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Albany NY 12222

POS 371, Call No. 9170
Meeting Tu-Thur 2:45-3:45, ES245
Midterm: Tuesday October 4
Final Exam: Monday 12 December 10:30 a.m. – 12:30.

Uptown office hours Tues 12:30-1:30 and grab me after class;
downtown Fridays 3-5 by appointment
Book orders have been placed exclusively at Mary Jane Books, Quail & Western

The “practice of international relations” is a broad topic which requires some definition in order to become a manageable course. In this year’s 371 our focus is on the relationship between tribes and states, both historically and in the present. State formation in the West will be contrasted with ibn Khaldun’s approach.

The general theme of this course is that the relationship between states and tribalized societies continues to be a major concern in international relations. Terms such as “guerilla warfare” and “terrorism” are often used to describe tribalized conflicts, in which the balance of power among competing states is often a major factor. In previous years, students in the military have often found these materials to be relevant to their experiences and to their professional development.

The purpose of this class is to make students conversant multiple aspects of tribalized competition for power in the international system. These include: the balance of power, genocide, the role of technology in conflict, the development of consolidated national control, and alternative theories which assign a secondary role to the state. These dynamics will be assessed across a 2,000 year sampling of cases.

The principal tools will be: a variety of assigned texts.

The principal **evaluation metric** will be a required in class exam, an optional make-up (“parachute”) paper, pop quizzes; participation and attendance.

A student who **successfully completes** this course will understand basic aspects underpinning key past and present conflicts in modern and pre-modern state systems.

Assignments:

Course grading will be based upon an in-class midterm (nominally 40% of the grade) and an in-class final (nominally 60% of the grade).

There is an optional 3-5 page “parachute paper” that will be due in the second to last week of class: the parachute paper is designed to give students who are unhappy with their grade a chance to improve it, the higher of the midterm or parachute paper grade will be applied. You are not allowed to miss the midterm and then do the paper instead.

The parachute paper is optional, and therefore, ☞ *There is no such thing as a late parachute paper*, because it means that you have opted for the midterm grade to be used. No exceptions. ☞ To be eligible for the “parachute paper” the midterm grade must be at least a D. Showing up, writing one or two sentences and then taking off is not a serious effort. The parachute paper is intended to give committed students a second chance.

The parachute paper should follow the format in the paper templates which you can access at these two URLs:

For Word 2003:

<http://tinyurl.com/paper-template-2003-word-9-11>

For Word 2010:

<http://preview.tinyurl.com/word-2010-paper-template-9-11>

You should select a citation system used by Diana Hacker in *Writer’s Reference* (any edition). These can be purchased at abebooks.com for as little as \$5.00.

You should be familiar with plagiarism issues which can be reviewed in Diana Hacker’s book and are accessible here:

<http://tinyurl.com/hacker-defines-plagiarism-2011>

Pop up quizzes

There will be occasional pop up in-class quizzes designed to get a brief idea of how well students are keeping up with the reading. These quizzes will not be assigned a quantitative value in the overall grade, but will be part of the general picture that I use to assess how much a student is putting into the class.

Attendance and grading:

Attendance and participation, particularly attendance, are a substantial component of the final grade and may result in grade boosts or penalties: as much as 50%, but typically 10%. Egregious absenteeism will merit a failing grade regardless of performance on written exams.

Showing some understanding of assigned reading is integral to good performance on the exams. Rote memorization of lecture material will not guarantee a good grade. Absences on exam dates must be cleared through dean’s office: go directly to the dean’s office with your documented excuse, exams will be rescheduled when and if I have a note from the dean.

SUNY rules on disability accommodation apply, the prof must be told in advance of any issues that affect the ability to complete exams and assignments.

If you miss an exam because of a medical reason then please turn in a photocopy of the relevant documentation and accommodations will be made. If you don’t have such documentation please present your case to the Dean’s office.

Themes to watch for in the readings

Balance of power

Role of women

Hostage taking

Rapid shift in alliances, friendships

Role of marital alliances

Blood feuds

Role of technology (weapons, engineering, etc.)

Frequency of total warfare, e.g. "wasting the land," "burning the countryside," etc.

Internal politics (within the tribal system)

External politics (use of

Use of mercenaries, allies

Role of religion

Unity/disunity in tribal groups

Invading forces' use of local tribes and auxiliaries as guides and allies

Taxes, money

Permanent occupation vs. withdrawal

Evidence of assimilation (language, religion, intermarriage)

Tribes that merge with other tribes

Tanistry

Succession and leadership struggles

Bribery

Week-by-week schedule

Week 1: 30 August, September 1

Tuesday: First day of class; organizational issues

Thursday: *Caesar The Gallic War*. Assigned text is Carolyn Hammond translation but a free older translation is here:

[McDevitte translation Caesar's Gallic War](#)

Books I, II, III (in either translation)

Week 2: 6 and 8 September Gallic War Books IV, V, VI, VII

Tuesday: Caesar (continued)

Thursday: Caesar (end) also bk 8:32 through 8:44 (revolt & reconquest of Uxellodunum)

Week 3: 13 and 15 September

Read or Watch Shakespeare's Macbeth. Here's one text (ed. Marc Parrot, 1904):

<http://www.archive.org/stream/macbeth00parrgoog>

You can stream a version from Netflix with Patrick Stewart; Polanski's version is "classic".

