History/American Studies 4661 - Spring 2015
Contested Continents: The Great War for Empire in North America and Beyond, 1754-1763
WED 10:10am-12:05pm, Stimson 105
Professor Jon Parmenter (jwp35@cornell.edu)
324 McGraw Hall – Office Hours: MW, 12:30-1:30pm or by appointment

Introduction
This senior research seminar offers students the opportunity to engage the vibrant history of the Great War for Empire (also known as the Seven Year’s War, and the French and Indian War) from multiple perspectives. In addition to the national and imperial categories traditionally employed in studies of the conflict, the course will also attend to its transnational character. How did a war originating in a border dispute in what is now western Pennsylvania ultimately result in nearly one million battlefield deaths on four continents and in three oceans? Should this be understood as the first “world war”? What was the impact of the war on the subsequent history of North America and the wider world? Students will approach such questions from a variety of disciplinary approaches, including military history, the mobilization of economic resources, center-periphery political relations, and the involvement of indigenous nations – with an eye toward assessing the long-term consequences of the war and its enduring, complex, and contested legacy in popular memory (particularly the recently-completed 250th anniversary commemoration). The course will emphasize critical interpretation of a rich array of primary documents and published scholarship, and each student will complete an independent research essay based on original sources.

Learning Goals
Upon successfully completing this course, you will be able to:
• compare and contrast the nature of the colonial warfare across different regions of North America
• comprehend the reciprocal impact of military conflict on European colonizers and colonized indigenous peoples
• understand the significance of the Seven Years’ War to global history
• conduct advanced library research and craft an independent research essay based on primary documents
• compose convincing critical interpretations of primary documents, visual sources, and secondary scholarship
• understand the contemporary indigenous critique of colonialism

Requirements: -the final grade will be based on:
- class participation (25%)
- reviews/critiques (10%)
- document analysis papers (2) (25%)
- research essay (assigned in stages) (40%)
Readings (available for purchase in the Cornell bookstore and Kraflee's):
Anderson, Crucible of War
Baugh, Global Seven Years War
Shannon, The Seven Years' War in North America
Steele, Betrayals

Policies:
Participation is evaluated on the basis of the degree to which a student makes meaningful contributions to class discussions and activities. This requires regular attendance in section meetings, and completion of required readings. Students with more than one unexcused absence will be penalized. Each additional unexcused absence, beginning with the second, will result in the student's final grade being penalized by 1/4 point (0.25) per absence. Chronic lateness (i.e., more than four times in the course of the semester) will result in the same penalty. Extensions on written assignments can be negotiated with the professor provided the initial request is made no less than 48 hours in advance of the due date. Grades on late papers and assignments will be reduced by 1/4 point for every 24 hours (unless arrangements have been made no less than 48 hours prior to the due date). No assignments/papers more than 3 (three) days late will be accepted for grading in lieu of documented medical reasons.

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Course Schedule [weekly readings will average ~200pp., combining primary and secondary material]

KEY to readings:
[e-res] digital reserve reading available via course Blackboard site Course Reserves
[doc] primary document available via Blackboard site Content section
[web] reading linked via Blackboard site Content section

Week 1. 1/21
Introduction and Overview
Welcome

Week 2. 1/28
War in the Era of Imperial "Neglect"
-Anderson, Crucible of War, xv-xxiii, 3-21
-Baugh, Global Seven Years' War, 1-71
-Shannon, Seven Years' War, 1-24
-Steele, Betrayals, 1-27
Week 3. 2/4  
*Whose Ohio Country?*

**Documents**
- Shannon, *Seven Years' War*, 27-59

**Studies**
- Anderson, *Crucible of War*, 22-73
- Baugh, *Global Seven Years War*, 73-109
- Hofstra, "The Extension of His Majesties' Dominions" [e-res]

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Week 4. 2/11  
*The 1755 Campaign: Braddock's Defeat, Johnson's Victory*

**Documents**
- Shannon, *Seven Years' War*, 59-62
- Houston, "Benjamin Franklin and the 'Wagon Affair' of 1755" [e-res]
- Cohen, "Major William Sparke along the Monongahela" [doc]
- "William Johnson's Letter to the Governors, Lake George, 1755" [doc]

