



About the Instructor

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Course Site

To access the course site, visit the Iowa Courses Online (ICON) homepage and log in using your Hawk ID and password. <http://icon.uiowa.edu>.

Academic Course Home

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences—History
<http://www.uiowa.edu/~history>

History Department Chair: Elizabeth Heineman
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Course Description:

World War II was a major watershed in American history, not only for the obvious fact that it transformed the American role in the world but also for its impact on the "home front" as well; students focus on the latter in this course. Any sustained war effort has important political, social, cultural, and economic implications. It shifts the priorities of political life, recasts the economy around wartime needs, and scrambles the private lives of those at home and abroad. All of this was exaggerated in the case of American participation in World War II. The sheer scale of the war effort brought with it far more profound and lasting changes than the shorter and smaller mobilization of 1917-1919. And, perhaps most importantly, the war came in a time at which the basic direction of American politics, political economy, and political culture was "up for grabs." The Depression which had begun in 1929 still gripped the nation's economy, and the political response to the Depression--the New Deal--had transformed the role of the state in the economy, introduced the first hints of the modern welfare state, and changed the rules and expectations of labor relations. All of these changes were matters of fierce debate when the war came; in some respects, the war suspended this debate, but in other respects it resolved it by recasting the New Deal around the assumptions of full employment and increased government spending. As students trace this and other elements of the war experience, they touch on prewar patterns, the impact and importance of the war, and the postwar situation.

This course meets the following degree requirements:

- **BLS/BAS Areas:** (Upper Level) Humanities

Media/System Requirements:

Technical requirements for completing University of Iowa Distance and Online Education classes include:

- Student-provided personal computer.
- Computer with reliable Internet access. A wired Ethernet connection to the internet is very strongly suggested. Wireless and cellphone data connections may experience connection problems. Android and iOS operating systems are not fully supported at this time. See specific requirements on the [Distance and Online Education Technical Requirements/Download page](#).
- While tablets, smartphones and other mobile devices may allow for some completion of coursework, they are not guaranteed to work in all areas. Please ensure you have a Windows or Mac based

computer available to complete coursework in the event your selected mobile device does not meet the needs of the course.

Students who need assistive technologies will have different computer and technology requirements. Please check with your [Student Disability Services](#) to determine the requirements for the specific technologies needed to support your online classes.

For questions, with virtual classrooms (i.e. Zoom) or UICapture (Panopto), please contact [Continuing Education Technical Support](#) (319 335-3925).


Need help with ICON or your Hawkid? Please contact the [ITS Helpdesk](#) (319 384-HELP).

Required Course Materials:

Listed below are the required course materials for this course. Please notice that some materials are available on the course site (e.g. Lesson Guides, Sidebars) while others must be purchased (e.g. textbook). The materials available on the course site can be found under “**Modules**” and are **organized by Lesson**.

Available on the course site (ICON):

The following items may be **downloaded/accessed from the course site**; use your Hawk ID and password to login.

- **Content Guides** (PDF). Short documents outlining the required coursework and assigned course materials for each lesson.
- **Sidebars** (Media). Best described as are short excursions into primary source material, using contemporary films, pamphlets, cartoons, posters, photographs, and audio clips. Links to “sidebars” can be found in the “Lesson Study Guides” (PDF) and include more detailed discussions and documentary evidence which is crucial to your understanding of the course material. Here is your first sidebar, which will let you “test drive” this feature. **To view this first sidebar**, click on the text inside the yellow box .
- Links to **pre-recorded lectures**. Each lesson is accompanied by an introductory lecture, which lays out the main themes and questions for the topic covered in the lesson.
- Links to assigned **readings and online resources**.

Textbooks to purchase:

- Jeffries, John. *Wartime America: the World War II Home Front*. Chicago: I.R. Dee, 1996. ISBN: 156663119X (paperback)
- Lewis Erenberg and Susan Hirsch (ed). *The War in American Culture*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996. ISBN: 0226215121 (paperback)

These may be ordered from the vendor of your choice or from a local bookstore. Listed below are bookstores from the Iowa City area; students may order books from these vendors online (visit vendor website), by phone, or in person. **Exact editions are required**. Overseas students are encouraged to request airmail shipment.

