



**History 553.01E—Modern US Colloquium (CRN 82707)
Fall 2015 Syllabus**

Instructor: Dr. Jessica Brannon-Wranosky

Class Meets: 9:20 AM-Noon Fortnightly on Saturdays AND Online

In Building/Room: Room 130—Metroplex Campus (2600 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150)

Office Located In Ferguson Social Sciences (SS) 107

Office Hours: TR 12:15–2:45 PM in SS 107; Before Grad Class @ Metroplex Campus; and By Appointment

Email: Jessica.Wranosky@tamuc.edu (Email is the best way to reach me)

Office Phone: (903) 886-5224

Office Fax: (903) 468-3230

Website: located inside “eCollege” inside your “myLeo” account

ATTN: THIS IS A BLENDED IN-PERSON AND ONLINE CLASS WITH BOTH ONLINE AND IN-PERSON REQUIREMENTS—YOU MUST HAVE REGULAR ACCESS TO A COMPUTER WITH WORKING EMAIL, INTERNET, AND A TWITTER ACCOUNT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THIS COURSE.

COURSE INFORMATION

MATERIALS:

Required Texts:

—12 Required:

- 1) REQUIRED—Eric Foner, *The Fiery Trial: Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery*. W. W. Norton and Company, 2011. (ISBN 978-0393340662)—paperback.
- 2) REQUIRED—Catherine Clinton, *Harriet Tubman: The Road to Freedom*. Back Bay Books (ISBN 978-0316155946)—paperback.
- 3) REQUIRED—Sally McMillen. *Seneca Falls and the Origins of the Women's Rights Movement*. Oxford University Press. (ISBN 978-0195393330)—paperback .
- 4) REQUIRED—Charles P. Roland. *An American Iliad: The Story of the Civil War*, Second Edition. The University Press of Kentucky. (ISBN 978-0813123004)—hardcover.
- 5) REQUIRED—David W. Blight. *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory*. Belknap Press of Harvard University Press. (ISBN 978-0674008199)—paperback.
- 6) REQUIRED—Carla L. Peterson, *Black Gotham: A Family History of African Americans in Nineteenth-Century New York City*. Yale University Press. (ISBN 9780300181746)—paperback.
- 7) REQUIRED—Karen Cox. *Dixie's Daughters: The United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Preservation of Confederate Culture*. University Press of Florida. (ISBN 978-0813028125)—paperback.
- 8) REQUIRED—Maria E. Montoya. *Translating Property: The Maxwell Land Grant And The Conflict Over Land In The American West, 1840-1900*. University of Kansas Press. (ISBN 978-0700613816)—paperback.
- 9) REQUIRED—Charles Postel. *The Populist Vision*. Oxford University Press. (ISBN 978-0195384710)—paperback.
- 10) REQUIRED—Rebecca Edwards. *New Spirits: Americans in the Gilded Age, 1865-1905*. Oxford University Press (ISBN 978-0195147292)—paperback.
- 11) REQUIRED—Robert Wiebe. *Search for Order, 1877-1920*. Hill and Wang Press. (ISBN 978-0809001040)—paperback.

- 12) REQUIRED—David M. Kennedy. *Over Here: The First World War and American Society*. Oxford University Press. (ISBN 978-0195173994)—paperback.
- 13) REQUIRED—*A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, Eighth Edition: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing), by Kate L. Turabian (ISBN 9780226816388) University of Chicago Press.
- 14) REQUIRED—*The Elements of Style*, Fourth Edition, by William Strunk Jr. and E. B. White (ISBN 0-205-30902-X) Longman Publishers.

Any additional reading assignments, such as brief articles, videos, or primary documents, will be assigned via the instructor through e-college.

Additional Class Materials: Paper and Writing Implements for taking notes & access to a computer, working email, and Internet.

Course Description:

This course will survey United States history from the decade prior to the American Civil War (1877) through World War I. This period saw the evolution of social beliefs regarding race, gender, citizenship, the role of government, the rights of individuals, industry, economics and international affairs. The course will discuss transcendentalism, the United States Civil War and Reconstruction, numerous perspectives of the “Gilded Age and Progressive Era,” and World War I.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Students will evaluate important works discussing the history of the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century United States.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS	
Explanation of Evaluation Criteria:	Grade Breakdown:
8 Single-Book Reviews (6.25% ea) 50%	A = 89.5-100
2 Joint-Book Reviews (10% each) 20%	B = 79.5-89.4
Online Assignments & Twitter Participation 15%	C = 69.5-79.4
<u>In-Person Class Participation 15%</u>	D = 59.5-69.4
Semester Total 100 semester points	F = 0-59.4

Required Readings: All of us will read and discuss (via in person class meetings and Twitter) the books on the list. All students are required to read all books, articles, and other readings assigned for the class. The assigned books are available for purchase at the campus bookstore, through the Internet, and at many regional book retailers.

