

Joel R. Bius, Ph.D.
Headmaster & Athletic Director, Eastwood Christian School
1701 E. Trinity Blvd.
Montgomery, AL 36106
jbius@eastwoodschool.org

1. CIVILIAN AND MILITARY EDUCATION

Civilian Education

2015 Doctor of Philosophy in American History

The Dale Center for the Study of War and Society, The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Advisor: Dr. Louis Kyriakoudes

Major Fields: U.S. to 1865 and U.S. Since 1865

Minor Field: War & Society

Minor Field: Colonial Social History

Dissertation title: *The Soldier and the Cigarette: 1918-1986*

2008 Master of Military Operational Art and Science

Air University, Air Command and Staff College (ACSC), Maxwell AFB, Alabama

Political-Military Affairs Research Elective Thesis: "Tough as Nails: Police Mentoring in a Non-Permissive Environment"

2004 Master of Arts in Military Studies – The American Civil War

American Military University, Charlestown, West Virginia

Capstone Thesis: "Riding on: The Enduring Impact of Civil War Cavalry Innovation in the Western Theater"

1996 Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration – Management

Valdosta State University, Valdosta, Georgia

Professional Military Education

2016 Joint Air Operations Command and Control Course

505th Training Wing, Hurlburt AFB, Florida

2010 State Department Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization (S/CRS) Level One Planners Course Graduate

The Center for International Security Affairs, Washington D.C.

2009 Air Command and Staff College Joint Professional Military Education Level 1

Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL

2007 Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan (CSTCA) Joint-Combined Counter Insurgency Training Course

Kabul, Afghanistan

2007 US Army Military Transition Team (MiTT) Combat Skills Training Course
Fort Riley, Kansas

2005 Air Command and Staff College (Correspondence)
Air University, Maxwell AFB, Alabama

2005 20TH Air Force Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) Center of Excellence ICBM Evaluator Course
F.E. Warren AFB, Wyoming

2004 Space 200 – Intermediate Level Space Professional Education
Colorado Springs, Colorado

2002 Squadron Officer School, Residence
Air University, Maxwell AFB, Alabama

2002 Air Education and Training Command (AETC) Basic Instructor Course
Vandenberg AFB, California

1999 Lieutenants' Professional Development Program
Malmstrom AFB, Montana

1998 Rapid Execution and Combat Targeting (REACT) ICBM Combat Crew Initial Qualification Course
Vandenberg AFB, California

2. PUBLISHED WORKS

Books

Smoke 'Em If You Got 'Em: The Rise and Fall of the Military Cigarette Ration, (Maryland: Naval Institute Press, October 2018)

<https://www.usni.org/press/books/smoke-em-if-you-got-em>

Edited Volumes

“The Damn Y Man in WWI: Service, Perception, and Cigarettes” chapter in *The YMCA at War* edited volume (New York: Lexington Press, 2018)

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781498548212/The-YMCA-at-War-Collaboration-and-Conflict-during-the-World-Wars>

“From Field to Foxhole: Cigarettes and Soldiers in WWII” chapter in *Nature at War: American Environments and World War II* edited volume (Boston: Cambridge University Press)

<https://www.cambridge.org/us/academic/subjects/history/twentieth-century-american-history/nature-war-american-environments-and-world-war-ii?format=PB>

Articles

“How the US Military Taught Americans to Smoke: A 1918 Policy Devised to Calm Soldiers’ Nerves Sparked a Bad Habit That Was Difficult to Stop,” Zocalo Public Square, August 5, 2019.

<https://www.zocalopublicsquare.org/2019/08/05/how-the-us-military-taught-americans-to-smoke/ideas/essay/>

3. RELEVANT WORK and LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Headmaster & Athletic Director & Rhetoric School Teacher, Eastwood Christian School

Eastwood Christian School, Montgomery, Alabama (July 2020 to Present)

Instructor of Record for Senior Government and Senior Economics (2024 to Present)

Executive for School Institutional Accreditation

Leader of Eastwood's Accreditation Preparation and Execution Committee (July 2024 to Present)

Led Core team through all aspects of school accreditation. On schedule for a full 5 year

Accreditation in March 2026 from the Alabama Christian Education Association, strengthening memberships with the Association of Classical Christian Schools and the American Association of Christian Schools.

