

Institute of International Relations and Political Science
Vilnius University

War Studies

BA in Political Science
Šlekys

Lecturer: dr. Deividas

E-mail: Deividas.Slekys@tspmi.vu.lt

Course description:

War is multi-dimensional phenomenon requiring multi-disciplinary approach in order to understand its complexity. The aim of this course is to introduce students with interpretations and debates about war from philosophical, sociological, historical, political and legal perspectives. This course intends to provide students with a basic understanding of some of the most important theoretical developments in Western military thought and warfare, and how these different theories fared when they were put into practice.

Course requirements and assessment

During the course, students are required:

- read all the required materials for the seminar and be prepared to discuss them during the seminar;
- take the final exam.

Composition of final grade:

- 40% seminar participation quality;
- 20% individual exercise in MOODLE system
- 40% final written exam

Seminar attendance is mandatory. During the term, student may miss no more than 3 classes. If student missed more than 3 classes without any notice and explanation lecturer reserves his right to issue a penalty of an extra exam question or automatic negative final grade.

Course schedule

I. Introductory lecture. What is war studies? (9th September)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- Michael Howard, “Military history and the history of war”, Williamson Murray, Richard Hart Sinnreich (sud.) kn. *The Past as Prologue: The Importance of History to the Military Profession*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006, **pp 12-20**;

II. Evolution of war (13th September)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- John A. Lynn, „The Evolution of Army Style in the Modern West, 800–2000“, *The International History Review*, Volume 18, Issue 3, 1996, **pp. 505-545**;
- Hew Strachan, „The Changing Character of War“, First lecture on global security issues at the University of Glasgow, 2011, 21 November. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qGIsrM9pZrc>

Recommended:

- Hew Strachan, *European Armies and the Conduct of War*. London, New York: Routledge, 1983 m., **pp. 1-73**.

III. War in social theory (20th September)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- Hans Joas, Wolfgang Knöbl, *War in social thought: Hobbes to the present*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2013, **pp. 1-15, 116-155**.

Recommended:

- Peter B. Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer, Theda Skocpol (ed.), *Bringing the state back in*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999, **pp. 3-28**;
- Hendrik Spruyt, “War, Trade, and State Formation”, Kn. Carles Boix ir Susan C. Stokes (ed.), *The Oxford handbook of comparative politics*. Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press, 2007, **pp. 211-235**.

IV. Understanding Clausewitz I (27th September)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- Carl von Clausewitz, *On War*. Michael Howard and Peter Paret (ed.). Princeton and New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1989, **pp. 75-90**;
- Hew Strachan, “Clausewitz and the Dialectics of War “, Hew Strachan, Andreas Herberg-Rothe (sud.), *Clausewitz in the twenty-first century*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007, **pp. 14-44**.

Recommended:

- Dr. Antulio J. Echevarria II, „Clausewitz and Contemporary War“, video lecture, U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=otJp3Qt7Vuw> ;

- Jon Tetsuro Sumida, “The Relationship of History and Theory in On War: The Clausewitzian Ideal and its Implications,” *Journal of Military History*, April 2001, **pp. 333-354**.

V. Understanding Clausewitz II (4th October)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- Jon Sumida, „On defence as the stronger form of war“. Kn. Hew Strachan, Andreas Herberg-Rothe (sud.), *Clausewitz in the Twenty-First Century*. Oxford: Oxford university press, **pp. 163-181**.
- *Infinity Journal / Special Issues / Clausewitz & Contemporary Conflict*, 2012.

Recommended:

- Bruce Fleming, „Can Reading Clausewitz Save Us from Future Mistakes?“, *Parameters*, Spring 2004, **pp. 62-76**.

VI. Just war tradition (11th October)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- Jeff McMahan, „The Morality of War and the Law of War“, David Rodin, Henry Shue (ed.) in *Just and Unjust Warriors: The Moral and Legal Status of Soldiers*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008, **pp. 19-43**;
- Henry Shue, „Do We Need a ‘Morality of War‘“, David Rodin, Henry Shue (ed.) in *Just and Unjust Warriors: The Moral and Legal Status of Soldiers*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008, **pp. 87-111**.

Recommended:

- Daniel Statman, „Can Wars Be Fought Justly? The Necessity Condition Put to the Test“, Thom Brooks (ed.) in *Just war theory*. Leiden: Brill, 2014, **pp. 81-100**.

VII. Law and war (18th October)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- Janina Dill, „The American Way of Bombing and International Law: Two Logics of Warfare in Tension“, by Matthew Evangelista, Henry Shue (ed.), *The American Way of Bombing: Changing Ethical and Legal Norms, from Flying Fortresses to Drones*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2014, **pp. 131-144**;
- Henry Shue, „Target-Selection Norms, Torture Norms, and Growing US Permissiveness“ in Hew Strachan & Sibylle Scheipers (eds.), *The Changing Character of War*. Oxford: Oxford university press, 2011, **pp. 464-483**.

