

Donald Keith Mitchener  
1219 Brownwood Drive  
Lewisville, TX 75067  
E-mail: donald.mitchener@unt.edu

**Education:**

December 2006 Ph.D. American History, University of North Texas  
May 2000 M.A. European History, University of North Texas  
May 1991 B.A. History, Mississippi State University

**Honors:**

1998 Elected to Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society  
1997 Selected for membership in Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society  
Fall 1987 - Spring 1988 Selected as a Student Associate of the Mississippi State University Center for International and Strategic Studies

**Dissertation:**

“The American Doctrine for the Use of Naval Gunfire in Support of Amphibious Landings: Myth vs. Reality in the Central Pacific of World War II”

**Scholarly Publications:**

Published Works:

Articles: “Divided Loyalties: Reactions of Mississippians to Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Supreme Court Reform Proposal.” *The Journal of Mississippi History*. Vol. LXVII, No. 2 (Summer 2005): 135-158.

“The Maestro of Naval Gunfire Support Planning: Admiral Richard L. Conolly and Naval Gunfire Support at Guam,” *Global War Studies* 10 no. 3, 2013, 47-67.

Encyclopedia Articles:

“United States Marine Corps;” “Office of Naval Intelligence;” “Fleet Intelligence Centers;” in Glenn P. Hastedt, ed. *Spies, Wiretaps, and Secret Operations An Encyclopedia of American Espionage*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO/Greenwood, 2010.

“Warfare, Amphibious,” *The Encyclopedia of Military Science* (Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, 2013).

Accepted and to be Published:

“Naval Gunfire at Iwo Jima – The Perils of Doctrinal Myopia”

“Trial by Battle: Roi-Namur and the Naval Gunfire Support ‘Lessons of Tarawa’”

“Preliminary Naval Gunfire and Artillery Support at Tinian: An Analysis and Comparison”

Each will appear in upcoming issues of *Global War Studies*

An extended version of “Naval Gunfire at Iwo Jima – The Perils of Doctrinal Myopia” is set to appear in *The Sea in the Second World War*, Marcus Faulkner and Alessio Patalano, ed’s to be published by Brécourt Academic in 2018.

My dissertation has been accepted for publication by Brécourt Academic. It is expected to come out some time during 2018.

### **Scholarly Book Reviews**

Ian W. Toll’s *Pacific Crucible: War at Sea in the Pacific, 1941-1942* for *Global War Studies*.

David J. Ulbrich’s *Preparing for Victory: Thomas Holcomb and the Making of the Modern Marine Corps, 1936-1943* for *Global War Studies*.

John Prados’s *Islands of Destiny: The Solomon Islands Campaign and the Eclipse of the Rising Sun* for *Global War Studies*.

John A. Adams, Jr.’s *The Fightin’ Texas Aggie Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor* for *Great Plains Quarterly*.

Will Iredale’s *Kamikaze Hunters: Fighting for the Pacific, 1945* for *Global War Studies*.

### **Miscellaneous Scholarly Activities**

Conference Steering Committee  
Intelligence Conference  
6-8 November 2019  
Washington, D.C.

Conference Steering Committee  
75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Normandy Invasion Conference  
22-25 July 2019  
University of Portsmouth, U.K.

Conference Steering Committee  
The Asia-Pacific War, 1931-1945: An International Conference  
9-11 July 2015  
Australian National University  
Canberra, Australia

Conference Steering Committee  
1944: Seventy Years On  
14-17 April 2014  
Royal Military Academy Sandhurst

I served as chair for Session on Topics in Russian History at the North Central-Northeast Texas Annual Regional Conference of Phi Alpha Theta on April 4, 2009.

I reviewed the fifth edition of volume II of *World Civilizations* by Philip J. Adler and Randall L. Pouwels for Wadsworth / Cengage Learning.

I developed support materials for volume II of the sixth edition of *World Civilizations* by Philip J. Adler and Randall L. Pouwels for Wadsworth / Cengage Learning.

I chaired the session on Cities, Littoral, and Hinterland at the Naval and Maritime Power in Two World Wars: Contemporary Relevance and Historical Importance conference held 11-12 April 2014 at the University of Greenwich, Old Royal Naval College, Greenwich, England, United Kingdom.

I chaired sessions on The British Empire at War, Strategic Choices and Decision Making in the Western Pacific, The Island War in the Pacific, Burma, and Memory and Legacy at the 1944: Seventy Years On conference held 14-17 April 2014 at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, Surrey, England, United Kingdom.

I chaired various sessions at The Asia-Pacific War, 1931-1945: An International Conference, 9-11 July 2015, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia.

