COURSE DESCRIPTION
The course examines practices and experiences of war through the lens of art. The goal is to enable students to develop different and broader understandings of warfare – to consider ways in which war informs and intervenes in everyday life; to analyze an array of interactions between war, its spectators and its participants; and to ponder modes in which war mobilizes bodies and emotions.

This semester, the course revolves around the exhibit Aftermath: The Fallout of War – America & the Middle East at the Harn Museum of Art. The exhibit and its accompanying events (lectures, discussions, performance) encourage an intellectual and affective engagement with victims, veterans and witnesses of contemporary wars, thus extending beyond assigned classroom meeting times. Much like its topic, the course demands serious emotional and time commitment, also reflected in the number and the type of assignments for the course.

REQUIRED BOOKS

Aftermath, edited by Carol McCusker, University of Florida Press, 2016


War is Beautiful, by David Shields. powerHouse Books, 2015

COURSE PARTICIPATION
This is a discussion-based course. Students are expected to attend every class; to come to class prepared, having completed all the readings for that particular class in advance; and to participate in discussions in a thoughtful, disciplined, and deliberate manner. All readings in this syllabus are required and will be discussed in class. If, for some reason, you are unable to do ALL the readings for a particular class, please email me in advance but do not do so more than twice in the course of the semester. In addition, if you are for some reason unable to actively participate in class conversations, email me your contributions ahead of time. I will incorporate them in class discussions without mentioning your name.

In addition to class attendance, students are expected to attend at least five out of nine events related to Aftermath and/or Gainesville veterans. The full listed of events can be found here.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Grade will be based on seven assignments and class participation:

1) A 2500 words essay about one of the photographs in the exhibit Aftermath. Students should explain their choice of the photograph, conduct research on/about the photographer and the context in which the photograph was taken, and explain what they have learned about the conflict/aftermath of the conflict through their research and a “dialogue” with that photograph. The essay will be due in class on October 18, 2016. (20 POINTS MAXIMUM)

2) A 2500 words essay about an artwork (film, photograph, painting, poem, novel …) that takes war as its subject. Students should explain their choice of the artwork, conduct research on/about its author and the context in which the artwork was created, and explain what they have learned about the conflict/aftermath of the conflict through their research and a “dialogue” with that artwork. The essay will be due in class on December 6, 2016. (20 POINTS MAXIMUM)

3) Five two-page reports about accompanying lectures, discussions, performance. Students should briefly summarize the event and describe what they have learned from it. Each report will be due 72 hours after the event took place. (4 POINTS EACH, 20 POINTS MAXIMUM)

4) An Adobe Spark story (5-8 photos) depicting traces of war in student’s environment (campus, home town, Gainesville). The Spark story will be due by 8 a.m. on September 27. (5 POINTS MAXIMUM)

5) An Adobe Spark story (5-8 photos) depicting militarization of everyday life in the U.S. The Spark story will be due by 8 a.m. on November 29. (5 POINTS MAXIMUM)

6) A five-page summary of an interview with a war veteran, survivor or witness. Students are particularly encouraged to discuss any exposure to war/participation in war by their own family members. The interview will be due in class on December 1. (10 POINTS MAXIMUM)
7) Final take-home exam based upon the course readings. The exam will be distributed on December 6 and due by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on December 15. (20 POINTS MAXIMUM)

8) Class participation and attendance – maximum of 5 extra points for perfect attendance.

Late submissions will be penalized, taking 10 percent off your assignment grade for each day of delay.

Accommodations will be made for students who need to miss classes for health reasons (with documentation), religious holidays, University of Florida official functions or important conferences.

Students who believe that they will not be able to complete all the requirements for the course in due time have to discuss an “I” (Incomplete) grade with the instructor before the assignment is due and/or before final exam. Students will have to sign an “Incomplete Contract” (available at http://www.clas.ufl.edu/forms/) and complete all their requirements by a set date. Students should be aware that “I” grades become punitive after one term and that they are granted only in exceptional circumstances.

GRADING SCALE

Grading scale is 94-100 A; 90-93 A-; 87-89 B+; 84-86 B; 80-83 B-; 77-79 C+; 74-76 C; 70-73 C-; 67-69 D+; 64-66 D; 60-63 D-.

For current regulations on grades and grade point averages for graduate students at the University of Florida please see: http://gradschool.ufl.edu/catalog/current-catalog/catalog-general-regulations.html#grades

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

COUNSELING

The Counseling Center is located in P301 Peabody Hall. It is open Monday---Friday, 8:00AM---5:00PM. To schedule an appointment, stop by the Counseling Center, or call 352.392.1575. On evenings and weekends, services are available through the Alachua County Crisis Center by calling 352.264.6789. Students may also call the clinician on-call at Student Mental Health at 352.392.1171.
WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Tuesday, August 23
Introduction.

Thursday, August 25
Art and War: Brief Historical Tour

Tuesday, August 30
Carl von Clausewitz, *On War*, Oxford University Press, 2007 (What is War?; Friction in War; Concluding Observations on Book One; Classifications of the Art of War; On the Theory of War; Art of War or Science of War).

Thursday, September 1


Tuesday, September 6


Thursday, September 8

Tuesday, September 13
David Shields, War is Beautiful, powerHouse Books, 2015


Thursday, September 15

Tuesday, September 20

Thursday, September 22
Fraser MacDonald, Rachel Hughes and Klaus Dodd, “Envisioning Geopolitics” in Observant States, I.B. Tauris 2010, pp. 1-17


Tuesday, September 27
Aftermath, edited by Carol McCusker, University of Florida Press, 2016

Thursday, September 29
Aftermath, edited by Carol McCusker, University of Florida Press, 2016

Tuesday, October 4

Thursday, October 6

Tuesday, October 11

Thursday, October 13
Art in war Zones: Bosnia, Iraq, Syria, Israel/Palestine

Tuesday, October 18

Three Images by Angus Boulton; Responses by Tarak Barkawi, Susan McManus and Angharad Closs Stephens, Review of International Studies 35:4, October 2009, pp.859-868

Thursday, October 20

Tuesday, October 25

Thursday, October 27

Tuesday, November 1

Thursday, November 3

Tuesday, November 8

Thursday, November 10

Tuesday, November 15

Emily Gilbert, “Eye to Eye: Biometrics, the Observer, the Observed,” in *Observant States*, I.B. Tauris, pp. 225-246

Thursday, November 17

Tuesday, November 22

Thursday, November 24
Thanksgiving Holiday

Tuesday, November 29
Susan Sontag, *Regarding the Pain of Others*, Picador 2004

Thursday, December 1
Susan Sontag, *Regarding the Pain of Others*, Picador 2004

Tuesday, December 6