

*Curriculum vitae*

**Erik Blaine Riker-Coleman**

**Education:**

Ph. D., U.S. History, August 2005  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Dissertation: *"Positions of Importance and Responsibility": U.S. Four-Star Military Leaders in a Changing World, 1968–2000.*  
Director: Richard H. Kohn

Second field: Modern Middle Eastern History

M.A., U.S. History, May 1997  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Thesis: *Reflection and Reform: Professionalism and Ethics in the U.S. Army Officer Corps, 1968-1975.*  
Director: Richard H. Kohn

B.A., History, College and Departmental Honors, May 1995  
The College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio

Senior thesis: *"Some Men Put In Their Lives": Americans in the International Brigades, Spain, 1936–1939.*  
Advisor: John M. Gates

**Professional experience:**

**History instructor**, Lake Superior College, Duluth, Minnesota, 2002present.

Full responsibility for development, teaching, and administration of history courses, delivered in classroom and online, incorporating textbook and documents readings, class discussions and formal writing assignments. Also mentored High School Connections Program history faculty.

Courses taught:  
History 1120, European History, 1870-present  
History 1210, U.S. History 1600-1877

History 1220, U.S. History 1877-present  
History 1225, The Modern Middle East  
History 2110, Minnesota History  
History 2130, Vietnam: America's Longest War  
History 2999, U.S. Military History

**Senior lecturer, History**, University of Wisconsin-Superior, Superior, Wisconsin, 2011-present.

Full responsibility for development, teaching, and administration of U.S. history survey courses, delivered on campus and through Distance Learning program.

Courses taught:

History 151, History of the United States Through 1877  
History 152, The United States Since 1877

**History instructor**, Inver Hills Community College, Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, 2008-present.

Full responsibility for developing, teaching, and administration of history courses (online with the exception of a spring 2010 section of History 1130), incorporating textbook and documents readings, class discussions, and formal writing assignments; instructor for Preparing to Achieve a College Education (PACE) program serving high school students from underrepresented groups.

Courses taught:

History 1107, World Civilizations II  
History 1114, History of the United States I  
History 1115, History of the United States II  
History 1118, Wartime: From the Great War to the War on Terror  
History 1120, The Global Era: The World Since 1960  
History 1130, Minnesota History

**Visiting assistant professor of history**, University of Minnesota—Duluth, Duluth, Minnesota, January 2010-May 2016.

Full responsibility for developing, teaching, and administering history courses, including History 1304 and 1305 (US History Parts I & II), History 1310/2095 (Minnesota History), History 2355 (U.S. Military History), History 3320 (American Popular Culture) and History 3396 (The Vietnam War).

**History instructor**, Viterbo University School of Adult Learning, Lacrosse, Wisconsin, 2009.

Full responsibility for developing and teaching an intensive seminar on the War in Vietnam (History 308) for the Superior, Wisconsin cohort of the University's Bachelor of Science in Nursing Completion Program.

**Assistant to the Curator and Oral History Program Coordinator**, Richard I. Bong WWII Heritage Center, Superior, Wisconsin, 8/2002-10/2003.

Exhibits at the Bong World War II Heritage Center: Co-creator with Ellen Baker:

- "Normandy, 1944"
- "The American Red Cross in World War II"
- Permanent collection exhibits.

Conducted oral history interviews, supervised volunteer interviewers, managed collections, conserved artifacts.

**Graduate teaching assistant**, Department of History, UNC–Chapel Hill, 1996–1999.

Teaching responsibilities included leading small group discussion sections, development and evaluation of assignments and exams, assisting students with coursework, design and maintenance of course-related websites, and administrative tasks for courses with up to 90 students.

Courses assigned:

Hist. 30, "Russian History to 1861," Dr. David Griffiths  
Hist. 22, "United States History Since 1865," Dr. William Barney  
Hist. 18, "The World Since 1945," Dr. Michael Hunt  
Hist. 68, "War and American Society to 1903," Dr. Richard H. Kohn  
Hist. 69, "War and American Society, 1903 to the Present," R.H. Kohn  
Hist. 63B, "History of Air Power," Dr. Joseph Caddell

**Fellowships, grants, and awards:**

**Golden Apple Award** (student-nominated award for teaching excellence), Phi Theta Kappa, Inver Hills Community College, spring 2013.

