Arts and the Military
HUM 6930, Section 19189
Credit Hours: 3

Meeting Times: Asynchronous
Location: Online in Canvas
Academic Term: Spring A 2024

Instructor:

Moira G McGuire, NC, USPHS
E-mail: Canvas e-mail (preferred) or moira.mcguire@ufl.edu
Office hours: Thursdays 1600-1800 (4-6 pm) EST via Zoom and by appointment

Course Description

This online course explores the complexities of military service, the unique stressors and challenges impacting service members, and how the arts are being used to support well-being in service members, veterans, and military-connected communities.

"In the military, you learn the essence of people. You see so many examples of self-sacrifice and moral courage. In the rest of life you don't get that many opportunities to be sure of your friends."

-- Adam Driver

Students will discover what inspired the quote above as well as other poems, paintings, plays, songs, and even an opera about military service; and delve into the military as a diverse and expansive system that contains both the strange and familiar, the inviting and off-putting, the understandable and the incomprehensible, the frightening and the inspiring.

Course Pre-Requisites/Co-Requisites

There is no required pre/co-requisite course, a desire for understanding and curiosity about military service, those who wear our country's uniform, and the unique role the arts play in managing their unique experiences is helpful. Students may also benefit from accessing Graduate Central: Arts in Medicine in Canvas. Specifically, students may actively engage with information in the "Start Here", "New Student Orientation", and "Resources" modules to be successful in this course.

Course Objectives:

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Explain the military ecosystem by discussing and exploring the:
  - 8 uniformed services.
  - Differences between active duty, reservists, National Guard, non-DOD uniformed services, and veterans.
  - Importance of ceremony, protocol, and core values.
- Recall the history of arts for military use including combat artists, photographers, media specialists, service bands, musicians, performers, and others.
- Define the subfield of Military Arts in Health, including the continuum of practitioners working in this space and the differences between therapy, therapeutic, and recreational arts.
- Discover ways the arts, creativity and self-expression can influence a service member's experience from entrance to the service, through duty performance, and after separation or retirement and how the arts as tools are uniquely able to assist service members, veterans, and military-connected communities in achieving well-being.

Recommended Textbook

American Psychological Association. (2019). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Recommended Materials

Additional required readings, lectures, and online resources are posted in the modules in Canvas under Learning Materials

Course Schedule

Topic	Learning Materials	Assignments	Due Dates
Module 1: The Military Ecosystem (Part One)			
Understanding the Setting and Characters	Review all learning materials in Module 1	□ Discussion week 1 □ 55-word story □ Syllabus Quiz	1/11 1/11 1/12
Module 2: The Military Ecosystem (Part Two)			
Understanding the Setting and Characters continued	Review all learning materials in Module 2	□ Discussion week 2 □ Creativity: Military Ribbons/Awards	1/18 1/19
Module 3: Arts Already in the Military			
Learning about careers and personnel who work in roles using their artistry	Review all learning materials in Module 3	□ Discussion week 3 □ Creativity: Comparative Analysis	1/25 1/26
Module 4: The Combat Experience			
Exploring decades of war and its impact	Review all learning materials in Module 4	□ Discussion week 4 □ Veteran Artist Selection	2/1 2/2
Module 5: Veterans			
Understanding veterans: who they are, their unique challenges, and where in society you'll find them	Review all learning material in Module 5	□ Discussion week 5 □ Course quiz	2/8 2/9
Module 6: Arts-based Solutions – The National Initiative for Arts & Health Across the Military			
Learn about efforts to support military-connected communities through collaborations and networks of artists and art-based programs	Review all learning material in Module 6	□ Discussion week 6 □ Interview check-in	2/15 2/16

Module 7: Arts-based Solutions – Creative Forces			
Learn about the collaborative effort between the DoD and NEA, its successes, and the potential for significant change	Review all learning material in Module 7	□ Discussion week 7	2/22
Module 8: Bringing it Home			
Exploring the impact on family and the importance of community-based efforts for all	Review all learning material in Module 8	□ Discussion week 8 □ Final paper	2/29 3/1