Associate Dean of Education

Air Command and Staff College (ACSC), Maxwell AFB AL (Dec 2018 to June 2020)

Deputy Department Chair and Director of Instruction

Department of Joint Warfighting, ACSC (Jun 2016 – Dec 2018)

Deputy Department Chair

Department of Air Power, ACSC (Jun 2015 – May 2016)

Political Affairs Specialist (PAS) and Director of the Air War College Preparatory Course

The International Officer School, Maxwell AFB AL (Jun 2011 – Jun 2012)

Deputy J5 (Plans) for Police/SWAT Operations, Afghanistan Regional Security Integration Command-South (ARSIC-S), Kandahar, Afghanistan (Jun 2007 - Jan 2008)

20th Air Force Nuclear Weapons Inspector General (IG) Team Member & Speech Writer and Resource/Budget Advisor to 20 AF Commander (2 Star General Officer)
20th Air Force Headquarter, F.E. Warren AFB WY (Jun 2006 - Jun 2008)

Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) Training Flight Commander

392nd Training Squadron, Vandenberg AFB CA (Jun 2004 - Jun 2005)

JCBM Combat Crew Chief of Weapon System Instruction

341st Missile Wing, Malmstrom AFB MT (Jun 2001 - Jun 2002)

4. LECTURES, SCHOLARLY ENGAGEMENT, AND OUTREACH

2025 Guest Speaker: "War and Peace at Eastwood: The Place of Great Literature in a Lifelong Learner" for the Eastwood Christian School 2025-26 Convocation Ceremony

2023 Lecture: “A Case Study Approach to The American Military Establishment in the 20th Century: Frontier Warriors, Powerful Institutions, and Social Engineers”
The USAF Inspection Agency Team Week, Kirtland AFB New Mexico

2022 Guest Speaker: “Notes on Understanding the Uses of History” for the Francis Marion Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution

2020 Lecture: “Ascedia: A Classical Exposition on Intellectual Laziness ... also known as Cheating” for Eastwood Christian Rhetoric and Logic School Chapel

2020 Lecture: “A Journey With Truth” for Eastwood Christian School Faculty

2020-Present Founder, Moderator, and Discussion Facilitator for Eastwood Christian School Great Books Reading Round Table:
Orwell, 1984
Bradbury, Fahrenheit 451
Browning, Ordinary Men
Simons, Climbing Parnassus
Overy, Why the Allies Won (WWII)
Sowell, Vision of the Anointed
Stonestreet & Kunkle, A Practical Guide to Culture
Hegseth & Godwin, Battle for the American Mind
Huxley, Brave New World
C.S. Lewis, The Ransom Trilogy
 - *Out of the Silent Planet*
 - *Paralandra* (Feb 2026)
 - *That Hideous Strength* (April 2026)

2020 Podcast: The Flashback Podcast with Sean Braswell - “Holy Smokes: How the YMCA Helped Launch the Tobacco Black Market”
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/fb-102-holy-smokes-how-ymca-helped-launch-tobacco-black-id1506779922?i=1000473738265>

2016-2019 Founder, Moderator, and Discussion Facilitator for ASCS Scholars Great Books Reading Round Table:
Browning, Ordinary Men
Genovese, The Southern Tradition
Blanning, The Romantic Revolution
Dawson, The Gods of Revolution
Pieper, Leisure - The Basis of Culture
Snell, Acedia and its Discontents
Marcel, Man against Mass Society

McDougal, *Heavens and Earth*
Bacevich, *The New American Militarism*

2019 Lecture: “Perspectives on Teaching Military Leadership at PME” for Air University Leadership Development Course Faculty Development, ACSC, Maxwell AFB AL

2019 Podcast: Book Discussion/Interview for “The War College Podcast”
https://m.soundcloud.com/war_college/what-cigarettes-tell-us

2018 Podcast: Book Discussion/Interview for “History with Mark Bielski” Podcast Presentation <https://historywithmarkbielski.com/?s=bius>

2018 Lecture and Book Discussion: *Smoke 'Em if you got 'Em: The Rise and the Fall of the Military Cigarette Ration*, The University of Southern Mississippi Dale Center for The Study of War and Society
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9xOtaUD3yDY>

2018 Lecture and Book Discussion: *Smoke 'Em if you got 'Em: The Rise and the Fall of the Military Cigarette Ration*, The Pritzker Center Military History Museum and Library, Chicago, Illinois (Oct 2018)
https://www.pritzkermilitary.org/whats_on/pritzker-military-presents/joel-bius-smoke-em-if-you-got-em/

2018 Lecture: “American Joint Warfighting: An Organized, Presented, and Planned Force,” Summer Reserve Officer Course and ACSC International Officers Preparation Course, ACSC, Maxwell AFB AL

2018 Paper: “The Soldier and the Cigarette in War and Peace”
The Society for Military History Annual Conference
Louisville, Kentucky

