your request for a special permission number will be denied, so DO NOT ASK. Students who have taken courses with him are welcome to ask, but should know they may be placed on a waiting list, and may not be enrolled in the course.

Required Course Texts: Print versions can be purchased from the campus bookstore, or special-ordered from your local bookstore or Internet bookseller. Electronic versions are acceptable, but know that reading assignments will refer to pages in the print versions.

Kennedy, Paul. *Engineers of Victory: The Problem Solvers Who Turned the Tide in the Second World War*. New York: Random House, 2013. ISBN 9780812979398

Murray, Williamson, and Allan R. Millett. *A War to Be Won: Fighting the Second World War*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 2000. ISBN 9780674006805
(This book is available via Rutgers University Libraries, at <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/lib/rutgers-ebooks/detail.action?docID=3300332>)

Sledge, E. B. *With the Old Breed, at Peleliu and Okinawa*. New York: Random House, 2007. ISBN 9780891419198

Walker, J. Samuel. *Prompt and Utter Destruction: Truman and the Use of Atomic Bombs against Japan*, 3rd ed. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2016. ISBN 9781469628974

Assignments and Key Dates

Assignment / Activity	Portion of Course Grade	Date Due / Takes Place
Attendance	8%	Every time class meets!
Class Participation	2%	In class, but also during office hours or via email
Short Paper #1 (3-5 pages)	10%	February 13
Midterm Examination	22%	March 9 (in class)
NO CLASS		March 13 & 16 (Spring Recess)
Short Paper #2	10%	April 10
Course Project Paper (4-6 pages)	15%	April 24
Course Project Group Activity	5%	April 24 (in class)
Final Examination	28%	Final Exam block (date, time, and place to be determined)

Questions? Students with interest in, or questions about, the course are encouraged to contact the instructor.