Dates for Ongoing Assignments

Discussion Board Posts are due Thursdays by 11:59 (or 2359) Eastern Time

Critical Dates for Major Assignments

1. **55-word story – Due Thursday, January 11 @ 1159 EST**
2. **Creativity: Military Awards/Ribbons - Due Friday, January 19 @ 1159 EST**
3. **Creativity: Comp Analysis – Due Friday, January 26 @ 1159 EST**
4. **Final Paper – Due Friday, March 1 @ 1159 EST**

Course Assignments

- **Discussions:** Students will substantively participate in online discussions with their peers and their instructor) on the discussion board in Canvas. Discussion topics relating to course content will be posted by the instructor each week and students will post an initial post (due Thursday by 11:59 pm EST) followed by a response post (due Sunday by 11:59 pm EST) every week throughout the course. See assignment guidelines in Canvas.
- **55-word story**: Read the article in Canvas about 55-word stories and then write your own about your motivation/interest in taking this course.
- **Creativity: Military Ribbons/Award**: People are often curious about the ribbons that adorn service members' uniforms worn across their left chest and referred to as their "rack". Read the article in Canvas about military ribbons

and then create your own ribbon explaining your design choices (color, size, etc) and identifying what accomplishment/person you think is worthy of recognition. Additional details and assignment guidelines can be found in Canvas.

- **Creativity: Comparative Analysis**: Conduct a comparative analysis of the 8 uniformed services, their corps/core values, and their missions, and creatively present via visual art, poetry, dance, textiles, etc.. Additional details and assignment guidelines can be found in Canvas.
- **Veteran Artist Selection**: Each student will select a veteran artist (list to be provided) and conduct an interview exploring service branch, experiences, artistry, personal and professional impact (and other themes that might arise).
- **Final Paper**: Write a final paper of at least 1500 words sharing the process of selecting and interviewing your veteran artist, and connecting information and themes presented in this course, to gain a deeper understanding of the military experience.

Expectations

This online course is an asynchronous course which means there is no set meeting time each week however there are set deadlines for discussion and assignment submissions each week.   The course format requires time management and close attention to assignment deadlines. The course is three credits and is 8-weeks long, so it is full and fast-paced. Students can expect approximately 10-12 hours of work per week for this course. Each module includes approximately 3-6 hours of learning materials and assignment preparation. Students will invest the remaining time in discussions, creative activities, and other assignments.

Attendance

Consistent participation and timely and complete assignment submission are the online forms of "attending class". This expectation is consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance)

Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found in Attendance Policies.

Requirement for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance

Participation

Participation in all aspects of this course is expected and essential to success. Course materials and activities are integral to learning. It is expected that students will log on to the course website and actively contribute to course activities. The instructor/s strive for consistent presence and are committed to being available to students both via e-mail and one-to-one via video conferencing, or phone, as needed.

Communication

It is the student's responsibility to communicate with the instructor promptly concerning any course-related questions or circumstances that might affect their participation in the course. Please contact the instructor/s with questions or concerns you have as soon as you have them. It is the instructors' intention to response to e-mail communication within 48 hours.

Written communication and electronic interactions are central to online learning. All written and electronic interactions must meet the expectation of a graduate-level academic environment. All cohort members are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in interactions such as email, discussions, and chats. http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/netiquetteguideforonlinecourses.pdf

Assignment Submission

All assignments must be submitted through Canvas. Please review course procedures in Canvas for instructions on assignment submission, naming documents, late assignment submission, and where to get help.

If you have computer difficulties submitting any assignments through the Assignment tab on the course website, notify UF Computer Help Desk at helpdesk@ufl.edu or 352-392-4357 and email your work as an attachment to your instructor/s. Please include the case number provided to you by the UF Help Desk documenting your request for assistance in the correspondence with the instructor.

Late Assignment Submission

As stated above, participation and assignment submission are the online forms of "attending class". Lack of participation or late assignment submission requires appropriate documentation.

Points will be deducted for late assignments by *5 percent per day* during the first five days past due. Assignments will not be accepted if submitted later than six days past due, except in extenuating circumstances and with communication with the instructor/s. Email your instructor immediately to document any technical difficulty and attach the assignment to the email in order to receive full credit on the assignment.

