

The Great War
HUM 3110
André Lambelet
A.323 – Block 2, 2014
2014 Fall Block 2

A century ago, a war that contemporaries almost immediately dubbed the “Great War” roared across Europe and the world. The war—arguable the first total war—marked the defining moment of the twentieth century. Tens of millions of men were mobilized to fight in the bloodiest conflict the world had seen; millions of those died, were wounded, or taken prisoners; untold numbers suffered the lasting physical and psychic traumas of a brutal and brutalizing experience. Great swathes of land in France and Belgium were laid waste. Images of the conflict—the lunar landscape of No Man’s Land, seemingly endless tangled coils of rusting barbed wire, spectral figures of goggle-eyed soldiers in gasmasks, and muddy, rat-infested trenches—haunted the memories of those who had lived through it. But the war affected not just those who engaged in battle, but also those who stayed at home: women, children, the old and the infirm. In this history course, we will examine the Great War, not just through a study of military operations, but also through an examination of the social, artistic, literary and political responses to the conflict.

Reading Schedule

Key: **FWW**: Strachan, *The First World War*

OIH: Strachan (ed.), *Illustrated History of the First World War*

CHP: available on the course home page

*: Required reading

We will be reading Barbusse and Jünger in their entirety, and you will be writing short papers (c. 500 words) on each. Best to get started on those sooner rather than later.

Reading for Tuesday, September 30

***FWW**: “1. To arms”

***CHP**: Lambelet, André José. “Manifestly Inferior? French Reserves, 1871–1914.” In *Scraping the Barrel: The Military Use of Sub-Standard Manpower, 1860-1960*, edited by Sanders Marble, 54–78. New York: Fordham University Press, 2012.

***CHP**: Showalter, Dennis. “A Grand Illusion? German Reserves, 1815-1914.” In *Scraping the Barrel: The Military Use of Sub-Standard Manpower, 1860-1960*, edited by Sanders Marble, 28–52. New York: Fordham University Press, 2012.

OIH (optional): Williamson, “The Origins of the War”

Barbusse: Start reading! You’ll need to have reached p. 203 (the end of “Bombardment”) by Friday!

Wednesday, October 1, 2014

***FWW**: “2. Under the eagle”

***OIH**: Afflerbach, “The Strategy of the Central Powers, 1914-1917”

***OIH**: Showalter, “Manoeuvre Warfare: The Eastern and Western Fronts, 1914-1915”

***OIH**: French, “The Strategy of the Entente Powers, 1914-1917”

***Online**: Doughty, Robert A. “French Strategy in 1914: Joffre’s Own.” *The Journal of Military History* 67, no. 2 (April 1, 2003): 427–54. (<http://www.jstor.org/stable/3093463>)

- *Online:** Foley, Robert T. "The Origins of the Schlieffen Plan." *War in History* 10, no. 2 (April 2003): 222. (<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=9159355&site=ehost-live>)
- Optional: Online:** Evera, Stephen Van. "The Cult of the Offensive and the Origins of the First World War." *International Security* 9, no. 1 (July 1, 1984): 58–107. doi:10.2307/2538636.
- Optional: Online:** Porch, Douglas. "The Marne and After: A Reappraisal of French Strategy in the First World War." *The Journal of Military History* 53, no. 4 (October 1, 1989): 363–86. doi:10.2307/1986106.
- Optional: Online:** Showalter, Dennis. "From Deterrence to Doomsday Machine: The German Way of War, 1890-1914." *The Journal of Military History* 64, no. 3 (July 1, 2000): 679–710. doi:10.2307/120865.
- Barbusse:** Keep reading!

Thursday, October 2, 2014 –Special topic: the Fischer Controversy: *Journal of Contemporary History* 48, no. 2 (April 1, 2013)

Discussion: origins, guilt and controversies

Everyone *must* read:

Online: Articles 231-247 of the Peace Treaty of Versailles (28 June 1919)

<http://net.lib.byu.edu/~rdh7/wwi/versa/versa7.html>

CHP: Mombauer, Annika. "The Fischer Controversy 50 Years on." *Journal of Contemporary History* 48, no. 2 (April 1, 2013): 231–40. doi:10.1177/0022009412472712.

Everyone must read *two* of the following – signups will be provided in class. (All are on CHP.)

Jenkins, Jennifer. "Fritz Fischer's 'Programme for Revolution': Implications for a Global History of Germany in the First World War." *Journal of Contemporary History* 48, no. 2 (April 1, 2013): 397–417. doi:10.1177/0022009412472713.

Keiger, J. F. V. "The Fischer Controversy, the War Origins Debate and France: A Non-History." *Journal of Contemporary History* 48, no. 2 (April 1, 2013): 363–75. doi:10.1177/0022009412472715.

