This course focuses on a single historical event, examined from several different perspectives—the political and diplomatic, the military, the home front, and popular culture and attitudes. The principal interest of the course will be the impact of the war on western society and values. Much of the reading material will be drawn from first-hand accounts of the war or wartime experience, memoirs and diaries. Two short papers will be required based on contemporary journals, magazines or newspapers or wartime propaganda. Newsreels of the period will be shown as well as films like Renoir's The Grand Illusion, Kubrick's Paths of Glory, or Remarque's All Quiet on the Western Front. There will be a take home final examination.