

HIST 352
The Second World War
MW(F): 11:00 – 11:50
Wilson 301
<http://faculty.virginia.edu/wwii>

Fall 2002

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office hours: M, 12:00-1:00, Randall 229, and by appointment

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the origins, nature, and impact of the Second World War. Beginning with a survey of the Great War and its aftermath, it traces the onset of World War II through the eyes of its many participants. As an international history of the war, this course covers all military theaters, devoting roughly equal time to operations in Europe and the Pacific. It also examines the war's impact on civilian populations and the manner in which the conflict transformed the economic, social, and political realities of domestic life for the major combatants.

Class meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays will be devoted largely to lectures. Discussion sections for all students will take place on Fridays.

II. GRADING

Grades will be based on performance in discussion sections, as well as on two mid-terms and a final examination. The weighting of these elements is as follows:

Discussion Section	15%
Mid-term I, Monday, September 23:	20%
Mid-term II, Wednesday, October 30:	30%
Final Examination, Tuesday, December 10:	35%

III. PREREQUISITES

There are no formal prerequisites for this course, though a general understanding of the twentieth century is strongly recommended.

IV. REQUIRED TEXTS

The following volumes, all of which are available in the college bookstore, will be required reading for the course:

Inga Clendinnen, *Reading the Holocaust* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999).

Richard Overy, *Russia's War: A History of the Soviet War Effort, 1941-1945* (New York: Penguin, 1997).

Richard Overy with Andrew Wheatcroft, *The Road to War* (London: Penguin, 2nd ed., 1999).

Ewen Montagu, *The Man Who Never Was* (Annapolis, MD: Blue Jacket Books, Naval Institute Press, 2001; New York: Oxford University Press, 1953).

Williamson Murray and Allan R. Millett, *A War to Be Won: Fighting the Second World War* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2000).

David Reynolds, *From Munich to Pearl Harbor: Roosevelt's America and the Origins of the Second World War* (Chicago: Ivan Dee, 2001).

Additional required readings are listed on class-specific web pages (accessible via the “Schedule” page on the website), and can be downloaded in personal document format (pdf) from those pages.

V. COURSE WEBSITE/LISTSERVE

All information contained in this syllabus, as well as a printable copy of the syllabus itself, will be available on the course website. In addition, all readings other than those in the required texts will be available on the website in personal document format (pdf). You can access the website at:

<http://faculty.virginia.edu/wwii>

You will need a userid and a password to access these readings.

userid: student

password: hist352

You may also participate in online discussions of class and related material via the class listserv. The address for the listserv is:

HIST352-100@toolkit.virginia.edu

Please note that any message you send to this address will be delivered to everyone in the class. If you wish to contact the instructor directly and exclusively, please use the instructor's individual e-mail address listed on the homepage. To send a message to the listserv, insert the listserv password in the first non-blank line of the message text.

e-mail password: hist352

VI. DISCUSSION SECTIONS

All students must sign up for and attend weekly discussion sections. Grades will be based on attendance, performance on quizzes, and participation.