**Faculty Award for Excellence**, Center for Teaching and Learning, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, May 2009. Grant for creation of a Google Earth presentation entitled "Minnesota History Through Time and Space."

**Faculty Award for Excellence**, Center for Teaching and Learning, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, March 2009. Grant for creation of a Google Earth presentation entitled "Duluth History Through Time and Space."

**Edward S. Miller Fellowship in Naval History**, Naval War College Foundation, September 2002.

**General and Mrs. Matthew B. Ridgway Military History Grant**, U.S. Army Military History Institute, July 2002.

**General Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr. Memorial Dissertation Fellow**, United States Marine Corps Historical Center, 2000-2001.

**Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities**, Woodrow Wilson Foundation, Princeton, NJ, April, 1995.

**Aileen Dunham Prize**, The College of Wooster (awarded annually to top senior history major).

**Phi Beta Kappa**, The College of Wooster, 1994

**Publications, presentations, and major research projects:**

"Breaking With Marshall: Partisan Politics and the Senior Military Leadership Since Vietnam," paper presented before the Society of Military History Annual Meeting, Ogden, Utah, 5/2008.

"A Clash of Cultures: Civil-Military Relations During the Vietnam War (review)." *The Journal of Military History* 72, no. 1 (2007): 290-291.

"The Pentagon and the Presidency: Civil-Military Relations from FDR to George W. Bush (review)." *The Journal of Military History* 71, no. 1 (2007): 281-282

"Patterns of Military Intervention in the Policy Debate." Commissioned by the Proteus Fund's Security Policy Working Group, August 2006.

"The Mission: Waging War and Keeping Peace with America's Military (review)." *The Journal of Military History* 67, no. 4 (2003): 1355-1356.  
"Social Origins of U.S. Four-Stars, 1968-1998," presented before the Triangle Institute for Security Studies "New Faces in National Security" conference, 9/2002.

"The Limits of Reform: Military Intellectuals and Professionalism in the U.S. Army, 1970-1975," presented before the Society of Military History Annual Meeting, Madison, Wisconsin, 4/2002.

"An Elite in Transition: U.S. Army Four Star Generals, 1968-1998," presented before the U.S. Military Academy "Making History: West Point at 200" Bicentennial Conference, 3/2002.

"Political Pressures on the Joint Chiefs of Staff: The Case of General David C. Jones," paper presented before the Society of Military History Annual Meeting, Calgary, Alberta, 5/2001.

*The Encyclopedia of War and American Society*, ed. Peter Karsten (Sage, 2005):

- "The Selective Service System"
- "The New York Draft Riots (1863)"
- "The Posse Comitatus Act"
- "Robert S. McNamara"
- "H. Norman Schwarzkopf"
- "Colin L. Powell"
- "Seven Days in May (novel/film)"

*The Encyclopedia of Work in America*, ed. Herbert Schaffner (ABC-Clío, 2003):

- "Work in Wartime"
- "Military Jobs and Careers"

"The Spanish Civil War," in *The Encyclopedia of the Great Depression and the New Deal*, ed. Dr. James Ciment (M.E. Sharpe, 2001).

"Middle East Civil-Military Relations in Global Perspective: Antecedents and Implications of Militarization."

"Lessons Not Learned: The United States Army and Institutional

Resistance to Organizational Transformation After Vietnam."

"Reaping the Whirlwind: Systemic Failure of Leadership in the U.S. Army, 1969–1971."

### **Other professional activities**

College Board Advanced Placement U.S. History exam reader, 2007-.

"Landmarks of American History and Culture" workshop series, National Endowment for the Humanities

- "Untarnishing the Gilded Age: American Politics and Culture, 1870-1901," Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, May 2006.
- "War, Death, and Remembrance: The Memory and Commemoration of the American Civil War," University of Mississippi, June 2007.
- "Steel-Making in Cleveland: A Case Study of the History and Culture of Industrialization, Immigration, and Labor In America," Western Reserve Historical Society, July 2007.

"Global Peace and Security in Community Colleges and the Communities They Serve," faculty workshop, U.S. Institute of Peace, June 2007.

Summer Workshop in the Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy, Columbia University, July 2002.

West Point Summer Seminar in Military History, United States Military Academy, June 2000.