

**A critical history of the rise and decline of American military power in the Pacific since 1850. We examine how American became a Pacific power and acquired colonies in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, confronting the rise of the Japanese empire in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, America's military defeat of Japan in WW II. America's involvement in the major colonial wars for independence, e.g., China, Korea, Indonesia, and Vietnam are explored. Finally, we examine the changing nature of modern war in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and the economic and military challenges posed by the rise of the Chinese communist state.**

### **Course Topics**

- 1. America becomes a Pacific power: The Mexican War, Northwest Treaty, Alaska Purchase, and Subjugation of Indigenous peoples.**
- 2. American Colonial Expansion: Hawaii, Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection.**
- 3. World War I and Impact of Modern Warfare**
- 4. Rise of the Japanese Empire**
- 5. World War II in the Pacific – 1937 – 1942**
- 6. World War II in the Pacific 1943-1945**
- 7. Post 1945 Wars for Colonial Independence: China**
- 8. Korean War**
- 9. Indonesia**
- 10. Vietnam War**
- 11. Post-Vietnam American Military Adjustments, Revolution in Military Affairs, Collapse of the USSR and 9/11**

## 12. Modern War in 21<sup>st</sup> Century

## 13. Rise of Chinese Economic and Military Power: The Potential Conflict with China

### Related Sources

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