V. COURSE OVERVIEW

<p><i>Wed. August 28</i> The Great War and its Aftermath Marc Selverstone</p>	<p><i>Monday, October 21</i> U.S. Propaganda Overseas Holly Shulman</p>
<p><i>Mon., Sept. 2</i> The World of Extremes: Europe Marek Chodakiewicz</p>	<p><i>Wednesday, October 23</i> The War of the Economies David Shreve</p>
<p><i>Wed. Sept. 4</i> Divided Democracies Marc Selverstone</p>	<p><i>Monday, October 28</i> Grinding It Out in the Pacific David Coleman</p>
<p><i>Mon. Sept 9</i> Germany's Strange Victory Philip Zelikow</p>	<p><i>Wednesday, October 30</i> Exam II</p>
<p><i>Wednesday, September 11</i> The World of Extremes: Asia Chen Jian</p>	<p><i>Monday, November 4</i> The Holocaust: Emergence and Evolution Marc Selverstone</p>
<p><i>Monday, September 16</i> America's Dilemmas and Debates Taylor Fain</p>	<p><i>Wednesday, November 6</i> Home Fronts: American Women Cindy Aron</p>
<p><i>Wednesday, September 18</i> Germany's Strategy for Global War Philip Zelikow</p>	<p><i>Monday, November 11</i> Home Fronts: African-Americans Kent Germany</p>
<p><i>Monday, September 23</i> Exam I</p>	<p><i>Wednesday, November 13</i> The Intelligence War Tim Naftali</p>
<p><i>Wednesday, September 25</i> Barbarossa Marc Selverstone</p>	<p><i>Monday, November 18</i> The Assault on Europe Tim Naftali</p>
<p><i>Monday, September 30</i> America's Coming of War Marc Selverstone</p>	<p><i>Wednesday, November 20</i> Endgame Tim Naftali</p>
<p><i>Wednesday, October 2</i> Rising Sun Chen Jian</p>	<p><i>Monday, November 25</i> The Destruction of Japan David Coleman</p>
<p><i>Monday, October 7</i> No Class – Reading Holiday</p>	<p><i>Wednesday, November 27</i> No Class – Thanksgiving Recess</p>
<p><i>Wednesday, October 9</i> The War at Sea Marc Selverstone</p>	<p><i>Monday, December 2</i> The Cold War Begins Marc Selverstone</p>
<p><i>Monday, October 14</i> Stalingrad and Kursk Marek Chodakiewicz</p>	<p><i>Wednesday, December 4</i> Zero-Hour Marc Selverstone</p>
<p><i>Wednesday, October 16</i> Allied Grand Strategy Marc Selverstone</p>	<p><i>Tuesday, December 10</i> Final Exam 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</p>

VI. ASSIGNMENTS

August 28

The Great War and its Aftermath: Crucible of a Generation

Marc Selverstone

Required Readings:

Niall Ferguson, *The Pity of War* (New York: BasicBooks, 1999), pp. 388-94, 433-37 (website).

Ian Kershaw, *Hitler, 1889-1936: Hubris* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1999), pp. 73-105 (website).

September 2

The World of Extremes—Europe: The Rise of Fascism and Militarism

Marek Chodakiewicz

Required Readings:

Gerhard Weinberg, *Germany, Hitler, and World War II: Essays in Modern German and World History* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1995), pp. 30-53 (website).

Overy and Wheatcroft, *The Road to War*, pp. 1-72, 164-257.

Overy, *Russia's War*, pp. 1-33.

September 4

Divided Democracies: Appeasement

Marc Selverstone

Required Readings

Overy and Wheatcroft, *The Road to War*, pp. 73-163.

Reynolds, *From Munich to Pearl Harbor*, pp. 24-68.

September 9

Germany's Strange Victory: The Fall of France

Philip Zelikow

Required Readings:

Murray and Millett, *A War to Be Won*, pp. 18-90.

September 11

The World of Extremes—Asia: Empire on the Pacific

Chen Jian

Required Readings:

Overy and Wheatcroft, *The Road to War*, pp. 258-88.

Murray and Millett, *A War to Be Won*, pp. 143-64.

September 16

America's Dilemmas and Debates: Isolationism and Interventionism

Taylor Fain

Required Readings:

Reynolds, *From Munich to Pearl Harbor*, pp. 69-123.

September 18

Germany's Strategy for Global War

Philip Zelikow

Required Readings:

Weinberg, *A World at Arms*, pp. 170-205 (website).

Murray and Millett, *A War to Be Won*, pp. 91-109.

Overy, *Russia's War*, pp. 34-72.

September 23

MID-TERM EXAMINATION I

September 25

Barbarossa: The Invasion of the Soviet Union

Marc Selverstone

Required Readings:

Overy, *Russia's War*, pp. 73-153.

September 30

America's Coming of War

Marc Selverstone

Required Readings:

Reynolds, *From Munich to Pearl Harbor*, pp. 123-89.

Overy and Wheatcroft, *The Road to War*, pp. 288-97.

October 2

Rising Sun: The Japanese War of Conquest

Chen Jian

Required Readings:

Murray and Millett, *A War to Be Won*, pp. 169-95.

October 9

The War at Sea: The Battle of the Atlantic

Marc Selverstone

Required Readings:

Murray and Millett, *A War to Be Won*, pp. 234-61.

October 14

Stalingrad and Kursk

Marek Chodakiewicz

Required Readings:

Overy, *Russia's War*, pp. 154-222.

Murray and Millett, *A War to Be Won*, pp. 374-410.

October 16

Allied Grand Strategy

Marc Selverstone

Required Readings:

Murray and Millett, *A War to Be Won*, pp. 374-410.