Recommended:

- Jeff McMahan, “Just Cause for War”, *Ethics and International Affairs*, 2005, 19 (3), **pp. 1-21**;
- Thomas Hurka, „Proportionality in the Morality of War“, *Philosophy & Public Affairs*, January 2005, Volume 33, Issue 1, **pp. 34–66**,

VIII. Science and War (25th October)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- Antoine Bousquet, „Chaoplectic warfare or the future of military organization“, *International Affairs*, September 2008, Volume 84, Issue 5, **pp. 915–929**;
- Everett Carl Dolman, *Can Science End War?*. London: Polity, 2015, **pp. 50-76**;

Recommended:

- Bruce Bueno De Mesquita, “The War Trap Revisited”, *American Political Science Review*, (March, 1985), **pp. 157-176**;
- J.F.C. Fuller, “The Foundations of the Science of War”, *Army Quarterly*, 1 (October 1920)

IX. War and technology (8th November)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- Andrew Marshall, “Director of Net Assessment, “Some Thoughts on Military Revolutions – Second Version”. Washington DC: Office of the Secretary of Defense, 23 Aug. 1993.
- Hugh Gusterson, *Drone: Remote Control Warfare*. Cambridge: The MIT Press, 2016, **pp. 29-58**;

Recommended:

- Williamson Murray, „Clausewitz out, computer in“, *The National Interest*, (Summer 1997, Nr. 48);
- Andrew F. Krepinevich, „Cavalry to computer; the pattern of military revolutions“, *The National Interest*, (1994, Fall, Nr.37), **pp.30–42**;
- William A. Owens, „The American Revolution in Military Affairs“, *Joint Force Quarterly*, Winter 1995–96, **pp. 37-38**;

X. New character of war I: Counterinsurgency (15th November)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- David Ucko, „Innovation or Inertia: The U.S. Military and the Learning of Counterinsurgency“. *Orbis*, Spring 2008, Volume 52, Number 2, **pp. 290-310**;

- Douglas Porch, „The dangerous myths and dubious promise of COIN“, *Small Wars & Insurgencies*, 2011, 22:02, **pp. 239-257**.

Recommended:

- Andrew J. Bacevich, “The Petraeus Doctrine”. *The Atlantic Monthly*, October, 2008;
- John A. Nagl, *Learning to Eat Soup with a Knife: Counterinsurgency Lessons from Malaya and Vietnam*, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 2005, **pp. 35-55, 191-212**;
- Gian P. Gentile, “A Strategy of Tactics: Population-centric COIN and the Army”, *Parameters*, Autumn 2009, **pp. 5–17**.

XI. New character of war II: New wars (22nd November)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- Mary Kaldor, *New and old wars*. Cambridge: Polity Press, 2006, **pp. 1-14**;
- Stathis N. Kalyvas, ““New” and “Old” Civil Wars: A Valid Distinction?”. *World Politics*, Vol. 54, No. 1 (Oct., 2001), **pp. 99-118**.

Recommended:

- Herfried Munkler, *The new wars*. Cambridge: Polity Press, 2005, **pp. 5-31**;
- Edward Newman, “The ‘New Wars’ Debate: A Historical Perspective is Needed”. *Security Dialogue*, Vol. 35, no. 2, June 2004, **pp. 173–189**;
- Colin M. Fleming, “New or Old Wars? Debating a Clausewitzian Future”. *The Journal of Strategic Studies*, Vol. 32, No. 2, April 2009, **pp. 213–241**.

XII. An anatomy of one battle (29th November)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- J.F.Verbruggen, *The Battle of the Golden Spurs: Courtrai, 11 July 1302*, ed. Kelly de Vries, trans. David Richard Ferguson. Woodbridge and Rochester NY, The Boydell Press, 2002.

Recommended:

- Michael Mann, *Sources of social power*. Vol. 2. Cambridge; Cambridge university press, 1993 m., **pp. 44-91**.

XIII. Postmodern war (6st December)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- James Der Derian, „Virtuous War/Virtual Theory“, *International Affairs*, Vol. 76, No. 4, (Oct., 2000), **pp. 771-788**;
- Maja Zehfuss, „Culturally sensitive war? The Human Terrain System and the seduction of ethics“, *Security Dialogue*, 2012, 43(2), **pp. 175–190**;

Recommended:

- Roberto González, „Anthropologists or "Technicians of Power"? Examining the Human Terrain System“, *Practicing Anthropology*, Winter 2009, Vol. 31, No. 1, **pp. 34-37**;
- Emile Simpson, *War from the Ground Up: Twenty-First-Century Combat as Politics*. London: Hurst and Company, 2012, **pp. 1-14**.

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XIV. When war ends? (13th December)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- Mary L. Dudziak ir Richard F. Grimmett, „Law, War, and the History of Time“. *California Law Review*, Vol. 98, No. 5, October 2010 m., **pp. 1669-1709**;
- Robert Johnson, Timothy Clack (ed), *At the end of military intervention: historical, theoretical and applied approaches to transition, handover and withdrawal*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015, **pp. 1-26**.

Recommended:

- Roland Paris, Timothy D. Sisk, *The Dilemmas of Statebuilding: Confronting the contradictions of postwar peace operations*. New York: Routledge, 2009, **pp. 1-20**;
- Gary Bass, „Justice Post Bellum,“ *Philosophy & Political Affairs*, 32 (4), 2004, pp. 384-412;
- Tony Judt, *Postwar: a history of Europe since 1945*. New York: Penguin Press, 2005, **pp. 1-40**.

XV. Future of war (20th December)

Literature:

Compulsory:

- Nils Petter Gleditsch (ed.), „The Forum: The Decline of War“, *International Studies Review*, 2013, 15, **pp. 396–419**;
- Robert Johnson, „Predicting Future War“, *Parameters*, 2014, vol. 44, no. 1, **pp. 65-76**

Recommended:

- Michael Evans, „Forking Paths: War after Afghanistan“, *Parameters*, 44(1) Spring 2014, pp. **77-94**.