Note: This is a graduate level course with significant new information and a requirement to enter into a new, for many, culture and setting. If you feel as though you are getting behind on assignments, please reach out as soon as possible. It is helpful for all students to stay in close communication with the instructor to receive support and guidance in assignment completion or modification as needed. It is the instructor's intention to support students in successful completion of course objectives.

Course technology

Notify the UF Help Desk at helpdesk@ufl.edu or at 352-293-4357 – select option 2, and/or https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml. Please request the case number provided by the UF Help Desk documenting your request for assistance and provide this to the instructor/s.

For additional computer or technical difficulties, see the Getting Help section below:

http://helpdesk.ufl.edu

(352)-392-4357 – select option 2

If you have difficulty accessing online course materials, please search the title of the document or citation and author using an online search engine such as Google to locate the document before contacting the UF Help Desk or instructor.

Grades

Students will be evaluated and their grade determined in the following manner. Assignment guidelines, grading criteria, and rubrics for each assignment can be found within the corresponding assignment on Canvas.

Grades and comments will be posted in Canvas. Comments about your grades appear with the specific assignment in **Assignments** or in the **Gradebook** feature under **Comments**. Please check in both places before inquiring about a grade. Current UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found on the following course website: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

Assignment	Total Points	Percentage of Final Grade
Quizzes (2)	5pts x 2 = **10pts**	**5%**
Discussions	10pts x 8 = **80pts**	**40%**
55-word story	**10 pts**	**5%**
Creativity – Comp Analysis	**30pts**	**15%**
Creativity – Military Ribbons/Awards	**10pts**	**5%**
Interview and Final Paper	**60pts**	**30%**

Assignments (# assignments: Please refer to the Assignment Guide in Canvas for assignment details and guidelines) **Total points = 200**

Grading Policy

Grade	Percent	Grade Points
A	93.4-100	4.0
A-	90.0-93.3	3.67
B+	86.7-89.9	3.33
B	83.4-86.6	3.00
B-	80.0-83.3	2.67
C+	76.7-79.9	2.33
C	73.4-76.6	2.00
C-	70.0-73.3	1.67
D+	66.7-69.9	1.33
D	63.4-66.6	1.00
D-	60.0-63.3	.67
E, I, Ng, S-U, WF		0.00

Disclaimer

This syllabus represents the current plans and objectives for this course however, and in line with what one might find in a military setting, things sometimes change. To ensure students get the most current information possible, and with a desire to use any current events to reinforce themes, there may be a time during this course when I make a few adjustments. My goal is to make as few changes as possible and only when the opportunity for learning and insight is too good to pass up.

Teaching Philosophy

I truly believe that all learning should be person-driven, and person-centered, and should be designed to identify and celebrate those unique qualities and perspectives

we each bring to our pursuits. As such, my focus will be to provide important and helpful information about this complex ecosystem, some of which may be disquieting, in a manner that encourages curiosity while maintaining safety and balance. Please make note of the resources available through UF Counseling and Wellness in case you would like to talk to someone about subject material that was unsettling for you. And feel free to reach out to me at any time.

Students Requiring Accommodations
Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the [Disability Resource Center](). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation
Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner](). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here]().

University Honesty Policy
UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." [The Honor Code]() specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Software Use
All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see the [Notification to Students of FERPA Rights](#).

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:
If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](#) or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [counseling.ufl.edu/cwc](#), and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)
Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or [police.ufl.edu](#).

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: visit GatorWell website or call 352-273-4450.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.

Library Support, Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

On-Line Students Complaints

UF Center for Arts in Medicine Resources

1. [Graduate Central](): Includes guide for new students, tips on navigating Canvas, registration and course requirements, Practicum and Capstone guides, and other helpful resources.
2. UF Center for Arts in Medicine Graduate Advisor: Reach out for support before thereis a problem, Phillip Herr-Klepacki ([pklepacki@arts.ufl.edu]())
3. [UF Arts in Medicine Library Guide and Research Resources](): A first stop for Arts in Medicine research and access to our dedicated librarian, Cindy Craig, who can help youwith your research at [clcraig@ufl.edu]()
4. [UF Center for Arts in Medicine Research Database](): (Please note, this database doesn't have direct links, so you have to use the UF Library or Google Scholar to retrieve articles)
5. [UF Center for Arts in Medicine website]()