I have served on the committees of several masters and doctoral students.

### **Papers Read:**

“The Price of Following Doctrine: The Application of American Naval Gunfire Doctrine in the Battle for Tarawa Atoll”  
Northeast Texas Regional Convention of Phi Alpha Theta  
14 April 2007  
Tarleton State University  
Stephenville, TX  
Awarded Honor as Outstanding Graduate Paper Presentation

“Naval Gunfire Preparation at Iwo Jima: An Example of Failed Joint Operations”  
Fifth Regional IS/IS (International Security/Internal Safety) Conference  
1-2 April 2011  
Mississippi State University  
Mississippi State, Mississippi

“Naval Gunfire at Iwo Jima – The Perils of Doctrinal Myopia”  
Global-Regional Nexus: The Sea and the Second World War  
3-5 May 2012  
King’s College London  
London, England, United Kingdom

“The Maestro of Naval Gunfire Support Planning: Richard L. Conolly and Naval Gunfire Support at Guam”  
Naval and Maritime Power in Two World Wars: Contemporary Relevance and Historical Importance  
11-12 April 2014  
University of Greenwich, Old Royal Naval College  
Greenwich, England, United Kingdom

“Trial by Battle: Roi-Namur and the Naval Gunfire Support ‘Lessons of Tarawa’”  
1944: Seventy Years On  
14-17 April 2014  
Royal Military Academy Sandhurst  
Surrey, England, United Kingdom

“Preliminary Naval Gunfire and Artillery Support at Tinian: An Analysis and Comparison”  
The Asia-Pacific War, 1931-1945: An International Conference  
9-11 July 2015  
Australian National University  
Canberra, Australia

**Miscellaneous Professional and Community Service Presentations**

“War in the Pacific”  
10 November 2012  
Presentation to the Christian Military Fellowship at Brandon Baptist Church  
Brandon, MS

“Remembering D-Day: 6 June 1944”  
11 June 2014  
Presentation to the Richardson East Rotary Club  
Richardson, TX

“The Origins of the Marine Raiders during World War II”  
20 September 2014  
Admiral Nimitz Foundation Symposium, In Stealth We Trust: Special Forces and Their Origins  
Fredericksburg, TX

“The Battles of Coral Sea and Midway”  
11 July 2017  
Presentation at the Allen Public Library  
Allen, TX

“The Battle for Guadalcanal”  
14 November 2017  
Presentation at the Allen Public Library  
Allen, TX

**Teaching Experience:**

Fall 2007 – present

Lecturer

University of North Texas

I have taught Regular and Honors American History Survey courses to classes of 40 to 200 students, World Civilization courses to classes of 40 to 125 students, and upper-level courses in the History of the United States Navy, Maritime History during the Age of Sail, the Rise of English Sea Power during the Tudor and Stuart periods, World War II in Asia and the Pacific, the Renaissance, the Age of the Reformation and Tudor England to classes of 30-48 students.

Summer 2007

Instructor

University of North Texas

Teaching American Military History Grant

I taught a seminar in the history of US involvement in the Cold War, Korean War, and Vietnam War to high school history teachers. The objective was to provide secondary teachers with substantive information concerning the military history of the United States.

Spring 2007

Adjunct Instructor

University of North Texas

I taught American History Survey courses to classes of 40 to 130 students

Fall 2000 – Fall 2006

Teaching Fellow

University of North Texas

I taught American History Survey courses to classes of 40 to 125 students and World Civilization Survey courses to classes of 40 to 50 students

Fall 2004 – Fall 2007 and Fall 2009

Adjunct Faculty Instructor, History

North Central Texas College

Corinth, TX

I taught American History Survey courses to classes of 15 to 50 students.

Fall 2003 - Spring 2004

Associate Faculty Instructor, History

Collin County Community College District

Preston Ridge Campus

Frisco, TX

I taught American History Survey courses to classes of 30 to 40 students.

### **Classes Developed and Taught:**

“U.S. Navy, 1775-2007: Sails, Steam, and Steel”

This is an upper-level course consisting of an overview of the history of the United States Navy from its origins during the Colonial Period to its support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom as well as a study of the place of the U.S. Navy in American society. Fundamental military concepts are stressed and the differences between land and sea warfare are explored and explained.

“Maritime History during the Age of Sail, 1588-1838”

The open oceans of this planet were the great common areas around which Europeans and their social/cultural progeny created what they proclaimed to be the “modern world.” At the heart of this creation lay the European-dominated economic system that depended upon access to and reasonably unfettered use of the sea. This upper-level course looks at the development of that system during the period known as the “Age of Sail.” Course topics include the maritime aspects of European exploration of the world, the development of ships and navigational technology, naval developments, general maritime economic theory, and maritime cultural history.