Kronenbitter, Guenther. "Keeping a Low Profile – Austrian Historiography and the Fischer Controversy." *Journal of Contemporary History* 48, no. 2 (April 1, 2013): 333–49. doi:10.1177/0022009412472720.

Mombauer, Annika. "The Fischer Controversy, Documents and the 'Truth' About the Origins of the First World War." *Journal of Contemporary History* 48, no. 2 (April 1, 2013): 290–314. doi:10.1177/0022009412472711.

Otte, T. G. "'Outcast From History': The Fischer Controversy and British Historiography." *Journal of Contemporary History* 48, no. 2 (April 1, 2013): 376–96. doi:10.1177/0022009412472719.

Petzold, Stephan. "The Social Making of a Historian: Fritz Fischer's Distancing From Bourgeois-Conservative Historiography, 1930–60." *Journal of Contemporary History* 48, no. 2 (April 1, 2013): 271–89. doi:10.1177/0022009412472701.

Sanborn, Joshua. "Russian Historiography on the Origins of the First World War Since the Fischer Controversy." *Journal of Contemporary History* 48, no. 2 (April 1, 2013): 350–62. doi:10.1177/0022009412472716.

Steinberg, Jonathan. "Old Knowledge and New Research: A Summary of the Conference on the Fischer Controversy 50 Years On." *Journal of Contemporary History* 48, no. 2 (April 1, 2013): 241–50. doi:10.1177/0022009412472718.

Stibbe, Matthew. "Reactions from the Other Germany: The Fischer Controversy in the German Democratic Republic." *Journal of Contemporary History* 48, no. 2 (April 1, 2013): 315–32. doi:10.1177/0022009412472717.

Strandmann, Hartmut Pogge von. "The Political and Historical Significance of the Fischer Controversy." *Journal of Contemporary History* 48, no. 2 (April 1, 2013): 251–70. doi:10.1177/0022009412472714.

Friday, October 3

***CHP**: Army War College, “Notes on the French 75 mm gun,” 1917.

Browse: *Manual for commanders of infantry platoons, part 1 and part 2.*

***Barbusse**: Keep reading. Try to reach the end of “Bombardment,” p. 203.

Monday, October 6

***FWW**: “3. Global war”

***OIH**: Killingray, “The War in Africa”

***Online**: Myron J. Echenberg. “Paying the Blood Tax: Military Conscription in French West Africa, 1914-1929.” *Canadian Journal of African Studies / Revue Canadienne Des Études Africaines* 9, no. 2 (January 1, 1975): 171–92. doi:10.2307/484079.

Optional – CHP: Lambelet, André José. “‘Liaison Factice’ and ‘Schwarze Schande’: Black Soldiers, French Officers, and the Ideology of Conscription.” *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Western Society for French History* 28 (2002): 271-281.

***FWW**: “4. Jihad”

Monday evening -

* **Film**: *Gallipoli* 7 pm, Media Room (A119)

Tuesday, October 7

***FWW**: “5. Shackled to a corpse”

***OIH**: Crampton, “The Balkans, 1914-1918”

***OIH**: Trumpener, “Turkey’s War”

***OIH**: Prior and Wilson, “Eastern Front and Western Front”

Recommended reading:

Solzhenitsyn, *August 1914*

Hašek, Jaroslav *The Good Soldier Schweik*

Wednesday, October 8

First half of class: presentation of topic ideas; Meetings with tutor.

Thursday, October 9 “Under Fire”: Life in the Trenches

***FWW**: “6. Breaking the deadlock”

***OIH**: Strachan, “Economic Mobilization: Money, Munitions, and Machines”

***Barbusse**: Finish.

*Evening (7 pm) Film session – *Paths of glory*

Friday, October 10– Shell shock session - -- Interlude – Shell shock

Guest: Neal Melvin.

We will divide up today’s reading: everyone will read at least two articles thoroughly, and be prepared to lead discussion in small groups on those articles.

Becker, Annette. “The Avant-Garde, Madness and the Great War.” *Journal of Contemporary History* 35, no. 1 (January 1, 2000): 71–84.

Bourke, Joanna. “Effeminacy, Ethnicity and the End of Trauma: The Sufferings of ‘Shell-Shocked’ Men in Great Britain and Ireland, 1914-39.” *Journal of Contemporary History* 35, no. 1 (January 1, 2000): 57–69.

Leed, Eric. “Fateful Memories: Industrialized War and Traumatic Neuroses.” *Journal of Contemporary History* 35, no. 1 (January 1, 2000): 85–100.

