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Office Hours:
Or by appointment

ANTH 467
Soldiering: Perspectives on Military Life
Winter 2015
Wednesday, 2:00 – 4:45, KNB 131

If the modern soldier was defined primarily as a legitimate extension and ideal representation of the (nation) state at home and across a vast imperial landscape, then the post-World War II soldier has been characterized by not only the deterritorialization of the soldierly ideal, but also the expansion and blurring of civil-military ventures in international conflict arenas. The soldier's participation in peacekeeping operations, international development, humanitarian efforts, reconstruction, private security and even scientific research has made her indistinguishable from her civilian counterparts in a wide range of tenuous collaborations. Rather than being understood as *political* actors, the vast majority of military-civilian collaborators are understood as *technical experts*, organized by vast logistical systems and participating in larger knowledge economies that underlie processes labeled alternately as 'securitization' and 'democratization.'

This course intends to revisit the traditional relationship of the soldier to the state and to examine these tenuous, often-technical relations between civilian, military and other actors. What happens to soldiering with the erosion of the social institutions and forms of political organization that sustained it? When armies are privatized, when corporations take over the state's "dirty business of war," and when national armies actively partake in the work of corporations, non-profits, private healthcare providers and other civil organizations? When "irregular," "asymmetric," "low-intensity" warfare is conducted by combatants who are not members of professional armies is the order of the day? When technical experts and scientists become soldiers and human soldiers are gradually replaced by technological systems, such as unmanned drones, in the 'war on terror'? Anthropology, as a discipline highly aware of its historic and contemporary position at the intersection of colonial expansion and militarized academic and technical knowledge, provides an ideal entry point into these questions for it neither takes for granted the limits of soldierly practice, nor does it forget that knowledge production is always simultaneously an ethical and political act.



Course Format:

This course will follow an **interactive lecture and discussion style format**, accompanied by the occasional film or documentary in class. **Readings are crucial and students are expected to come to class having both read the readings and prepared to discuss them and ask questions.** Please note: discussion will be a very important component of this class. All course materials and information will be posted on the U of C Blackboard. A lecture outline for each class will be posted online immediately following the class. Only some of the supplementary video clips viewed in class will be available online. **The course outline is subject to change.**

Course Assignments and Assessment:

Whereas ANTH 343 was a course in the anthropology of militarization that focused on *analytic writing skills*, this class will focus on developing *research and research paper-writing skills*. Students will work on one primary research project throughout the semester, and all assignments are geared to further this research project along. The goal is, at the end of the semester, for students to produce a well-researched and original academic paper. For all written assignments, **the American Anthropological Association style guide should be used** as it is the dominant bibliographic format for academic journals in anthropology. If you have not already done so, please download the AAA style guide from the website below:

<http://www.aaanet.org/publications/guidelines.cfm>

For each assignment, you will receive a detailed assignment guideline sheet, which describes **both the assignment and the assessment** in advance of the assignment due date.

Students will be evaluated on the basis of a 100-point system:

Class Participation and Attendance	20%
Annotated Bibliography	10%
Research Plan for Final Paper (including research questions)	10%
Outline of Final Paper	10%
Research Roundtable Presentation	10%
17-20 page Final Research Paper	40%

The final mark out of 100, will then be converted to a letter grade as follows:

A+	94.9 – 100%	A	89.9 – 94.8%	A-	84.9 – 89.8%
B+	79.9 – 84.8%	B	74.9 – 79.8%	B-	70.9 – 74.8%
C+	66.9 – 70.8%	C	62.9 – 66.8%	C-	58.9 – 62.8%
D+	54.9% - 58.8%	D	49.9 – 54.8%	F	49.8% and below

A note on plagiarism:

Any use of another person's words, ideas either taken *directly or indirectly* and *without citation* is cause for a plagiarism investigation. This includes material from the internet. You are too smart to plagiarize. And, trust me, it's not hard to spot plagiarism. Any plagiarism will automatically result in a failing grade for the submission. Any student caught plagiarizing will also be subject to additional University sanctions. If you have any questions about citation or bibliographical style, please contact me. Please use the same bibliographical style on all written submissions. Students should familiarize themselves with the department's policy on intellectual honesty:

<http://anth.ucalgary.ca/home/links/intellectual-honesty-guidelines>

Required Texts for Purchase:

Bickford, Andrew. (2011) *Fallen Elites: The Military Other in Post-Unification Germany*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Singer, P.W. (2010) *Wired for War: The Robotics Revolution and Conflict in the 21st Century*. New York: Penguin Books.