- **Iowa Book, L.L.C.** Web: <http://www.iowabook.com/> Phone: 319.337.4188
- **University Bookstore** - Web: <http://www.book.uiowa.edu/> Phone: 319.335.3179

Course Structure & Work Requirements:

This course is divided into **12 lessons**, each: (1) includes one or more assigned readings, documents, or document collections; (2) examines an important thematic element of the war years; (3) begins with a set of learning objectives. Important concepts, events, persons, or ideas are highlighted when they appear in the lesson narrative (sidebars). In addition, there are a number of assignments, activities, and examinations paced throughout the course. Brief descriptions follow. See “**Course Calendar**” section of this syllabus for submission deadlines.

- **Written Assignments (4).** These are to be completed following lesson 1, 2, 3, and 8 and consist of 1-2 page responses to the assignment questions. Assignments are described at the conclusion of the Lesson Study Guides.
- **Essay.** A 4-6 page essay is to be submitted following lesson 11. For this essay students will be able to pick one of two topics—War and Citizenship or The Politics of Propaganda. Both the assignments and the essay are to be submitted electronically to the appropriate folder on the **Assignments** page.
- **Online Discussion Activities (3).** For these activities the **class will be divided into three (3) groups** (see course homepage for group assignments). The expectations for each group are outline under each discussion activity on ICON (“**Discussions**” page) —for each of these, one group will have the responsibility of posting original content; the other two groups are asked to respond to these posts. Additional details are provided in the Content Guides for Lessons 5, 11, and 12.
- **Online 2-hour Proctored Examinations (2).** You take a First Exam after Lesson 6 covering all material seen to date, and a Second Exam after Lesson 12 over the material studied since the previous exam. The exams are composed of “short answer” questions, presented in two sections. In the first section, students will choose from a list of topics and terms. In the second section, students will pick from a selection of images. These will include editorial cartoons, war posters, and the like.

EXAM DATES AND REGISTRATION information can be found in the course homepage. Please be aware that local students can take the exams in the DCE Testing Center (no charge). Off-campus students will take exams using an online proctored exam service. Off-campus students are responsible for proctoring fees (\$20 per exam) and must have access to a computer with a webcam and headset/microphone. Both local and off-campus students will access and complete their exams via ICON. During the examination date, a proctor will release the exam in ICON for completion.

Course Grade:

Final course grades will be assessed based on the student’s performance on the following items:

	Points	% of final grade
Short Writing Assignments (4 – 5 pts. each)	20	20%
Essay (1 – 20 pts.)	20	20%
Online Discussions (2@ 5 pts. 1@10 pts.)	20	20%
Exams (2 – 20 pts. each)	40	40%
Total	100 points	100%

The grading scale on which your work is evaluated is:

A	B	C	D	F
100-97 A+	89-87 B+	79-77% C+	69-67% D+	59 - 0 F
96-93 A	86-83 B	76-73% C	66-63% D	
92-90 A-	82-80 B-	72-70% C-	62-60% D-	

Course Schedule:

This course is self-paced within a **structure of scheduled assignments**. You are not required to meet in a classroom, but we progress through the materials and lessons as a class. For this reason, you must **manage your time effectively** in order to complete assignments and exams according to the firm due dates listed in the schedule below. **Begin each lesson by reviewing the “Lesson Study Guide”** (ICON>Modules) for a complete list of the assigned readings/lectures, supporting media, and coursework requirements.

