

Subject: WWII In the Pacific INITIAL DRAFT

The War in the Pacific was a monumental event fought across thousands of miles from Alaska in the North to Australia in the South. From China in the West to Hawaii* in the East. It took place in frozen waste and jungles. On tiny islands and mainland Asia. It involved a wide spectrum of cultures and government from European Colonial powers and Asiatic colonies, a terribly fractured china, numerous island cultures, and the rising, global powers of the USSR and the USA. It also saw a tremendous evolution of technology in ships, aircraft, and weapons including the first and only use of nuclear weapons.

The course will address:

- Path to War
 - Status of the Pacific Countries in the 1930
 - What led Japan to war?
 - Japan's War Plans
- The War Begins, Dec 1941-June 1942
 - Overview of the ships, aircraft, and land weapons on both sides
 - Events and Campaigns
- The Tide Turns August 1942-Dec 1943
 - Campaigns in Solomon's, New Guinea, Eastern Pacific
 - Nimitz & MacArthur
 - Mainland Asia
- America Ascendent 1944
 - Changing technology's and American Industrial growth
 - Marianas and Philippines – Battles of the Philippines Sea and Leyte Gulf. Beginning of the Strategic bombing campaign
 - Mainland Asia
 - The Assault on Japan's supply lines
- The End 1945
 - Iwo Jima and Okinawa
 - The Birth of the Kamikazes
 - Mainland Asia
 - Soviet Entry
 - Strategic Bombing, the Blocade, Prospects of an invasion
 - Inside Japan – Leaders and people
 - The Bomb & Surrender
 - Occupation
- Additional Reading/Source

The above, is a first draft. Throughout I hope to discuss: strategy, plans, people, weapons

The course will include pictures, maps and other graphic, and recommendations for additional reading and sources.