I. Wednesday, January 14, 2015: The Lifecycle of a Soldier

To be read in class:

Ben-Ari, Eyal (1998) "The Military, Anthropology and Organizational Culture" and "The Unit: An Infantry Battalion" *In Mastering Soldiers: Conflict, Emotions and the Enemy in an Israeli Military Unit*. New York: Berghahn Books.

Owen, Roger (2011) *An Officer but not quite a Gentleman in a Middle Class Job*. Unpublished Manuscript.

Ben-Ari, Eyal (2005) "A "Good" Military Death" *In Armed Forces and Society*. 31:4, 651-664.

II. Wednesday, January 21, 2015: Rethinking the Civilian-Soldier Divide

To read before class:

Bickford, Andrew. (2011) *Fallen Elites: The Military Other in Post-Unification Germany*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, pp 1- 133. (Chapters 1-5 inclusive)

To be read in class:

Gramsci, Antonio. (1971) "The Intellectuals" in *Selections from the Prison Notebooks*. Eds. Quinton Hoare and Geoffrey Nowell Smith. London: International Publishers. Available at: <http://www.csun.edu/~snk1966/Gramsci%20-%20Prison%20Notebooks%20-%20Intellectuals.pdf>

Film in class: scenes from *The Lives of Others (Das Leben der Anderen)*, 2006.

III. Wednesday, January 28, 2015: The Contemporary Soldier: Human or Technological?

Bickford, Andrew. (2011) *Fallen Elites: The Military Other in Post-Unification Germany*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, pp 134 – 226. (Chapter 6 to the end)

Wagner, Sarah (2012) *The Making and Unmaking of an Unknown Soldier*. Article Forthcoming.

Optional:

Benjamin, Walter (1936) *The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction*. <http://www.marxists.org/reference/subject/philosophy/works/ge/benjamin.htm>

IV. Wednesday, February 4, 2015: The Soldierly Body and its Extensions

Benjamin, Walter (1936) *The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction*. <http://www.marxists.org/reference/subject/philosophy/works/ge/benjamin.htm>

MacLeish, Kenneth T. (2012) "Armor and Anesthesia: Exposure, Feeling and the Soldier's Body" *In Medical Anthropology Quarterly*. 26:1, 49-68.

Singer, P.W. (2010) *Wired for War: The Robotics Revolution and Conflict in the 21st Century*. New York: Penguin Books. 1 and 2, pp 19-64

Latour, Bruno (2000) "When Things Strike Back: A Possible Contribution of Science Studies to Social Sciences" *In The British Journal of Sociology*. 51:1, 107-123.

V. Wednesday, February 11, 2015: Drone Warfare

Singer, P.W. (2010) *Wired for War: The Robotics Revolution and Conflict in the 21st Century*. New York: Penguin Books. Chapters 3, 5, 6, 8

Mayer, Jane. "The Predator War" *In The New Yorker*. October 26, 2009.
<http://www.beaconschool.org/~bfaithfu/mayerdrones.pdf>

Abbe, Nicole. (2012) "The Woes of an American Drone Operator" *In Der Spiegel*.
<http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/pain-continues-after-war-for-american-drone-pilot-a-872726.html>

Documentary in Class: Rise of the Drones, PBS

*****ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY IS DUE TODAY*****

Vi. Wednesday, February 18, 2015 – No class; Reading Week

VII. Wednesday, February 25, 2015: Cyborg Warfare

Haraway, Donna. (1991) "A Cyborg Manifesto" *In Simians, Cyborgs and Women: The Reinvention of Nature*. New York: Routledge.

