

# Michael F. Morris

719 Royal Adelaide Drive \* College Station, TX 77845 \* (760) 429-3196  
[Mike.morris1775@gmail.com](mailto:Mike.morris1775@gmail.com)

---

## Education

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| <b>Texas A&amp;M University</b><br><i>PhD Candidate in Military History</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dissertation approved, degree conferred December 2020</li><li>• International Affairs Certificate, Bush School of Government, 2017</li></ul> | <b>College Station, TX</b> |
| <b>U.S. Army War College</b><br><i>Master of Strategic Studies, 2005</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Selected for Advanced Strategic Arts Program</li><li>• 1<sup>st</sup> place, Joint Chiefs of Staff Essay Contest</li></ul>                      | <b>Carlisle, PA</b>        |
| <b>American Military University</b><br><i>Master of Arts (with Honors) in Unconventional Warfare, 2001</i>   | <b>Charles Town, WV</b>    |
| <b>School of Advanced Warfighting, Marine Corps University</b><br><i>Eleven-Month Course in Operational Art and Planning, 2001</i>   | <b>Quantico, VA</b>        |
| <b>Command &amp; Staff College, Marine Corps University</b><br><i>Master of Military Studies, 2000</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Distinguished Graduate</li></ul>  | <b>Quantico, VA</b>        |
| <b>U.S. Naval Academy</b><br><i>Bachelor of Science (with Merit) in History, 1985</i>  | <b>Annapolis, MD</b>       |

## Research Interests and Projects

I am interested in how military operations are crafted into campaigns to achieve strategic goals. Developed interests include campaign planning, corps-level operations, counterinsurgency, amphibious operations, and military government. My dissertation examines how the U.S. Marine Corps waged war in I Corps, the northern five provinces of South Vietnam, from 1965 to 1971. The project considers how III Marine Amphibious Force, a naval corps-level headquarters, prepared for its Vietnam mission, how it orchestrated its advisory, pacification, and combat roles, and what the Marine Corps learned from the experience.

## Publications

- “Invading North Vietnam,” *Naval History* (October 2020): 40-46.
- Book review, J.P. Clark, *Preparing for War: The Emergence of the Modern U.S. Army, 1815-1917*, in *The Strategy Bridge* (12 March 2018).

- “Al Qaeda as Insurgency: The Quest for Islamic Revolution,” in *Strategic Challenges for Counterinsurgency and the Global War on Terrorism*, ed. Williamson Murray (Carlisle, PA: Strategic Studies Institute, 2006), 277-302. First published as “Al Qaeda as Insurgency,” *Joint Forces Quarterly* 39, no. 4 (2005): 41-50.
- “ANGLICO: Deep Fires or Deep Six?” *USNI Proceedings* (July 1998): 59-60.
- “Flying Columns and OMFTS,” *Marine Corps Gazette* (March 1998): 27-29.
- “The Tyranny of Time,” *Marine Corps Gazette* (June 1994): 46-47.

## Grants

- Texas A&M Albritton Center for Grand Strategy Research Grant, 2019
- Society for Military History Allen R. Millett Dissertation Research Fellowship Award, 2019
- Texas A&M History Department Summer Research Grant, 2019
- Texas A&M Graduate and Professional Student Council Travel Award, 2019
- Texas A&M Office of Graduate and Professional Studies Travel Award, 2019
- Texas A&M History Department Conference Travel Grants (x2), 2019
- Texas Tech University Vietnam Center & Archive Conference Travel Grant, 2019
- U.S. Naval Academy McMullen Naval History Symposium Travel Grant, 2019
- Marine Corps Heritage Foundation Shepherd Dissertation Fellowship, 2018
- Texas A&M Glasscock Center for Humanities Graduate Research Fellowship, 2018
- Texas A&M History Department Summer Research Grant, 2018