John Erickson, "Stalin, Soviet Strategy, and the Grand Alliance," Ann Lane and Howard Temperley, eds., *The Rise and Fall of the Grand Alliance, 1941-1945* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1995), pp. 136-73 (website).

October 21

The Militarization of Ideas: U.S. Propaganda Overseas

Holly Shulman

Required Readings:

Holly Cowan Shulman, *The Voice of America: Propaganda and Democracy, 1941-1945* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1990) pp. TBA (website).

October 23

The Militarization of Capital: The War of the Economies

David Shreve

Required Readings:

Richard Overy, *Why the Allies Won* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1995), pp. 180-207.

October 28

Grinding It Out in the Pacific

David Coleman

Required Readings:

Murray and Millett, *A War to Be Won*, pp. 196-223, 226-33, 336-73.

Dower, “Race, Language, and War in Two Cultures,” in Lewis A. Erenberg and Susan E Hirsch, eds., *The War in American Culture: Society and Consciousness during World War II* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996), pp. 169-201 (website).

October 30

MID-TERM EXAMINATION II

November 4

The Holocaust: Emergence and Evolution

Marc Selverstone

Required Readings:

Raul Hilberg, *The Destruction of the European Jews* (Chicago: Quadrangle Books, 1961), pp. 572-86, 600-09, 618-29, 639-69 (website).

Clendinnen, *Reading the Holocaust*, pp. 1-27, 79-113.

November 6

Home Fronts: American Women

Cindy Aron

Required Readings:

Elaine Tyler May, “Rosie the Riveter Gets Married,” in Erenberg and Hirsch, *The War in American Culture*, pp. 128-43 (website).

Valerie Matsumoto, “Japanese-American Women During World War II,” and Ruth Milkman, “Gender at Work: The Sexual Division of Labor During World War II,” in Linda K. Kerber and Jane Sherron DeHart, eds., *Women’s America: Refocusing the Past*, 4th ed. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995), pp. 440-56 (website).

November 11

Home Fronts: African-Americans

Kent Germany

Required Readings:

Neil A. Wynn, “War and Racial Progress,” *Peace and Change*, vol. 20 (July 1995), pp. 348-63 (website).

Roy Wilkins with Tom Mathews, *Standing Fast: The Autobiography of Roy Wilkins* (New York: Da Capo Press, 1994, 1982), pp. 165-91 (website).

November 13

The Intelligence War: Feints and Deceptions

Tim Naftali

Required Readings:

Ewen Montagu, *The Man Who Never Was*, entire.

November 18

The Assault on Europe: D-Day and the Drive to Germany

Tim Naftali

Required Readings:

Murray and Millett, *A War to Be Won*, pp. 411-83.

Overy, *Russia's War*, pp. 223-89.

November 20

Endgame: Berlin and Its Aftermath

Tim Naftali

Required Readings:

Murray and Millett, *A War to Be Won*, pp. 446-83, 565-68, 571-73.

November 25

The Destruction of Japan: The Decision to Dropt the Atomic Bomb

David Coleman

Required Readings:

Murray and Millett, *A War to Be Won*, pp. 484-526.

Douglas J. MacEachin, *The Final Months of the War with Japan: Signals Intelligence, U.S. Invasion Planning, and the A-Bomb Decision* (Washington, D.C.: Central Intelligence Agency, Center for the Study of Intelligence, 1998), entire (website).

Sadao Asada, “The Shock of the Atomic Bomb and Japan’s Decision to Surrender: A Reconsideration,” *Pacific Historical Review*, November 1998, vol. 67 (4), pp. 477-512 (website).

December 2

The Cold War Begins

Marc Selverstone

Required Readings:

Eduard Mark, “Revolution by Degrees: Stalin’s National-Front Strategy for Europe, 1941-1947,” *Cold War International History Project*, Working Paper, no. 31, pp. 5-46 (website).

John Lewis Gaddis, *The United States and the Origins of the Cold War, 1941-1947* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1972), pp. 198-263 (website).

December 4

Zero-Hour: The International Settlement

Marc Selverstone

Required Readings:

Overy, *Russia’s War*, pp. 290-330.

Murray and Millett, *A War to Be Won*, pp. 554-65, 568-71, 573-76.

December 10

FINAL EXAMINATION

Wilson 301

9:00 a.m. – 12: 00 p.m.