TURNITIN.COM: All papers and reviews must be uploaded to the appropriate listing in the course’s turnitin.com space. Each student will need to use the specific course identification number and password to register to this class’ turnitin shell. This information and directions for use will be provided to students in a separate document.

Book Reviews: You are required to write a total of ten book reviews for the course. Each review should be typed with 1-inch margins, free of grammatical and spelling and formatting errors, provide correct citation where necessary, include discussion of a published academic review of the assigned book, and **single-book reviews should be no less than 3 full pages & absolutely no more than 5 pages; joint-book reviews should be no less than 6 full pages & absolutely no more than 8 pages.** You must turn in a copy of each review on the day that it is due in Microsoft Word format .doc or .docx in the appropriate eCollege dropbox. If a student does not upload the assignment in the correct format by the due date, it is considered late. Furthermore, each

weekday a paper is late without a documented excuse I will deduct 10% off its earned grade. I will provide further details regarding this assignment in a separate document in eCollege with a sample book review. Book reviews are graded based on level of analysis, discussion of book components as useful to historians, evidence of whether the student full read and understood much of the book's content, and format and grammar and spelling requirements. (This includes adhering to the sample book review's Turabian footnote and parenthetical requirements.)

Twitter Class Participation: Students must sign up for a Twitter account by the first day the class meetings (Saturday, September 1, 2012) the course. Please log on to www.twitter.com to do so.

Students may also sign up to follow Dr. Wranosky's Twitter feed by following @JessicaWranosky on Twitter. Dr. Wranosky will not always use the class's hashtag when tweeting because she sends out other relevant academic information via Twitter, and students should have access to this info as well.

Each student must "tweet" (meaning post an original comment of their own) something relevant in connection to the calendar's current book assignment or other current assigned readings (or a connection) at least 3 times per week during the course of the semester using the hashtag #HIST553 at the beginning of the tweet. Students must also respond to at least 2 tweets each week during the course of the semester in some manner from those of the professor and fellow students also using the hashtag #HIST553. If a student fails to use the hashtag #HIST553 in a tweet or response for the course, there is no way to follow that post and thus no credit is received for that post or response. Please remember to use #HIST553 in all tweets and responses for this course.

!!!A WORD ABOUT TWITTER—Your tweets and responses need to be professional (as they will be able to be viewed publicly potentially by all Twitter users worldwide. If you already have a Twitter account, I highly suggest you set one up only for academic purposes using your university email and your name only—no cute little nicknames. Do not post anything that you would not want future employers, the president of the university, and me to read on this account—BAD IDEA. The purpose of this portion of the course is to create a live-time discussion over course material and provide students with practice and experience using Twitter in an academic and professional environment. What you had for breakfast and how late you stayed out last night (or what you did, for that matter, while out) is not appropriate academic Twitter material.

IF YOU ARE NEW TO TWITTER: Google questions like "how to set up a Twitter account" and "how to follow someone on Twitter" and "what is a retweet" and "what is a hashtag and how to use it on Twitter" and IMPORTANTLY—"How to delete a Tweet."

Email me if you have any questions. I will look for you on my follower's list by the first class day for the first checkmark for this class requirement.

!!Class "Attendance" and Participation: Participation both in person and online is crucial to your success in this course. Developmental activities occur every day this class "meets," and "absences" will adversely affect your grade. Habitual "absences" and "tardiness" are unacceptable. Yet, attendance is not enough—Simply being physically present is not enough.. You are graduate students in professional academic training, thus regular, relevant, and insightful verbal participation (both oral and written) is absolutely necessary for your success in this course. Participation in the class is a large part of this portion of the grade.

!!Student Conduct and Tone (Online and In Person): Students are required to respect their instructor and fellow students without exception. This includes using respectful tones and word choices and not over dominating class conversations either online or in person. Students will get one warning from the instructor

regarding disrespectful or inappropriate behavior. On the second infraction, a student may be required to undergo disciplinary action, which may include removal from the course.

Class Calendar and Dates: While it is highly unlikely that the dates for the reading and assignments would change, I reserve the right to do so if the need presents itself. Any such changes will be announced in the announcements section on the course website homepage. The class calendar will be made available online in the eCollege course. The course will begin the first week with discussion of the first few chapters of Foner's *Fiery Trial* and Clinton's *Harriet Tubman*.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology successfully in this course.