## Presentations

- “Strategy and the ‘Unwinnable’ War,” Albritton Center for Grand Strategy, Bush School of Government and Public Service, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, 2020
- “Doubling Down: Amphibious Contingency Plans for Invading North Vietnam,” U.S. Naval Academy McMullen Naval History Symposium, Annapolis, MD, 2019
- “Fighting the Corps in a Hybrid War,” Society for Military History Conference, Columbus, OH, 2019
- “DEWEY CANYON: Its Lessons and Legacy,” Texas Tech University Vietnam Center Conference: *1969: Vietnamization and the Year of Transition in the Vietnam War*, Lubbock, TX, 2019
- “Fighting the Phantom: 1<sup>st</sup> Viet Cong Regiment in I Corps,” Glasscock Center for Humanities Graduate Colloquium Series, College Station, TX, 2019
- “The Staff Ride: Learning from the Landscapes of War,” Roundtable Organizer/Chair, Society for Military History Conference, Louisville, KY, 2018
- “Decision Games as Teaching Tools,” Texas A&M War & Society Working Group, College Station, TX, 2018

## Experience: Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps (Retired)

- 2011-2015     Director, School of Advanced Warfighting, Marine Corps University
- Developed and taught 12 new lessons (total of 75 seminars over 3 years)

- Led 6 planning exercises and conducted the most extensive Staff Ride program among all DOD PME schools (7 countries; 40 days)
- 2009-2011      Commanding Officer, Expeditionary Warfare Training Group, Atlantic
- Directed a staff of some 200 military, federal, and contractor employees. Supervised 22 courses focused on amphibious operations, fire support and staff planning; graduated 4,000 students per year; managed \$3.5M budget
- 2007-2009      Civil-Military Affairs Officer, I Marine Expeditionary Force
- Deployed to Ramadi, Iraq in 2008; led civil-military team responsible for support to Governance, Economic Development, Rule of Law, Infrastructure, Health Services, and Education in Anbar Province
- 2005-2007      Faculty, Marine Command and Staff College
- Instructor: taught 56 seminars; developed and taught an elective course
  - Associate Dean for Warfighting: department head; supervised 15 Lieutenant Colonel instructors; directed a third of the Staff College curriculum; developed four new operational planning exercises
- 2002-2004      Inspector-Instructor, 3d Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company (3d ANGLICO)
- Deployed to Kuwait and Iraq in support of Operation *Iraqi Freedom*
- 2001-2002      Plans Officer, I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF)
- Deployed to Kuwait as lead planner for Operation *Enduring Freedom* Consequence Management (Chemical-Biological-Nuclear) Task Force
  - Primary I MEF planner for Iraq post-conflict stability operations
- 1985-1999      Field Artillery Officer
- Honor Graduate, USA Field Artillery Officer Basic Course
  - Battery Officer (FO, FDO, Plt Cdr, XO) M198 155mm Howitzer Battery
  - Guard Officer, Marine Security Force, Diego Garcia
  - Commander, Marine Detachment *USS Holland (AS-32)*
  - Honor Graduate, USMC Amphibious Warfare School
  - Fire Support Coordinator, 6<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment
  - Battery Commander, 26<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit
  - Fire Support Coordinator, U.S. Army 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment

### **Professional Affiliations**

- Society for Military History, 2009
- U.S. Naval Institute, 1985
- Marine Corps Association, 1985

### **Certifications and Skills**

- Held Top Secret/Special Compartmentalized Information security clearance in USMC

- Associate Teaching Certificate, Texas A&M Center for Teaching Excellence, Association for Future Faculty, Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning (CIRTL), 2019

## Service

- Co-convener, Texas A&M War & Society Working Group, AY 2019
- Discussion leader, *Veterans' Voices* program sponsored by Humanities Texas, 2019

## References

- Dr. Brian M. Linn  
Ralph R. Thomas Professor in Liberal Arts  
Texas A&M University  
[b-linn@tamu.edu](mailto:b-linn@tamu.edu)
- Dr. Lorien L. Foote  
Patricia and Bookman Peters Professor of History  
Texas A&M University  
[lfoote@tamu.edu](mailto:lfoote@tamu.edu)
- Dr. Jasen Castillo  
Associate Professor and Evelyn and Ed. F. Kruse '49 Faculty Fellow  
Co-Academic Director of the Albritton Center for Grand Strategy  
Bush School of Government and Public Service, Texas A&M University  
[jasencastillo@tamu.edu](mailto:jasencastillo@tamu.edu)