**Studies**
- Anderson, *Crucible of War*, 75-132
- Baugh, *Global Seven Years War*, 111-40
- Shannon, *Seven Years' War*, 66-68
- Steele, *Betrayals*, 28-56

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Week 5. 2/18  
*Acanian Depортation: Ethnic Cleansing in the 18th Century*

**Documents**
- "The Acadian Dilemma" [doc]
- "Deportation of the Acadians" [doc]
- Fowler/Lockeby, "Operations at Fort Beauséjour and Grand Pré" [doc]

**Studies**
- Anderson, *Crucible of War*, 112-14
- Baugh, *Global Seven Years War*, 117-24
- Grenier, *First Way of War* [e-res]
- Hodson, "Exile on Spruce Street: An Acadian History" [e-res]

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Week 6. 2/25  
*War with Indigenous Nations in the Allegheny Country*

**Documents**
- Shannon, *Seven Years' War*, 63-65, 74-81
- Steele, "A Miller's Tale of Captivity" [e-res] + [web]

**Studies**
- Anderson, *Crucible of War*, 133-65
- Myers, "Pennsylvania's Awakening" [e-res]

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Week 7. 3/5  
*Neglected Perspectives: Race, Gender, and Class*

**Documents**

**Studies**
- Padeni, "The Role of Blacks in New York's Northern Campaigns" [e-res]
- Way, "Class and the Common Soldier" [e-res]
- Fatherly, "Tending the Army" [e-res]
- Little, *Abraham in Arms* [e-res]
Week 8. 3/11  
*Film: Last of the Mohicans*

Week 9. 3/18  
*Fort William Henry, 1757*  
**Documents**  
- Shannon, *Seven Years' War*, 126-34  
- Steele, "Suppressed Official British Report of the Siege" [doc]  
**Studies**  
- Steele, *Betrayals*, 57-185  
- Anderson, *Crucible of War*, 166-207 (skim)  
- Baugh, *Global Seven Years War*, 141-270 (skim)

Week 10. 3/25  
*The Turning of the Tide in 1758*  
**Documents**  
- Shannon, *Seven Years' War*, 82-87  
- MacGregor/Pawlowski, "This Wretched World": The Journal of John Michael Lindenmuth" [doc]  
**Studies**  
- Anderson, *Crucible of War*, 208-93  
- Baugh, *Global Seven Years War*, 271-375

Week 10  
NO CLASS MEETING – SPRING BREAK

Week 11. 4/8  
*The Conquest of Canada, 1759*  
**Documents**  
- Shannon, *Seven Years' War*, 69-73, 111-15  
**Studies**  
- Anderson, *Crucible of War*, 296-420  
- Baugh, *Global Seven Years War*, 421-510

Week 12. 4/15  
*Aftermath and Significance of the Conflict*  
**Documents**  
- Shannon, *Seven Years' War*, 134-63  
**Studies**  
- Anderson, *Crucible of War*, 714-46 (skim 451-713)  
- Baugh, *Global Seven Years War*, 621-65 (skim 511-619)  
- Buckner/Reid, *Revisiting 1759* [e-res]  
- Holton, "The Ohio Indians and the Coming of the Revolution" [e-res]

Week 13. 4/22  
*Memory and Commemoration*  
**Studies**  
- Chambers, *Memories of War* [e-res]  
- Buckner/Reid, *Remembering 1759* [e-res]  
- Hofstra, *Cultures in Conflict* [e-res]  
- Steele, *Setting All the Captives Free* [e-res]
Week 14. 4/29  
*Student Research Presentations*

Week 15. 5/6  
Assessing Anderson and Baugh  
Studies  
-H-Diplo Roundtable Review [Baugh] [e-res]  
-Steelc, "Narrative as Master" [Anderson] [e-res]  
-"A Roundtable Discussion of Fred Anderson's Crucible of War" [web]

**SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS AND DUE DATES**

*all assignments are due in hard copy in class on the date indicated*

2/18  Research Essay Topic and Preliminary Bibliography  
2/25  Document Analysis Paper 1  
3/11  Research Essay Proposal  
3/24  Document Analysis Paper 2  
4/29  Research Essay First Draft  
4/29  Research Presentations  
TBA  Research Essay Final Draft (after classes end)