- Lerner, Paul. "Psychiatry and Casualties of War in Germany, 1914-18." *Journal of Contemporary History* 35, no. 1 (January 1, 2000): 13–28.
- Merridale, Catherine. "The Collective Mind: Trauma and Shell-Shock in Twentieth-Century Russia." *Journal of Contemporary History* 35, no. 1 (January 1, 2000): 39–55.
- Mosse, George L. "Shell-Shock as a Social Disease." *Journal of Contemporary History* 35, no. 1 (January 1, 2000): 101–108.
- Roudebush, Marc. "A Patient Fights Back: Neurology in the Court of Public Opinion in France during the First World War." *Journal of Contemporary History* 35, no. 1 (January 1, 2000): 29–38.
- Winter, Jay. "Foreword." *Journal of Contemporary History* 35, no. 1 (January 1, 2000): 5.
- . "Shell-Shock and the Cultural History of the Great War." *Journal of Contemporary History* 35, no. 1 (January 1, 2000): 7–11.

Monday, October 13

Thanksgiving – No class.

Tuesday, October 14 Women and Civilians in an Age of Total War (and beginning work on POWs)

***FWW** 7. Blockade – (not for discussion today – but should have under your belt)

***CHP**: Gullace, Nicoletta F. "White Feathers and Wounded Men: Female Patriotism and the Memory of the Great War." *Journal of British Studies* 36, no. 2 (April 1, 1997): 178–206.

Film tonight (7 pm): *La Grande Illusion*

***OIH** – for an overview: Grayzel, "The Role of Women in the War"

Please choose at least *two* of the following articles.

- Online**: Becker, Annette. "The Dilemmas of Protecting Civilians in Occupied Territory: The Precursory Example of World War I." *International Review of the Red Cross* 94, no. 885 (March 2012): 117–32. doi:10.1017/S1816383112000264. (<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=84125222&site=ehost-live>)
- Online**: Cabanes, Bruno. "Negotiating Intimacy in the Shadow of War (France, 1914-1920s): New Perspectives in the Cultural History of World War I." *French Politics, Culture & Society* 31, no. 1 (Spring 2013): 1–23. doi:10.3167/fpcs.2013.310101. (<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=86447416&site=ehost-live>)
- Online**: Grayzel, Susan R. "Mothers, Mairaines, and Prostitutes: Morale and Morality in First World War France." *The International History Review* 19, no. 1 (February 1, 1997): 66–82. (<http://www.jstor.org/stable/40108084>)
- Online**: Grayzel, Susan R. "The Souls of Soldiers?: Civilians under Fire in First World War France." *The Journal of Modern History* 78, no. 3 (2006): 588–622. (<http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1086/509209>)
- CHP**: Gullace, Nicoletta F. "Sexual Violence and Family Honor: British Propaganda and International Law during the First World War." *The American Historical Review* 102, no. 3 (June 1, 1997): 714–47. doi:10.2307/2171507. (<http://www.jstor.org/stable/1986964>)
- Online**: Power, Jo-Ann. "Courage and Medical Innovation: The Nurses of World War One." *British Journal of Nursing* 22, no. 22 (December 12, 2013): 1323–1323. (<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=92996212&site=ehost-live>)
- Online**: Stockdale, Melissa K. "My Death for the Motherland Is Happiness?: Women, Patriotism, and Soldiering in Russia's Great War, 1914-1917." *The American Historical Review* 109, no. 1 (February 1, 2004): 78–116. doi:10.1086/587018. (<http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1086/530152>)
- Online**: Todd, Lisa M. "The Soldier's Wife Who Ran Away with the Russian?: Sexual Infidelities in World War I Germany." *Central European History (Cambridge University Press / UK)* 44, no. 2 (June 2011): 257–78. doi:10.1017/S0008938911000033. (<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=60829850&site=ehost-live>)

SECOND HALF OF CLASS: FINDING POW FILES

We will begin trying to find the records of individual combatants or captives to get a jump on the assignment that is due tomorrow (Wednesday).

Using the online databases listed here, find the record of a particular person. Find all the details you can: date of birth, date of death, capture, or injury, medals awarded, marital status, or anything else that you can glean from these resources. Find as much information as you can about a handful of soldiers. Print out whatever material you have found and bring it to class.

You might try to think of relatives who might have served in the Canadian, Australian, New Zealand, or Belgian armed forces. (U.S. Army enlisted personnel records were destroyed in a fire in 1973; British records were bombed and burnt in 1940.)

