

New Course Announcement

# The Great War — A Global Conflict with Lasting Legacies

Presented by Vince Black

**Course Preview : Coffee Morning at AWCC**

Friday, 9th June, 10 a.m.

**Enrolments:** Reception, Albury-Wodonga Community Centre  
Open 26/5/17 63 High Street, Wodonga 3690  
**Enrolment Forms:** From AWCC Reception or download from  
**Cost: Nil** [www.alburywodongau3a.net](http://www.alburywodongau3a.net)

Given that our Australian Government is presently spending some \$600M on various events and monuments to commemorate the centenary years of the Great War, I feel the least I can do is offer a program to assist interested individuals to explore and gain more knowledge and insights about the world's first truly global conflict.

The Great War is a subject about which many thousands of books and numerous papers have been written, on what is an extremely complex subject.

As a taster to the nature of the proposed course, it may surprise you to know that although French Armies from 1914 to 1918 occupied between 90% and 70% of the Allied Western Front trench line over the course of those four years, just a relatively small proportion of writings about the Great War actually originate from that country.

Conversely by far the bulk of the information we have about the Great War derives from British sources - despite the fact that their armies only manned between 10% and 30% of the Western Front!

During the course we will consider some of the reasons for why this is so. I look forward to making a brief presentation and answering questions at the coffee club meeting to discuss

the program I have prepared on a subject of personal interest which is titled '**The Great War – A Global Conflict with Lasting Legacies**'. — **Vince Black**, 15th May 2017. **Vince Black was raised and educated in Albury and Wodonga** to age 18, in a different era. The following 20 years were spent at Melbourne University, then as a teacher at Echuca, Christmas Island, Canberra and Cocus Island. He then returned to Wodonga, where he subsequently taught for seven years before going into a local business venture for the last phase of his working life. Vince's interest in the Great War was piqued early by the knowledge that his Grandfather, whom he was named after, had spent some eight months on the Gallipoli Peninsula in 1915 with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery Brigade.

## Course Details :

Title : The Great War — A Global Conflict with Lasting Legacies  
Coordinator : Vince Black  
Venue : Albury-Wodonga Community Centre, 63 High Street, Wodonga 3690  
Day/Time : Wednesdays, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.  
Commences : 16th August, 2017  
Duration : 13 x 3 hour sessions

## Course Outline :

Given that many nations around the world are currently commemorating the centenary years of the Great War, it is considered timely for an interactive program such as this to assist interested individuals to explore and gain more knowledge and insights about the world's first truly global conflict.

Because the **Western Front** saw so many of the major battles commonly associated with the Great War, the course will focus *mostly but not only* on that theatre. It will explore the different strategies and tactics employed by both sides in each of the four years of the conflict, with some consideration of Australia's involvement.

The course is designed for people with an interest in learning more about what was arguably the most significant historical event of the twentieth century, together with some of its legacies that continue to affect the world to the present day.

The program should also appeal to those carrying out genealogical research about their AIF forebears, who would like to gain a broader perspective about events that would have impacted on the lives of their Diggers.

The learning process will be interactive, meaning participants will be encouraged to reflect on and present their views on some key issues raised by what was meant to be 'the War to end all wars'. A variety of learning formats will be employed in the

course including oral presentations, provision of pre-reading material via email links, videos, hand outs, group discussions and reflective writing.

<b>Session One</b>	<b>Great War Statistics &amp; Three Enigmatic Questions</b>
<b>Session Two</b>	<b>Factors Leading to the Great War</b>  - Imperialism / Nationalism / Militarism / Alliances/Conscription - Military Colleges & War Plans / Rail Networks & Train Timetables
<b>Session Three</b>	<b>Military Strategies &amp; Doctrines of the Belligerent Nations</b>
<b>Session Four</b>	<b>1914 Ignition &amp; Opening Battles &gt;</b> <b>The Marne/ Race for the Sea &gt;</b> <b>Trench Warfare &gt; French Zone of the Armies &gt; Stances &gt; Stalemate</b>
<b>Session Five</b>	<b>1915 : Western Front / Tactics &amp; Battles / Gallipoli / Casualty counts</b>
<b>Session Six</b>	<b>1916 : Western Front Tactics &amp; Battles – Verdun and the Somme</b>
<b>Session Seven</b>	<b>1917 : Unrestricted Submarine campaign / French Mutiny /</b> <b>Passchendaele / Russian Exit &amp; USA Entry</b>
<b>Session Eight</b>	<b>1918 : Western Front – A Return to Battles of Movement / the Kaiser</b> <b>Battles / 100 Days Campaign</b>
<b>Session Nine</b>	<b>‘Learning Curves’</b>
<b>Session Ten</b>	<b>The French Experience in the Great War</b>
<b>Session Eleven</b>	<b>The Irish &amp; Russian Experiences in the Great War</b>
<b>Session Twelve</b>	<b>Challenges &amp; Legacies of the Great War</b>
<b>Session Thirteen</b>	<b>Australian Memories of the Great War</b>