2017 Lecture: “Bodies, ‘Baccy, and War: Thoughts on the Expansion of Federal Government” The Montgomery Chapter of the Federalist Society
Montgomery, Alabama

2017-2018 Lecture Series: "Perspectives on Military Leadership and Command"
Troy University, Leadership 3320 Great Leaders Course
Troy, Alabama

2017 Lecture: “Multi-Domain: The Biography of a BuzzWord”
ACSC Wood Auditorium Lecture Series
ACSC, Maxwell AFB AL

2016 Paper: “The Damn Y Man in WWI: Service, Perception, and Cigarettes”
The Society for Military History Annual Conference
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

2016 Paper: "Land Use Implications of Military Cigarette Consumption During WWII" The Ohio State University Mershon Center for International Security Studies *Nature of War: American Environments and World War II* Workshop, Columbus, Ohio

2015 Lecture: "The Future of American Air Power: Challenges and Opportunities," The 15th International Air Command and Staff Seminar Tokyo, Japan, Meguro Air Base

2015 Lecture: "The Soldier and the Cigarette: THE Story of the Twentieth Century" Faculty Forum Lecture Series, ACSC, Maxwell AFB AL

2015 Professional Development Speaker: "How to Finish a Ph.D. in 3 Years," The University of Southern Mississippi History Honors Society Hattiesburg, Mississippi

2014 Paper: "The Damn Y, the Soldier, and the Cigarette in WWI" The Louisiana State University Graduate Student History Symposium Baton Rouge, Louisiana

2014 Paper: "The Soldier and the Cigarette: A Research Prospectus" Winner of Best History Paper, the USM Graduate Student Research Symposium Hattiesburg, Mississippi

2010 Lecture: "An Air Force Officer in the Army: Police Mentoring in a Non-Permissive Environment" Faculty Forum Lecture Series, ACSC, Maxwell AFB AL

5. SERVICE TO COMMUNITY AND LOCAL CHURCH ACTIVITIES

2019 Montgomery Foster Care Association Fellowship Volunteer
Montgomery, Alabama

2018-Present Eastwood Presbyterian Choir Member and Christmas Cantata Vocalist
Montgomery, Alabama

2016-Present Children's and Youth Sunday School Teacher and Music Leader, Eastwood Presbyterian Church
Montgomery, Alabama

2016 Prattville Christian Academy Pee-Wee Head Football Coach
Prattville, Alabama

2013 Hattiesburg Dixie Little League Assistant Baseball Coach and Batting Practice
Pitcher
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

2012-2013 Presbyterian Christian School Middle School Basketball Coach
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

2010-2011 Prattville YMCA Head Basketball Coach
Prattville, Alabama

6. COMMITTEE WORK AND SERVICE TO THE ACADEMIC INSTITUTION

2024-Present Leader of Eastwood's Accreditation Preparation and Execution Committee. Led Core team through all aspects of school accreditation. On schedule for a full 5 year Accreditation from the Alabama Christian Education Association, strengthening our memberships with the Association of Classical Christian Schools and the American Association of Christian Schools.

2019 Co-Authored college level operating guidance, *ACSC Operating Instruction* 36-2602, 88 pages with 10 Annexes

2018 Academic Rank Advisory Committee Voting Member and Secretary;
Screened candidates for promotion to Associate and Full Professor

2018 War Theory Course Writing Competition Judge

2017 Research Award Committee – Chair for of Nowak Logistics Award

2016 - 2018 Won election to and served as ACSC representative to the Air University Faculty Senate; represented 125 faculty 15 seat AU Senate

2016 Member of 3 separate Faculty Hiring Committees – screened and hired 9 new Associate and Assistant Professors

2016 - 2018 Summer Seminar Leader, International Officers School ACSC Prep Course

2016 - 2019 Director, Guest Lecturer, and Small Group Leader, ACSC New Faculty Training Course

2016 - 2017 Minerva Research Grant Screening and Selection Committee

7. RESEARCH

Research Awards Granted

Competitively selected for \$3,000.00 Minerva Grant to research the impact of changing economic activity on the conduct of war and the military-industrial complex as

part of manuscript preparation. Conducted research at the National Archives and Records Administration in College Park, Maryland, and the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. Completed all research and submitted manuscript to press on time. (Spring 2016)

Research Advised

2025 Eastwood Christian School Senior Thesis Advisor
Liam Waddell - "Historical Shenigans" (analysis of Tolstoy's philosophy of history as found in the classic novel *War and Peace*)

2024 Eastwood Christian School Senior Thesis Advisor
Tripp Weaver - "Major Joppolo: The Superb Supervisor" (analysis of John Hersey's Pulitzer Prize Winning Novel *A Bell for Adano*)