Singer, P.W. (2010) *Wired for War: The Robotics Revolution and Conflict in the 21st Century*. New York: Penguin Books. Chapter 16, 17, 18

Documentary in Class: Rise of the Drones, PBS

VIII. Wednesday, March 4, 2015: The Robotics Revolutions

Podcast with Noel Sharkey and Ronald Arkin on Ethical Robots

Please listen to: <http://www.robotspodcast.com/podcast/2009/02/robots-robot-ethics-part-2.html/>

"A Soldier, Taking Orders from its Ethical Judgment Center" In *The New York Times*,
<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/25/science/25robots.html?scp=1&sq=Ronald%20Arkin&st=cse&r=0>

Singer, P.W. (2010) *Wired for War: The Robotics Revolution and Conflict in the 21st Century*. New York: Penguin Books. Chapters 9, 11, 13, 14, 20 and 21. (Optional Reading: chapter 22)

Kosek, Jake (2010) "Ecologies of Empire: On the New Uses of the Honeybee" In *Cultural Anthropology*. 25:4, 650-678.

RESEARCH PLAN IS DUE TODAY

IX. Wednesday, March 11, 2015: The Soldier in the War on Terror

Na'aman, Oded (2012) "The Checkpoint: Terror, Power and Cruelty." In *The Boston Review*.
http://www.bostonreview.net/BR37.4/oded_naaman_israeli_defense_forces_palestinians_occupation.php

Li, Darryl (2010) *Mujahid Masculinities*. Unpublished Manuscript

Keddie, Nikki (1994) "The Revolt of Islam, 1700-1993: Comparative Considerations and Relations to Imperialism," In *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 36 (3): 463-487

Jelal, Ayesha (2008) *Partisans of Allah: Jihad in South Asia*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Selections. (In class)

X. Wednesday, March 18, 2015: Militarized Humanitarianism and Interventions

To be read before class:

Ghosh, Amitav (1994) "The Global Reservation: Notes toward an Ethnography of International Peacekeeping" In *Cultural Anthropology*. 9:3, 412-422.

Pandolfi, Mariella (2003) "Contract of Mutual (In)Difference: Governance and the Humanitarian Apparatus in Contemporary Albania and Kosovo" In *Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies*. 10:1, 369-381.

Bjork, Kjell and Richard Jones (2008) "Overcoming Dilemmas Created by the 21st Century Mercenaries: Conceptualising the Use of Private Security Companies in Iraq" In

Third World Quarterly. 26:4, 777-796.

To be read in class:

Agamben, Giorgio. *The State of Exception*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, pp1-31.

Available online at:

<http://cscs.res.in/dataarchive/textfiles/textfile.2008-07-22.3968004064/file>

Documentary in Class: Shadow Company

XI. Wednesday, March 25, 2015: Standard Operating Procedures & Abu Ghraib

Abu Ghraib Photos – online link will be provided.

Fusco, Coco. (2008) *A Field Guide for Female Interrogators*. New York: Seven Stories Press. Selections.

Zacka, Bernardo (2011) *Improvisation and Practical Judgment at Abu Ghraib: A Case Study in the Bureaucratization of Arbitrariness*. Unpublished Manuscript.

Documentary in Class: Standard Operating Procedure

XII. Wednesday, April 1, 2015: Mercenary Anthropology

Price, David (2002) "Lessons from Second World War Anthropology" *In Anthropology Today*. 18:3, 14-20

Eisenstadt, Michael Lt.Col. (2007) "Anthropology 101 for Soldiers: What is a tribe?" *In Military Review*.

Gonzalez, Roberto J. (2007) "Towards mercenary anthropology? The New US Army Counterinsurgency Manual FM 3-24 and the military-anthropology complex." *In Anthropology Today*. 25: 2, 15-19.

Documentary in Class: Human Terrain

*****OUTLINE OF FINAL PAPER IS DUE TODAY*****

XIII. Wednesday, April 8, 2015 – RESEARCH ROUNDTABLE

*****FINAL PAPER IS DUE APRIL 25TH*****

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS:

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact their office at 220-- - 8237. You

are required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource

Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Plagiarism: "to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own" (Webster's). Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade for the submission. Any student caught plagiarizing will also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with the Anthropology Department's policy on intellectual honesty available at: <http://anth.ucalgary.ca/intellectual-- - honesty-- - guidelines>

EMERGENCY EVACUATION:

In the event that the classroom should need to be evacuated due to an emergency situation please note that the primary assembly point shall be at the MacEwan Student Centre North Courtyard and the University Theatre Lobby shall be used as a secondary assembly point.

SAFEWALK:

Campus security will escort individuals day or night (www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk). Call 220-- - 5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone, or the yellow phones located at most parking lot pay booths.

USRI

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses. Your responses make a difference, please participate!

Website: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri/>