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HIST 1302 01W, U.S. History from 1865

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2021

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Christopher Rowback
Office Location: Online via D2L and email
Office Hours: by appointment
Office Phone: (903) 886-5226 (note: this is the History Department office number)
Office Fax: (903) 468-3230
University Email Address: Chistopher.Rowback@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: email
Communication Response Time: 24 to 48 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required

The two texts used in this class are available online at no cost to the student. They are:

The American Yawp, edited by Joseph Locke and Ben Wright,
<http://www.americanyawp.com/>

This is the primary text for the course. All readings listed in the schedule below refer to *The American Yawp*, unless otherwise noted.

Digital History, edited by Steven Mintz and Sara McNeil,
<http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/index.cfm>

Primary sources, which will be utilized for writing assignments and class discussion, will be assigned, in-class as needed, from this text.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Software Required

See technology requirements below

Optional Texts and/or Materials

Additional readings may be distributed via email or MyLeo Online as needed

Course Description

A broad interdisciplinary course in the historical development of the United States and North America from 1865. Note: Assignments will focus on reading, writing, and analysis. Prerequisites: ENG 1301 or concurrent enrollment or ENG 1302 or concurrent enrollment.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to form substantive and evidence-driven arguments to propose solutions to problems or explain phenomena.
2. Student communication will follow conventions of grammar and syntax appropriate to the audience, purpose and message.
3. Students will demonstrate awareness of societal and/or civic issues.
4. Students will be able to understand their role in their own education.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS**Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Students must possess the skills necessary to update and utilize reliable computer and internet access. Access to an alternate location (TAMUC Library, local public library, etc) in the event of technical difficulties. It is recommended that students acquire a local library card now so you are prepared for the semester if you are a remote student and do not have access to TAMUC Library. Students need to be familiar with Microsoft Office and navigating D2L.

Instructional Methods**Participation**

As this is a university level course, discussion is also an expected part of the class. You are encouraged to ask questions and answer those questions asked to the class on online discussion boards. There will also be opportunities to voice your informed opinions and debate certain issues. I do not grade on your opinion but rather on your engagement, participation, and ability to support your arguments.

Assignments

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Exams:

There will be two exams over the course of the semester. See Schedule for dates. Exams are non-comprehensive. Exams will include an “Identify” section, in which students are required to provide definitions to six (6) key terms from the reading. Each “Identify” term will be worth five points (5%) of the total exam score. For the remaining seventy points (70%) of the exam score, students will draft a long essay. Students will be presented with two or more exam prompts and will choose which prompt to which they wish to reply. Students are allowed and encouraged to use assigned reading and notes while taking exams, however, any instances of academic dishonesty will result in a zero for the exam. Exams will be available to take for a 48-hour period (all day Thursday and Friday) during exam weeks. Once students access the exam, they will have 90 minutes to complete each exam.

Response Papers:

Students will complete two brief response papers (2 – 3 pages) that are designed to integrate a specific moment or event into a broader historical significance. For each assignment, students will be given a prompt, a statement, or a series of questions. Students will type a response that places a document from the assigned reading into a historical context.

These short papers enable students to integrate specific content into broader historical trends. Response papers are due one week after the assignment is given. Response papers will be 2–3 pages in length (including text and notes). The paper must be double-spaced, the pages must be numbered, all margins must be set to 1 inch and the paper should be written in Times New Roman 12pt font or its equivalent. The paper may not be submitted in more than one class. The paper must be submitted in the appropriate MyLeo Online drop box folder. Students will complete two response papers for the semester. **I DO NOT ACCEPT WORK VIA EMAIL.**

Discussions

Participation will be evaluated through discussion board posting. For these assignments, I will present a question relating to material covered in previous unit, and students will respond on the discussion forum. Also, students are required to respond to the posts of two classmates. Responses should be substantive and raise new questions or introduce points that further the discussion. A post stating that students agreed with or enjoyed the contributions of the classmates will not count toward weekly participation requirements, though you are certainly free to make such posts in addition to the weekly requirements. **Original discussion postings are due by Wednesday, and responses are due by Sunday of each week.**

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

- Complete all reading assignments as listed in the course calendar.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

- As this is an online class, it is critical that you log into class often and reference your syllabus weekly, at a minimum, to be aware of approaching due dates.
- During the first few days of class, please familiarize yourself with the sections of the D2L course. This will make navigating the course and completing assignments much easier during the semester.
- Written assignments must be submitted on the assigned due date (see Late Work policy below). Students will receive ample warning about assignment due dates— computer/printer/technology malfunctions or meltdowns or any other last-minute difficulties are not acceptable excuses.
- Please review the section below regarding academic integrity, and observe the standards set forth by the University on all assignments completed.
- All assignments and activities may be discussed with the instructor by email or in-person during office hours. Please contact me if you have questions.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