- Internet access/connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)
- Internet browser software (Internet Explorer and Mozilla Firefox work best)
- Word Processor (MS Word)

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

It is strongly recommended that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the 'myCourses' tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: <https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx>.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamu-commerce.edu.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Emailing the professor's university email address (Jessica.Wranosky@tamuc.edu) is the very best way to reach Dr. Wranosky. In every email, please make sure to provide your full name at the end, which course you are enrolled in, and a description of what your request or question is.

Dr. Wranosky will communicate with students through the email address they have on file in MyLeo (make sure yours is up to date and working throughout the semester), eCollege announcements, and the "Professor's Forum" discussion forum in the class. Please check these areas daily and before attending class. If an emergency arises, Dr. Wranosky will post the announcement for the class in all three of these locations.

In all forms of class communication including all online forums, students are expected and required to maintain a respectful tone and use semiformal to formal language.

eCollege Student Technical Support

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Chat Support: Click on *'Live Support'* on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.

Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Email: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Help: Click on the *'Help'* button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material. A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

BOTTOM LINE—PLAGIARISM, CHEATING, OR ACADEMIC DISHONESTY WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN THIS CLASS (OR ANY OF MY OTHER CLASSES) IN ANY MANNER. This includes using more than 20% of any material produced for another course by the student for this course. You must turn in original work produced for this course.

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Academic Integrity: It is expected that university students demonstrate a high level of maturity, self-direction and ability to manage their own affairs. Students are viewed as individuals who possess the qualities of worth, dignity and the capacity for self-direction in personal behavior.

Academic Honesty: University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possessions of examinations or examination materials, forgery, the participation in hindering classmates' learning environment or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one's own work.) If any type of academic dishonesty is discovered in this class, you will receive a zero for the assignment, have the possibility of receiving a zero for the course, and the Dean of Students may become involved.

"The Code of Student Conduct" located in Texas A&M University-Commerce Student Guidebook covers those issues listed above. I make all efforts to follow all guidelines and regulations and expect students to do the same. If you are not familiar with the "The Code of Student Conduct," it is highly suggested that you review all of its material. If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate office or me. **Please do not wear headphones turned on or off during class or exams. Have all cellular phones and paging devices turned to silent and put away during all class meetings. Do not wear hats with brims during exams.**

Additional Course Resources: Additional resource links are available on the course website.

University Specific Procedures:

Federal ADA compliance: Those students with special needs (recognized and documented by Texas A&M University-Commerce) should notify me immediately so I can discuss the availability of appropriate instructional aids or accommodations. These conversations will be confidential. If you do have special needs, you must register with the Office of Student Disability Resources and Services here at TAMU-Commerce.

Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

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Gee Library

Room 132

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Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

ADDITIONAL HELPFUL RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

Parking: If you have parking issues (including not being able to find a parking space) there are a number of general and student lots available on campus, but if you need further help please contact the TAMU-Commerce Bursar's Office to obtain information on getting a parking permit. Therefore, parking issues should not cause tardiness or absence.

Illness: If you have health related issues (including needing a physician's attention and documentation for missed class/assignments) the TAMU-Commerce Student Health Services Center is located in Henderson Hall. By paying student fees, you have the right to see a physician free of charge or for a nominal fee. Student Health Services is located in Henderson Hall, behind University Police and across from Prairie Crossing, on the corner of Lee St. and Monroe St. Their phone number is (903) 886-5853.

HIST 553.01E Fall 2015 Modern U. S. Colloquium Class Schedule

Date	Meeting Schedule	Due in Dropbox
5-Sep-15	First Class Meeting In Person	
12-Sep-15	Online Work	
19-Sep-15	In Person Meeting	Joint Foner-Clinton Review
26-Sep-15	Online Work	
3-Oct-15	In Person Meeting	Roland & Blight Reviews Due
10-Oct-15	Online Work	
17-Oct-15	In Person Meeting	McMillen Review Due
24-Oct-15	Online Work	
31-Oct-15	In Person Meeting	Cox & Peterson Reviews Due
7-Nov-15	In Person Meeting	Montoya & Postel Reviews Due
14-Nov-15	Online Work	
21-Nov-15	In Person Meeting	Joint Edwards & Wiebe Review Due
28-Nov-15	Online Work--THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY CAMPUS CLOSED	
5-Dec-15	In Person Meeting--Last Class Meeting	Kennedy Review Due

Have a good semester, and please feel free and empowered to approach me with any questions.