“The Rise of English Sea Power, 1399-1714”

This upper-level course is designed to teach students about the most important aspects of the early modern history of the Navy Royal/Royal Navy. Topics will include the administrative and technological development of the English navy during the reigns of the Tudor and Stuart monarchs, its use by those monarchs in the rise to power of the English state from 1399 until 1714, and the influence of both the navy and the sea upon English culture and society during the period under study.

#### “World War II in Asia and the Pacific”

This upper-level course covers World War II in Asia, the Pacific Ocean Areas, and the Southwest Pacific. The emphasis is on the operational aspects of the war in the three theaters as well as the intellectual underpinnings of American naval and military strategy. The course looks at the war from the perspectives of both the Americans and the Japanese and includes pertinent information concerning the Chinese and British as well.

#### “The Renaissance”

This upper-level course covers European political, social, intellectual, and cultural history ca. 1300-1600. A number of themes will be explored in an effort to give the student as complete a portrait as is possible in the time allotted of this very important period in the development of what would become the most dominant region of the world by the eighteenth century. It was during these years that Europe transitioned from the Middle Ages to the Modern era. It was the time of artists such as Masaccio, Da Vinci, Raphael, and Michelangelo; writers such as Petrarch, Machiavelli, More, and Montaigne; composers such as Machaut, Dufay, Josquin, and Byrd; and rulers such as Ferdinand and Isabella, Francis I, Charles V, and Henry VIII. It is hoped that the student will come away from this class with a better understanding of what the early humanists meant when they pronounced their time to be "modern" relative to the years that came immediately before their own.

#### “The Age of the Reformation”

This upper-level course covers European political, social, intellectual, and cultural history ca. 1517-1648. These were the years of the Lutheran, Calvinist, and English Reformations, the Catholic Reformation and Counter-Reformation, and the Wars of Religion. Out of these various conflicts - religious, political, and cultural - emerged a transformed Europe. The ideas that began to develop during the Renaissance gave birth to that which the early humanists called the "modern," but not in the way that many of them envisioned at the time. Upon this political and cultural foundation would be built absolutism, the Enlightenment, and everything else that we have come to know as "Europe." It is hoped that this course will provide the student with a better understanding of this important and formative period of Western Civilization.

#### “Tudor England”

This upper-level course covers English/British history ca. 1399-1603. Topics include the political, intellectual, and cultural histories of the period as well as important military and naval developments.

#### **Other Administrative Experience and Credentials:**

August 2017

I was named an Associate Editor of *Global War Studies*

September 2014

I was named to the Editorial Revising and Review Board for *Global War Studies*.

Fall 2013

I was named as a UNT faculty fellow of the University of North Texas Military History Center.

Spring 2010 – Summer 2011

I participated in the Texas College and Career Readiness Initiative Social Studies and Science Collaborative Program as UNT History faculty representative.

Spring 2010

I served on U.S. History Textbook Selection Committee, UNT Department of History.

2009-present  
UNT Department of History Undergraduate Advisor  
Undergraduate Committee (ex officio), UNT Department of History

Spring 2007  
I participated in training for teaching online courses at North Central Texas College.

Fall 2005 – Summer 2006  
I worked as a graduate assistant helping to develop content for H-Net Teaching American Military History website. This website is aimed at secondary school teachers and students. I was Webmaster of the site June-July 2006.

Fall 2004  
I served as the graduate student representative on the Major General Olinto Mark Barsanti Military History Chair selection committee.

2001-2002  
President, Phi Alpha Theta, Alpha Lambda Chapter, University of North Texas

**Thesis:**

Mitchener, Donald K. (2000)                      “The Reformation-era Church Courts of England: A Study of the Ecclesiastical Court *Acta* of the Archidiaconal and Consistory Court of Chester, England, 1540-42”

**Special Research Skills:**

German  
Latin  
Latin Paleography

**Research Interests:**

United States Maritime History, 18<sup>th</sup> century to present  
History of the United States Navy and Marine Corps  
History of the Royal Navy  
World Maritime Affairs  
The Development of United States Amphibious Warfare Doctrine

**Teaching Interests:**

World War II  
American Maritime and Naval History  
American Military, the Revolution to the Present  
United States Political and Diplomatic History, emphasis after 1880  
English/British Maritime and Naval History  
Tudor England  
European History from the Fourteenth Century