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Research Guide Series

Theory and Strategy

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Theory of War

Works on military theory and strategy have existed since the earliest days of writing. Most ancient and medieval manuscripts have appeared in modern editions and translations. They can be divided into six chronological periods: Ancient Chinese, Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Medieval European, and Medieval Islamic. Carl von Clausewitz and Antoine-Henry Jomini are acknowledged as the most important of strategic theorists of the 19th century. 20th century theorists employed new tendencies in strategic thinking. Majority of modern works deal with war in a somewhat abstract manner. They do this by either remaining at the strategic or political levels of war or by discussing theories of application without regard to the specific weapon types they envision.

This bibliography has been designed to provide a guide as to where to find information on military theory and strategy. Please note that the list of references below is a selection of the more relevant titles and information on the subject. The list is not intended to be exhaustive or definitive but is an introductory guide to some of the resources available.

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