in collaboration with Northwestern University School of Professional Studies

WINTER 2025

MODERN WAR: WHAT IS IT GOOD FOR?

Vietnam, viewed by many as a turning point between old and new approaches to war, raised many questions about the role of superpowers, asymmetrical resources, and counterinsurgencies on the world stage. In this course, we will look at the wars in Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, Ukraine, and Gaza. All of these wars are asymmetrical, but what else do they have in common, and how are they informed by Vietnam? We will discuss how superpowers are central players in these conflicts by way of their supplies and support. In this course, we will examine human ways of evaluating the politics and strategies, particularly what happens when three vectors cannot agree: the public, politicians, and the military.



Click here to view promo video.

YOUR INSTRUCTOR: Jeff Rice, MSc



Jeff Rice received an undergraduate degree from Northwestern University then pursued graduate work in African Studies at the University of Edinburgh. He completed a dissertation entitled "Wealth Power and Corruption: A Study of Asante Political Culture." He returned to Northwestern to teach history and political science and became a Weinberg College academic adviser. He is currently an Emeritus Senior Lecturer in political science, specifically West African history, US history of the 60's, Marx & Weber, African politics, military strategy, the politics of famine, and student protest and free speech.

TUESDAYS, JANUARY 28 THROUGH MARCH 4

7am AK | 8am PT | 9am MT | 10am CT | 11am ET
Each live session is 90 minutes

- Tuesday, January 28
- Tuesday, February 4
- Tuesday, February 11
- Tuesday, February 18
- Tuesday, February 25
- Tuesday, March 4

To register, please contact your local Osher Institute.