- Canada: Service Files of the First World War, 1914-1918 – CEF: <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/first-world-war-1914-1918-cef/Pages/search.aspx>
- Australian Anzacs in the Great War 1914-1918: <https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/index.html>
- Australia/New Zealand: Discovering Anzacs: <http://discoveringanzacs.naa.gov.au>
- Belgian casualties of the Great War: <http://www.gonewest.be/en/namenlijst/list-names>
- U.S. war dead buried overseas: <http://www.abmc.gov/search-abmc-burials-and-memorializations>
- International: Prisoners of the First World War -ICRC Historical Archives: <http://grandeguerre.icrc.org>

Wednesday, October 15 – POW

Discussion of *Grande Illusion*; examination of records found; discussion of articles (below):

- ***Online:** Rachamimov, Alon . “The Disruptive Comforts of Drag: (Trans)Gender Performances among Prisoners of War in Russia, 1914–1920.” *The American Historical Review* 111, no. 2 (April 1, 2006): 362–82. doi:10.1086/ahr.111.2.362.
- ***Online:** Cook, Tim. “The Politics of Surrender: Canadian Soldiers and the Killing of Prisoners in the Great War.” *The Journal of Military History* 70, no. 3 (July 1, 2006): 637–65.
- ***Online:** Jones, Heather. “The German Spring Reprisals of 1917: Prisoners of War and the Violence of the Western Front.” *German History* 26, no. 3 (July 2008): 335–56. doi:10.1093/gerhis/ghn024.
- ***Online:** Pegram, Aaron. “Informing the Enemy: Australian Prisoners and German Intelligence on the Western Front, 1916–1918.” *First World War Studies* 4, no. 2 (August 19, 2013): 167–84. doi:10.1080/19475020.2013.828634.

Thursday, October 16 – Individual Conferences

- ***OIH:** J. M. Winter, “Propaganda and the Mobilization of Consent”
- ***OIH:** Turner, “The Challenge of Liberalism: The Politics of the Home Fronts”

Friday, October 17 – Mutiny and Revolution

- ***FWW:** “8. Revolution”
- ***OIH:** John Horne, “Socialism, Peace, and Revolution, 1917-1918
- ***OIH:** Alexander Watson, “Mutinies and Military Morale”
- ***JSTOR:** Smith, Leonard V. “The Disciplinary Dilemma of French Military Justice, September 1914-April 1917: The Case of the 5e Division d’Infanterie.” *The Journal of Military History* 55, no. 1 (January 1, 1991): 47–68. doi:10.2307/1986128.

Monday, October 19 – The End is Nigh

- ***FWW** 9. Germany’s last gamble
- ***OIH:** Holger H. Herwig , “The German Victories, 1917-1918”

- ***OIH**: John H. Morrow, Jr, “The War in the Air”
- ***OIH**: Tim Travers. “The /Allied Victories, 1918”

Tuesday, October 20:

- ***FWW**: 10. War without end
- ***OIH**: Zara Steiner, “The Peace Settlement”
- ***OIH**: Robert Gerwarth, “No End to War”
- ***OIH**: Modris Eksteins, “Memory and the Great War”

Academic integrity

As the Quest University Calendar notes, “Quest is committed to the principle of academic integrity, itself grounded in the fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility in all academic work.” We depend on the honesty and responsibility of all of our members—scholars and teachers alike.

In keeping with the Quest Honour Principle, you will do your own work, and you will conscientiously and meticulously credit sources. Citing sources is not optional in academic work—it is a fundamental principle. As you should know, plagiarism is, broadly speaking, passing off someone else work or ideas as your own, failing to properly identify and credit the source of material you submit, or using cited material improperly. Please be aware that failure to observe the rules of citation will result in charges of plagiarism or academic dishonesty.

Charges of plagiarism or of academic dishonesty are not taken lightly, and may have dire consequences: failure on the assignment, failure of the course, and worse. To avoid this sort of unpleasantness, please be sure to read “University Policies: Quest Honour Principle and Protocol” in the University Calendar. If you have questions about citation, crediting sources, or anything else relating to academic integrity, please ask before you turn in the work. (Information about plagiarism can also be obtained from the Learning Commons.)

If the principle of citation is the same across academic disciplines, the particular format of citation varies from discipline to discipline, and even within disciplines. My own *strong* preference is for Chicago or Turabian footnote citations with a bibliography. Please cite correctly and consistently and provide a “Works Cited” or “Bibliography” page.

Date due	Project	Assignment	%
Various dates	Presentation / reading	War poetry	5%
October 3	Research paper	Topic for research paper	0%
October 10 (before class)	Short essay	Short essay: Barbusse (500 words)	15%
October 14 – beginning of class	Research paper	Research bibliography / discussion of topic / formulation of the problem	10%
October 15 (before class – for discussion)	Online research	Finding people: personnel and POW records	5%
October 17 (before class)	Short essay	Short essay: Jünger	15%
October 20 (before class – for revision)	Research paper	Developed and annotated bibliography; justification of the topic and problem.	10%
October 22	Research paper	Roughly ten double-spaced pages, not counting bibliography and footnotes.	25%
Various	Film review	<i>Paths of Glory, Grande Illusion, Gallipoli</i> (500 words)	5%
Citizenship			10%
			100.00%