- A = 90%-100%
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- D = 60%-69%
- F = 59% or Below

The following assignments will comprise the final course grade:

Exams (2 @ 25%)	50%
Response Papers (2 @ 15%)	30%
Discussion Boards (10 @ 2%)	20%

Assessments

The general grading criteria for all written assignments in this class is based on the following:

- A = Mastery of content and reading material; factual accuracy; thoughtful interpretation or argument that synthesizes original thoughts and ideas with content; technically clean
- B = Good-to-excellent command of the majority of content and reading material; competent factual accuracy; a generally solid historical argument backed with adequate evidence

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C = Fair command of content material; reasonable factual accuracy; ability to articulate a specific thesis or argument even if it is not original or is poorly supported by the evidence

D = Poor command of content; factual errors; no real argument driving the essay

F = Even worse than above; completely off topic; no work submission

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

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Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Students should make use of the Instructor's office hours or use the email function in D2L to email the Instructor. Students must provide a valid return email address for replies. Unless otherwise announced, students can expect replies within 24 hours, Monday through Friday between 8am and 5pm. Replies at other times are at the Instructor's discretion. I am also available for remote meeting appointments via Zoom or D2L upon request. Please come to talk to me about any concerns you might have and about any problems or issues that arise during the semester. The more you let me know what is going on with you, the better I can help you out when necessary.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Attendance/Lateness

This course moves at a fast pace and focuses on a variety of complex events and ideas. For this reason, your attendance is just as important as keeping up with the readings and writing assignments and will be recorded. In an online class, this means logging into your course shell a minimum of two times a week and checking your University email daily. University policy does allow excused absences in certain situations such as school sponsored events, jury duty, and military service. These excuses require proper documentation.

Late Work

Ample time is given for the completion of all assignments and there are no 'surprise' due dates. Thus, late work is only accepted with a documented excuse and must be submitted within one week of the original deadline. In the event of a documented excuse, any work submitted past the due date will receive 1 letter grade deduction per day. For example, a paper due on Friday but not submitted until Sunday can only receive a maximum letter grade of C.

Missed Exams

Exams must be completed on the scheduled due date, unless the student provides a valid, documented excuse. Failure to complete exams during assigned times will only be excused with a documented reason (e.g., medical documentation). **If a student must miss an exam, the instructor must be notified of the absence prior to the exam and a make-up exam must be rescheduled within one week's time. Absences without a**

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valid excuse or exams that are not made-up per these guidelines will result in a “0” grade for the exam.

Extra Credit

Extra credit opportunities will be available throughout the course of the semester, at the discretion of the instructor.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

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[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

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

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-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.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

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Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

I reserve the right to modify the class schedule if necessary but will give students ample notice on D2L. All assignments are due Friday @ 11:59pm unless otherwise noted.

Week 1: Class Introduction/Reconstruction

Readings: Chapter 15, "Reconstruction"
Assignment: Discussion Board 1

Week 2: Westward Expansion

Readings: Chapter 17, "Conquering the West"
Assignment: Discussion Board 2

Week 3: Industrialization and Labor

Readings: Chapter 16, "Capital and Labor" and Chapter 18, "Life in Industrial America"
Assignment: Discussion Board 3

Week 4: America Becomes a World Power

Readings: Chapter 19, "American Empire"
Assignment: Discussion Board 4

Week 5: Progressive Era

Readings: Chapter 20, "The Progressive Era"
Assignment: Response Paper 1 due @ 11:59 PM Friday

Week 6: World War I

Readings: Chapter 21, "World War I & Its Aftermath"
Assignment: Discussion Board 5

Week 7: The 1920s

Readings: Chapter 22, "The New Era"
Assignment: Discussion Board 6

Week 8: The Great Depression

Readings: Chapter 23, "The Great Depression"
Assignment: Exam 1

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Week 9: World War II

Readings: Chapter 24, "World War II"
Assignment: None

Week 10: World War II, cont.

Readings: Continued from previous week
Assignment: Discussion Board 7

Week 11: Postwar Era

Readings: Chapter 25, "The Cold War"
Assignment: Discussion Board 8

Week 12: Civil Rights and the 1960s

Readings: Chapter 26, "The Affluent Society"
Assignment: Response Paper 2 due @ 11:59 PM Friday

Week 13: Civil Rights and the 1960s, cont.

Readings: Chapter 27, "The Sixties"
Assignment: Discussion Board 9

Week 14: Vietnam War and the Crisis of 1968

Readings: Chapter 28, "The Unravelling"
Assignment: Discussion Board 10

Week 15: Catch Up and Wrap Up

Readings: TBD
Assignment: None

Finals Week

Final Exam