Tuesday: Shakespeare

Thursday: Hamil (on JSTOR, see course citations) : origin of murder

Week 4: 20 & 22 September

Antonius, Arab Awakening Antonius *Arab Awakening* pp. 61-125, 149-163

Tuesday: 61-125

Thursday: 149-163

Week 5: 27 & 29 September

Antonius, Arab Awakening Antonius, *Arab Awakening* pp. 243-275, 325-412

Tuesday: MIDTERM QUESTIONS POSTED finish Antonius
Thursday: **NO CLASS THURSDAY ONLY**

Week 6 4 & 6 October

Starkey, European and native American Warfare

Tuesday: Midterm 4 October
Thursday: Starkey pp. 1-90

Week 7: 11 & 13 October

Starkey, European and Native American Warfare

Tuesday: pp. 90-135
Thursday: pp. 135-169

Week 8: 18 & 20 October

Mao Zedong (also Tse Tung), On Guerilla Warfare

Tuesday: 1st half pp. 41-82
Thursday: 2nd half pp. 83-114

Week 9: 25 & 27 October

Cyril Falls: 77-85, 168-229, 268-291, 335-346

Spenser: A View of the State of Ireland pp. 7-21 (murder, tanistry), 74 (degenerate English), 112-116 (poets), 143-158 (garrisons, winter campaigns, amnesty) 217-226 (tithings, hundreds), 227-228 (tanistry), 235-236 (surnames vs. septs), 248-252 (bridges, roads, forest clearings, town markets). Page numbers refer to numbers on the photographic document, not the software in the browser.

<http://www.archive.org/stream/aviewstateirela00spengoog>

Tuesday: 77-85 + tba
Thursday: tba + 335-346

Week 10: 1 & 3 November

Cyril Falls (end); Canino “A New View of the View” (JSTOR)
Hamil “Presentment of Englishry” (JSTOR)
Ferguson & Whitehead Tribal Zone (begin)

Tuesday: Wrap up Cyril Falls

Thursday: begin chaps 1, 2, 4 Ferguson and Whitehead

Week 11: 8 & 10 November

Ferguson and Whitehead Tribal Zone Chaps 1 (Ferguson & Whitehead “Violent Edge of Empire,” 2 (Mattingly “War and Peace in Roman North Africa), 4 (Hassig “Aztec and Spanish Conquest in MesoAmerica”), 5 (Law “Warfare on the West African Slave Coast 1650-1850), 6 (Whitehead “Tribes Make States and States Make Tribes”), 7 (Abler, “Beavers and Muskets: Iroquois Military Fortunes in the Face of European Colonization”)

Tuesday: Chaps 1, 2, 4

Thursday: chaps 5, 6, 7

Week 12: 15 & 17 November

Fried, *Notion of Tribe*; Sahlins, *Stone Age Economics* “Spirit of the Gift” pp. 149-183.
To be provided via on-line pdf.

First half: <http://tinyurl.com/fried-notion-of-tribe-pt1-2011>

Second half: <http://tinyurl.com/fried-notion-of-tribe-pt2-2011>

Tuesday: Fried whole book

Thursday: Sahlins “Spirit of the gift” pp. 149-183.

Week 13: 22 & 24 November

Tuesday: Discussion day, catch up Azar Gat: pp. 157-230, 618-637

Thursday: **THANKSGIVING**

Week 14: 29 November and 1 December Azar Gat; ibn Khaldun

Tuesday: Khaldun 91-184

Thursday: Khaldun 263-295

Week 15: 6 December

ibn Khaldun

Tuesday: Last day of class

Final Exam: Monday 12 December 10:30 a.m. – 12:30.

Course Bibliography

Antonius, George (1938). *Arab Awakening: The Story of the Arab National Movement*. London: H. Hamilton. ISBN: 1931541248 2 weeks

Caesar, Julius (~52 BCE; 1996). *The Gallic War*. Trans. Carolyn Hammond. Oxford: Oxford University Press. isbn 0192835823

Canino, Catherine G. (1998). "Reconstructing Lord Grey's Reputation: A New View of the View" *The Sixteenth Century Journal*, Vol. 29, No. 1 (Spring), pp. 3-18

Falls, Cyril (1950;1997) *Elizabeth's Irish Wars*. Syracuse NY: Syracuse Univ Press. (reprint) isbn 0815604351.

Ferguson, R. Brian, and Neil L. Whitehead, eds. (1992). *War in the Tribal Zone: Expanding States and Indigenous Warfare*. Santa Fe, NM: School of Indigenous Research Press.

Fried, Morton H. (1975) *The Notion of Tribe*. Menlo Park, CA: Cummings Publishing Co.

First half: <http://tinyurl.com/fried-notion-of-tribe-pt1-2011>

Secolnd half: <http://tinyurl.com/fried-notion-of-tribe-pt2-2011>

Gat, Azar (2006). *War in Human Civilization*. Oxford:Oxford University Press. Isbn 9780199236633.

Hamil, Frederick Coyne (1937). "Presentment of Englishry and the Murder Fine," *Speculum*, Vol. 12, No. 3 (July), pp. 285-29 (JSTOR)

Khaldun, ibn, Muqaddimah (1377; 2005). *The Muqaddimah: An Introduction to History*. Trans. Franz Rosenthal. Princeton, NJ: Princeton Univ. Press. Isbn 0691120544

Mao Tse Tung (1936; 2000). *On Guerilla Warfare*. (Samuel P. Griffith edition), Champaign, Illinois: University of Illinois Press. 128 pp. ISBN: 0252068920

Sahlins, Marshall D. (1972). *Stone Age Economics*. Chicago: Aldine-Atherton Press. isbn 9780202010984.

Shakespeare, Macbeth, multiple editions. Parrot edition (1904) on line here: <http://www.archive.org/stream/macbeth00parrgoog>

Spenser, Edmund (1596; multiple editions). *A View of the Present State of Ireland*.
Dublin: 1743. On-line version:
<http://www.archive.org/stream/aviewstateirela00spengoo>

Starkey, Armstrong (1998). *European and Native American Warfare 1675-1815*.
Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press. ISBN 080613075