

Late antique warfare has many theoretical dimensions but it also can attract undergraduate enrollments and serve for outreach to a broader public in normal as well as extension courses if institutions will open up such courses and hire fit instructors. A glance at shelf space in bookstores and on the web underscores widespread actual and potential public interest. Within universities and institutes there is new interest in military history after decades of disinterest and neglect for a lot of reasons. Responsible handling of military history is essential. We cannot return to drums and trumpets. Although warfare can be taught in isolation it is best understood and taught in historical context, and that context might well involve extensive probing of social, cultural, religious, and economic dimensions. Decades ago the study of institutions dominated history including military history while today students can gain a reasonable institutional overview from relevant chapters of the new *Cambridge Ancient History*. Ethnic and frontier studies have qualified and sharpened analysis, as have studies on the limitations inherent in the structures, models, and assumptions of literary sources whether Greek or Latin. Here I pass over publications that fall into the distinctive but related categories of war and society or war and peace studies. Constraints of time make it possible to mention only a limited number of topics that include battle, strategy, tactics, operations, and logistics. Especially difficult for contemporary students to understand are military discipline, conduct of sieges, constraints imposed by armies' animals, weather, and the need for central authority to concede discretion in decision-making to commanders on the spot given difficulties with communications from remote central administrative points. Newer visual and topographical aids such as satellite imaging, digital elevation modeling (including Lidar), innovative landscape studies and other forms of computer modeling provide opportunities for new studies and challenges in investigation of logistics, campaigns, sieges, tactics, and frontier zones. For several decades there has been a crisis in military historiography that extends beyond ancient history. Events and the historically contingent, as well as historiographical issues, such as narrative and memory and ethnic stereotyping and the rhetoric of war, deserve attention. Old yet important problems persist: definitions of strategy, the uncertainty of numbers, and the relevance of war to continuing and changing debates on decline and fall. Desiderata include more work on decision-making, calculations, and planning at the emperor's level, including budgetary constraints, internal security fears, and bureaucratic controls. Many questions remain concerning restraint in and commitment to waging offensive war. We need more insights from social psychology to understand aspects of volatility, movement, stabilization and destabilization: how and why units may waver in combat with external or domestic foes and whether there are any patterns.