

## History 113-Honors Syllabus

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### **History 113H: Honors American Military History**

*"Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure... than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much, because they live in a gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat." –Theodore Roosevelt*

#### **Introduction and Purpose:**

Welcome to Honors American Military History. The purpose of the honors section for this class is to investigate themes and processes of American Military History on a more analytical and comparative level than the regular course. Examining some of the historical scholarship for American Military History will allow you to explore and investigate important themes of military history and refine research and critical thinking skills. Though there will be more work expected of you, I hope you will find our honors experience to be stimulating, fun and challenging. In addition to the regular course learning outcomes, as we embark on our adventure in learning I am hoping that will accomplish the following goals:

1. Gain an enriched knowledge of American Military History
2. Learn how to find and use library primary and second source collections pertaining to military history.
3. Acquire an interest in learning more by asking questions and seeking answers. Successful honors students are self-disciplined, are self-directed, and take individual responsibility for their learning.
4. Develop skills in expressing oneself orally and in writing.
5. Learn how to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments and points of view.
6. Work with peers to develop techniques and skills used by professional historians.

**Please Note:** Honors Contracts are irreversible once they are signed by the student.

#### **Required Texts: In addition to the Regular Course materials:**

- I will periodically assign source documents from Brad Lookingbill's *American Military History* and John Chambers' *Major Problems in American Military History* to discuss in meetings in-person and on blackboard. Students will not need to purchase these two books.

#### **Activities in History 113 Honors**

I would like us to meet every two weeks to discuss assigned readings and progress on your Honors assignments. There will also be regular, online blogging about historical skill development and 3-4 additional meetings with the History Honors Contract Community throughout the semester - for research prep, thesis development, and preparation for your OMNI presentation. Times and location of these meetings are pending. The topics for each of these meetings are as follows:

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Meeting #1 (Week 4 or 5): Research Methods

Meeting #2 (Week 6, 7, or 8): Developing a historical thesis

Meeting #3 (Week 10, 11, or 12): Share your research and progress

Meeting #4 End of Semester Party

### Grades will be based on the following regular and honors course work:

History Blogs/wikis/Thought Papers/Primary Source Analysis	Up to 150 points
Map Assignment	30 points
Book worksheet	50 points
Midterm Exam	120 points
Quizzes	Up to 60 points
Final	120 points
Class Participation (20% of total grade)	Up to 100 points
<b>HONORS ASSIGNMENTS:</b>	
Honors Research Presentation/ Paper Proposal	20 points
History Honors Community Blogs	40 points
Participation in History Honors Community Workshops	40 points
Honors Annotated Bibliography	20 points
Honors Research Paper	100 points
	<b>Total 850 points</b>

<b>Major Course and Assignment Dates (Summary)</b>	
<b><u>Assignment</u></b>	<b><u>Due Date</u></b>
<i>Honors Contract Consultation</i>	<i>By February 3</i>
<i>Map Assignment</i>	<i>January 31</i>
<i>Identification Quiz</i>	<i>February 7</i>
<i>Honors Research Paper Proposal</i>	<i>February 14</i>
<i>Honors Annotated Bibliography Due</i>	<i>March 7</i>
<i>Midterm</i>	<i>March 14 (Approximately)</i>
<i>Blogs, Wikis, Thought/ Primary Source Analysis Papers</i>	<i>Variable Due Dates</i>
<i>Book Worksheet Due/ Censorship in WW2</i>	<i>April 14</i>
<i>Class Participation</i>	<i>Expected Throughout Course (Grades awarded every four weeks)</i>
<i>Last Day to Drop with "W" grade</i>	<i>April 27</i>
<i>Honors Research Paper Due by</i>	<i>May 2</i>
<i>OMNI Research Presentation</i>	<i>May 19</i>
<i>Final Exam</i>	<i>May 24</i>

**Note: Students should keep a copy of this syllabus until they graduate from their four-year institution in order to better handle possible articulation issues.**

*"Here you Leave Today and Enter the World of Yesterday, Tomorrow and Fantasy." -Walt Disney*