Dates	Course Outline & Due dates
Weeks 1-2 January 16-26	Lesson 1 – The United States and the Coming of World War II <i>Complete Written Assignment #1 (Due January 26)</i>
Week 3 January 29-February 2	Lesson 2 – Political Economy of War: Mobilizing State & Economy <i>Complete Written Assignment #2 (Due Feb. 2)</i>
Week 4 February 5-9	Lesson 3 – Regions and Cities at War <i>Complete Written Assignment #3 (Due Feb. 9)</i>
Week 5 February 12-16	Lesson 4 – The “Double V”: Civil Rights at War
Week 6 February 19-23	Lesson 5 – The Pacific War at Home: Race and Internment Discussion #1, Civil Rights (and Wrongs) in Wartime (Due Feb. 20-22, three days)
Week 7 February 26-March 2	Lesson 6 – The War at Home: Labor, 1941-1945
Week 8 March 5-9	<i>Take the 2-hour Online Midcourse Examination (March 6-7) at Continuing Education Facility (or online under the supervision of a virtual proctor). See Exam Information page on ICON for exam registration information.</i>
SPRING BREAK (March 12-16)	
Week 10 March 19-23	Lesson 7 – “Rosie the Riveter”: Women Workers at War
Week 11 March 26-30	Lesson 8 – The Private Life of War: Families and Relationships <i>Complete Written Assignment #4 (Due March 30)</i>
Week 12 April 2-6	Lesson 9 – Why We Fight: The Politics of Sacrifice (Discussion #2, The Dilemmas of Propaganda (Due April 3-5, three days)
Week 13 April 9-13	Lesson 10 – “We Want Some Meat!”: Rationing and Price Controls
Week 14 April 16-20	Lesson 11 – The Dilemmas of Propaganda <i>Complete Essay (Due April 20)</i>

Dates	Course Outline & Due dates
Week 15 April 23-27	Lesson 12 – Selling the War: Radio, Magazines, and Movies Discussion #3, Selling the War (Due April 24-26, three days)
Week 16 April 30-May 4	<i>Take the 2-hour Online Final Examination (May 1-2) at Continuing Education Facility (or online under the supervision of a virtual proctor). See Exam Information page on ICON for exam registration information.</i>

College of Liberal Arts Policies

Academic Misconduct: All forms of plagiarism and any other activities that result in a student presenting work that is not his or her own are academic fraud. All academic fraud is reported to the departmental DEO and then to the Associate Dean for the Office of Academic Programs and Student Development. All incidents of academic misconduct (plagiarism and cheating) will be subject to the rules and regulations of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences as defined and stated in section IX of the Academic Policies Handbook (<http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook>).

Complaint Procedures: If at any time you have concerns about this class or your performance in it, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you do not feel that your concern has been resolved satisfactorily, you may contact the Department Chair (contact information provided at the top of page one of this syllabus). If you still do not feel that your concern has been resolved satisfactorily, you may contact the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Office of Academic Programs and Student Development, 120 Schaeffer Hall, (319) 335-2633, clasps@uiowa.edu. All complaints must be made within six months of the incident. The College's complaint procedures are in section IX of the Academic Policies Handbook (<http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook>).

Administrative Home of the Course: The administrative home of this course is the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, which governs academic matters relating to the course such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, issues concerning academic fraud or academic probation, and how credits are applied for various graduation requirements. Different colleges might have different policies. If you have questions about these or other CLAS policies, contact your academic advisor or the Office of Academic Programs and Student Development, 120 Schaeffer Hall, (319) 335-2633, clasps@uiowa.edu. The CLAS Academic Policies Handbook also contains important CLAS academic policy: <http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook>.

University Policies

Special Modifications: Subsequent to course enrollment, students needing accommodations should register with [Student Disability Services](#), 3100 Burge Hall, (319) 335.1462, and obtain a Student Academic Accommodation Request (SAAR) form. The form will specify what course accommodations are judged reasonable for that student. The Division of Continuing Education is committed to both Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Section 508 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

Understanding Sexual Harassment: Sexual harassment is reprehensible and will not be tolerated by the University. It subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. Visit this site (<http://www.sexualharassment.uiowa.edu/>) for definitions, assistance, and the full University policy.

