

Technology and Military Organization

INTA 4011/6015
Professor Salomone
Habersham

Fall 2011
145

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Course Description and Objectives

This course is organized around the concept of the Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA). RMAs involve significant changes in technology applied to military purpose, and corresponding changes in military organization and operational art leading to new conceptions of the way warfare is conducted. Since the time of Napoleon it is widely believed that there have been several such RMAs (including the development of nuclear weapons which is outside of the purview of this course) and that another is underway at the present time. The nature of these revolutions will be explored with special emphasis on the evolution of military technology, its impact on military organization, and the nature and role of innovation in these processes.

Course Requirements

You are expected to attend ALL classes. You are expected to read the assignments in advance of class. This is your “homework”. You are expected to participate in class discussions. Readings outside the texts will be available on T-2. There will be film to assist in the understanding of the case studies.

There will be three examinations during the course and a final examination as required and scheduled by the registrar. The examinations will be multiple-choice. Class participation will be a factor in your grade in that I will reward a class in which attendance and participation are high with extra credit points on your exams.

Texts:

Martin Van Creveld: Command in War
J.F.C. Fuller: The Conduct of War, 1789-1961
John Keegan: The Face of Battle
Adam N. Stulberg & Michael D. Salomone: Managing Defense Transformation: Agency, Culture and Service Change

The Course:

- 1.0) Warfare in the "Ancient" World. Read Fuller, "The Limited Wars of the Absolute Kings" and "The Rebirth of Unlimited War"; Keegan, "Agincourt 25 October 1415"; Van Creveld, "Introduction" and "The Stone Age of Command"; Films: Selections from "300", "Brave Heart" and "Henry V".
- 2.0) Between the Napoleonic Wars and the American Civil War. Read Keegan, "Waterloo, 18 June 1815"; Fuller, "Napoleonic Warfare", "The Theories of Clausewitz", Film: Selections from "Waterloo".
 - 2.1) Influence of the Industrial Revolution and the American Civil War. Van Creveld, "The Revolution in Strategy" and "Railroads, Rifles, and Wires"; Fuller, "The Influences of the Industrial Revolution", "The American Civil War 1861-1865"; Film: Selections from "Gettysburg".

Exam #1

- 3.0) The Early Twentieth Century. Read Fuller, "Moltke, Foch, and Bloch", "The Roots of Armageddon" part 2 (Military Developments 1870-1903) only, and "The Conduct of World War I"; Van Creveld, "The Timetable War"; Keegan, "The Somme, 1 July 1916"; Films: Selections from "All Quiet on the Western Front"; "The First World War"; and "Visions of War".

Exam #2

- 4.0) Military Innovation Between the World Wars. Read Fuller, "The Twenty Years Armistice" and "The Conduct of World War II"; Film: Selections from "Visions of War".
- 5.0) Inter-war Case Studies. Read Stulberg and Salomone, "The German Blitzkrieg Transformation", "The US Navy Transformed", "The British and Armored Forces".

Exam #3

- 6.0) The Current RMA and the Gulf Wars. Read James R. Fitzsimonds & Jan M. Van Tol, "Revolution in Military Affairs", Joint Force Quarterly, Spring 1994; Van Creveld, "The Helicopter and the Computer", Stulberg and Salomone, "US Counterinsurgency in Vietnam". Films: "Inside the Kill Box", General Schwartzkopf's "Briefing", "Iraq: Battle Plan Under Fire".
- 7.0) Prospects. Van Creveld, "Conclusion: Reflections on Command"; P. Bracken, "The Military After Next"; Salomone and Crecine, "Information Rich Environments", T.P.M. Barnett, "The Seven Deadly Sins of Network-Centric Warfare", Stulberg and Salomone, "Conclusions".

Exam #4 during finals week