2023 Eastwood Christian School Senior Thesis Advisor
Owen Alston - "The Army Leading into the Vietnam War" (analysis of Brian McAllister Linn's *Elvis's Army: Cold War GI's and the Atomic Battlefield*)
Brewer Holdich - "The Modern Gatsby" (A literary and historical analysis of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*)

2022 Eastwood Christian School Senior Thesis Advisor
Riggs Walker, Jr. - "Kennan in Context" (analysis of John Lewis Gaddis' *Strategies of Containment*)
Jack Whatley - "The Creation of our Modern Bureaucracy: Response to the Civil War" (analysis of Drew Gilpin Faust's *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War*)

2021 Eastwood Christian School Senior Thesis Advisor
Peyton Langley - "Washington's Success" (analysis of Fisher's *Washington's Crossing*)
James Hodges - "Sowing the Wind, Reaping the Whirlwind" (analysis of McMaster's *Dereliction of Duty*)
Chandler Weaver - "The Lies of a Country Displayed in a Man" (analysis of Sheehan's *A Bright Shining Lie*)
Bennett Bozeman - "Hitler: The Army or The Man" (analysis of Bartov's *Hitler's Army*)
Caleb Spiers - "The Plunge to Destruction" (comparative analysis of Keegan's *Mask of Command* and Strawson's *Hitler as Military Commander*)
Andrew Grete - "The America Roosevelt Created" (analysis of Cohen's *Nothing to Fear*)

2019 Air War College Professional Studies Paper (Graduate Level)
Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
Lt Col Kendrick Carol, "Back to the Future: A Study of Change in American Military Culture"

2018 School for Advanced Air and Space Studies (SAASS) thesis advisor and outside reader (Graduate Level)
Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
Major Jonathan Shea, "Theatre Campaign Plans, or Infinite Campaigning?"

2017 ACSC Professional Research Paper Advisor, 6 Students/2 Papers (Graduate Level)
Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama

- “Cost Effective Airpower for the Long War Against Violent Extremist Organizations”
- “Is It Time For a Paradigm Shift in Managing People”

8. ACADEMIC TEACHING RECORD

Eastwood Christian School

- Senior Thesis Advisor and Research Supervisor (2020 to present)
- Guest Lecturer in American History, Government & Economics, and 6th Grade Humanities
- Instructor of Record for Senior Government and Senior Economics

Air Command and Staff College Courses

Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL

- LS 5510 Leadership in Warfare Core Course (Fall 2009, Fall 2010)
- LD 5510 Leadership Development Core Course (Spring 2016)
- LS 5511 The History of Air Power Core Course (Winter 2009, Winter 2010)
- Leadership and the Practice of Command (Spring 2010, Spring 2011)
- Counter Insurgency and Stability Operations Elective (Fall/Winter 2010, Fall/Winter 2011)
- AP 5510 Air Power Studies I Core Course (Fall 2015)
- AP 5511 Air Power Studies II Core Course (Winter 2015)
- RE 5221 American Military Culture Elective (Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019)
- RE 5462 Vice, Consumption, and Facebook: Selected Topics in American Military Culture Elective (Spring 2016, Spring 2018)
- Joint Air Power Core Course (Spring 2017)
- JW 5510 Joint Warfighting: How We Fight Core Course (Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019)
- WT 5510 War Theory: The Evolution of War and Military Thought Core Course (Fall 2017, 2018)
- RE 5417 Muskets, Monuments, and Memory: A Cultural History of the American Civil War Elective (Winter 2019, Winter 2020)

Faulkner University Adjunct

Montgomery, Alabama

- HY 6396 Special Topics in History (Cultural History of the American Civil War) Faulkner University, Montgomery Alabama (Fall 2018)

International Officers School Courses

Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL

- Air War College Prep Course for International Fellows (Summer 2011, Summer 2012)

9. MISCELLANEOUS

Academic Honors and Awards

ACSC Military Educator of the Year Award, 2016
381st Training Group Instructor of the Year, 2005

Military Decorations

Devices

1. Meritorious Service Medal	2
2. Air Force Commendation Medal	1
3. Army Commendation Medal	0
4. Air Force Achievement Medal	2
5. AF Outstanding Unit Award	5
6. Combat Readiness Medal	0
7. National Defense Service Medal	0
8. Afghanistan Campaign Medal	1
9. Global War on Terrorism Service Medal	0
10. Armed Forces Service Medal	0
11. Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal	0
12. AF Overseas Ribbon Short	0
13. AF Longevity Service	3
14. AF Training Ribbon	0
15. NATO Medal	0