This program seeks to examine the First and Second World Wars, not from the rather Americocentric viewpoint of most textbooks in the US, but rather from the European standpoint. Each country writes its own history of wars, emphasizing its own contribution, and we are going to seek a more balanced view. The course will also have the enormous advantage of being able to visit some of the important, relevant museums and sites related to the wars. In addition, the Holocaust is inextricably entwined with World War II, and that connection will be explored in detail as well.

The course will comprise lectures, audio-visual materials such as original film footage from the 1916 Battle of the Somme, seminar discussions, and student presentations of their research projects, not to mention several field trips. Students will be required to write two 2,000-word papers, and create an oral (preferably PowerPoint) presentation on a research project, chosen in collaboration with the course director.

Classes will generally take place in the mornings from 9.45 a.m. – 12.45 p.m., usually broken into three segments. There will be group activities on some afternoons, which will mostly be devoted to individual study, research and writing. Students will also be encouraged to explore, with the help of Professor Giles, the rich history of the University of Cambridge, its colleges and museums and architecture.

**Required texts**
The following books should be purchased, if possible read in advance of the program with copious notes taken (in order to leave more time to enjoy Cambridge itself), and brought with you to St. Ed's:

Frans Coetzee & Marilyn Shevin-Coetzee, *World War I: A History in Documents* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2002) ISBN: 0195137469 [—it looks as though this book is due for a new edition to be released at the end of July (too late for us!), but there are still some copies available through [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk), and about 7 used copies under $20 through [www.abebooks.com](http://www.abebooks.com). You may have to share!]


**Assignments**

Students should take care to read all the books in their entirety, as individual students will be asked each day at random to explain to the class the most important arguments of each chapter.

In addition, there will be two 2,000 papers required on an assigned topic. These will receive individual mentoring in the time-honored Cambridge University tradition of ‘supervisions’, in which students meet individually or in pairs with the professor to receive a critique of the paper and advice on improving their writing.

**Grading**

The distribution of grades for this 6-credit course will be as follows:

- First paper—30%
- Second paper—30%
- Research project and presentation—20%
- Active participation in class and the course in general—20%

I should point out that American college students sometimes have a bad reputation in Cambridge, because the legal ability to drink alcohol freely leads occasionally to irresponsible, drunken behavior. I am confident that this UF group will conduct itself in a responsible fashion, but it is only fair to warn you that any incidents of drunkenness may cancel out your otherwise good grades, may lead to your failing the course, and indeed to your being sent home immediately to the US. British beer is of course the best in the world! I hope you will enjoy it, and even the occasional glass of sherry or port which is so traditional at Cambridge, but always in moderation, please.

Students are strongly advised to bring a laptop (and flash drive) with them, as access to computer facilities at St. Ed's will be quite limited. We will always have to give way to the needs of the regular graduate students of the college, who are conducting research there throughout the summer. This also means that a last-minute start on writing a paper will generally end in disaster! Please plan well ahead.

As always in history course, you need to pay particular attention to the question of plagiarism when writing papers. Be certain to give proper credit whenever you use words, phrases, ideas, arguments, and conclusions drawn from someone else’s work. Failure to give credit by quoting and/or footnoting is PLAGIARISM and is unacceptable. Please review the University’s honesty policy at [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php).

Here is the tentative course schedule, with the readings for each day given (with the initial of the author of the textbook) in square brackets.

N.B. It looks from the schedule below that we are a little top-heavy on World War One. In fact some of the field trips in the early part of the program deal with World War Two as well. I am eager to schedule those trips before 23 July, which is when I gather school summer vacations begin in Britain, making museums a lot more crowded.
**June**
Su 27 Arrival

M 28 Introduction, outline, rules & regulations
   Walk-through of St. Ed.’s
   2 p.m. Collect bikes

T 29 Origins of First World War, enlistment [C 1-2]
   2 p.m. Tour of the town with King’s College Chapel

W 30 Battle conditions, atrocities [C3-4]
   1916 original film footage “The Battle of the Somme”
   p. m. University Library exhibit
   Late afternoon or evening film “My Boy Jack” (Rudyard Kipling)

**July**
Th 1 War propaganda, the domestic front [C5-6]
   The War Poets

F 2 **Field trip to the Imperial War Museum, London**

Sa 3 Spy exhibition at UL closes today
Su 4

M 5 End of war, Stab in the back, Versailles [C 7]
   12 noon Assemble for group photograph
   2.30 p.m. Library cards registration at UL
   Late afternoon or evening: documentary on Bovington Tank Museum’s
   restoration project, “Saving the Tiger”

T 6 **Field trip to Bovington Tank Museum, Dorset**
   6th-10th evenings “Macbeth”, Leper Chapel

W 7 The Third Balkan War and the Ideas of 1914 [St 1-2]

Th 8 **Field trip to Bletchley Park (WWII Decoding Center)**

F 9 Global War and Jihad [St 3-4]
   *First paper due at 5 p.m.*

Sa 10
Su 11 Last chance for choral evensong at King’s College Chapel

M 12 The Western & Eastern fronts, Verdun, the Somme [St 5-6]
p.m. Supervisions

T 13  **Field trip to Imperial War Museum Air Branch, Duxford**

W 14  Blockade, U-Boats, Revolution [St 7-8]
        p.m. Supervisions

Th 15  Germany’s 1918 offensive, and defeat [St 9-10]
        p.m. Supervisions

F 16  *Long weekend—opportunity to travel to continental WWI & WW2 sites*
Sa 17  *Long weekend*
Su 18  *Long weekend*
M 19  *Long weekend*

T 20  Appeasement, war and war crimes [M1-2]
        Guest lecture by Churchill biographer Dr. Christopher Catherwood

W 21  Total war, the Home Fronts, propaganda [M 3-5]

Th 22  *Second paper due*
        Allied initiatives, peace and memory [M 6-8]
        p.m. Siegfried Sassoon exhibition at the UL

F 23  **Field trip to London—Cabinet War Rooms and HMS Belfast**

Sa 24
Su 25

M 26  Anti-Semitism, the early Nazi Party [B 1-2]
        Research project presentations

T 27  The Third Reich in the 1930s [B3-4]
        Research project presentations
        p.m. Supervisions

W 28  Poland, euthanasia, terror [B5-6]
        Research project presentations
        p.m. Cycle field trip to the American Military Cemetery

Th 29  Holocaust, collapse of Germany [B 7-conc.]
        Research project presentations
        p.m. Supervisions
        Evening, Banquet at St Ed's
F 30  Supervisions
       3 p.m. Return bikes

Sa 31  Depart