

HISTORY 132

World War One

Fall 2019, Tuesdays 3 to 5:45 p.m., DMH-167
Dr. Vásquez



Gas Masks and Machine Guns
(The two scourges of trench warfare during WWI)

Arguably the single most important event in world history during the 20th century, World War One will be studied in its global context – Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and the United States. Attention will be paid to the collapse of four mighty empires – the Hohenzollern, the Habsburgs, the Romanovs, and the Ottomans as well as the creation of the world that led to the Second World War and to the present crises in the Middle East. We will study in detail the battle of the Somme and the revolt in the Arabian Desert. We will follow the fortunes of Russia and the Bolshevik Revolution. We will examine the belated U.S. involvement and the shaky settlement reached at the Paris Peace Conference. Contemporary historical monographs will be supplemented by reading classics such as Barbara Tuchman's *The Guns of August* and Margaret Macmillan's *Paris 1919*. Students will view documentaries, read a war novel, & present oral reports on leading military commanders.