



**HC 400:01E Honors Colloquium  
Spring 2021**

**Instructor:** Dr. Ray Green

**Time & Location:** Monday 12:00-12:50 p.m. BA106

**Office & Phone:** Prairie Crossing main office 903-468-3001

**Office Hours:** Normal business hours (appointment will be best)

**E-mail Address:** [Raymond.Green@tamuc.edu](mailto:Raymond.Green@tamuc.edu)

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Texts and Other Necessities:**  
No books required

**Course Description and Student Learning Outcomes:**

Honors colloquia are scheduled weekly to provide honors students the opportunity to discuss timely local, regional, and world issues as well as other enlightening topics with faculty, administrators, community leaders and other honors students. The honors colloquium is informal as well as educational. The overall goals are to provide opportunities to be motivated by other's enthusiasm for their field, to be exposed to new ideas, and to share time with other intellectually curious students.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Instructional Methods, Activities, and Assessments**

A. Attendance

Well, this is usually the easy part of the syllabus to write. Historically, you were not allowed more than ONE absence in a semester. If you accumulated more than one absence, you did not receive credit for the class. But, what does 'attendance' mean during a pandemic? Faculty are going to be given the choice to present F2F, through D2L, and through Zoom. Additionally, you are being asked not to go to class when you might be ill (Remember COVID testing is free at the Student Health Center across the street from where you live. Additionally, they do the cheek swab, not the nostril gouging – so you needn't fret!). We'll leave it here – you are expected to attend all

sessions either F2F or virtually. If I feel your attendance is problematic we will discuss the matter.

Further, once here, please treat our speakers with the attention and courtesy that they deserve. **Please turn off all cell phones and do not engage in texting while in class.** During discussion weeks, students are expected to participate actively in what should be lively discussions and debates. Of course, all students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (see current Student's Guidebook).

#### B. Reaction Papers:

To gain credit for HC 400, students are required to write reaction papers on TWO colloquia presentations. I have set incremental due dates for the TWO papers, and students who miss a deadline will be allowed to submit a late paper for partial credit depending on the quality of the paper. Please be mindful of the deadlines to avoid a silly mistake and a reduction in grade. Additionally, students who do not submit BOTH papers on time CANNOT earn an A in the course, although simply submitting papers on time does not guarantee a grade of "A." Rather, a student must be sure to write a proper reaction paper that contains an intellectual reflection on what took place during the colloquia. That reflection in writing should go beyond being merely a series of notes you take and write up.

The paper may cover some of the following points:

- What was said that you agreed with?
- Or disagreed with?
- Can you connect an aspect of what you learned from the colloquium session to another event you have read about or heard about or observed or even experienced in your own life?
- What interested you the most?
- Least?
- What would you have done or said differently?

Obviously, you do not have to answer all of the above questions. Nor do you have to respond to any one of them. What your paper should show is your mind at work—much like a book critic or movie critic does when she or he writes a review. Length? I'd say two typed, double-spaced pages (around 500 words).

***Please submit your papers through the D2L portal.***

#### C. Class Discussion

We will periodically have class discussions to debrief at regular intervals during our course. These sessions provide the opportunity to collectively share our reactions and discuss the topics raised by our speakers. Students are expected to attend these class periods and become active members of the conversation.

#### D. Letter to Freshman Assignment

Each colloquium speaker will highlight their own individual expertise and often draw upon life lessons that may be applicable to your own experiences. As you near the end of your college career, you have grown and developed an acumen for success. Pen a letter to an incoming freshman in the class of 2020. What lessons have you learned during your time in the Honors College? at TAMU-C? in life? What advice

would you give a brand new college freshman so they can maximize their college experience?

***Please submit your papers through the D2L portal.***

#### E. Grading Scale

Your grade in the course will be calculated as follows:

Attendance	15%
Class Discussion	25%
Letter to Freshman	20%
<u>Reaction Papers</u>	<u>40% (2x20%)</u>
	100%

Final grades are based on the total number of points earned during the term in accordance with the following levels of proficiency:

- A = 90-100
- B = 80-89
- C = 70-79
- D = 65-69
- F = below 65

### **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS, ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

Students will need to be able to access D2L and Zoom in this class. If this presents a challenge to you, please reach out so that I can work with you.

### **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

If you cannot see me during office hours, please send an email so that I can make an appointment with you. I am happy to see students at any time as long as I do not have a prior commitment.

### **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

#### **Classroom Decorum**

This class is designed to be an open forum for student comments, questions, and discussions. The speakers and your classmates may help you broaden your knowledge and perceptions, so please give them the respect they deserve. All students enrolled in the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See the Student Handbook.)

## **COVID-19 Information**

“A&M-Commerce requires the use of face-coverings in all instructional and research classrooms/laboratories. Exceptions may be made by faculty where warranted. Faculty have management over their classrooms. Students not using face-coverings can be required to leave class. Repetitive refusal to comply can be reported to the Office of Students’ Rights and Responsibilities as a violation of the student Code of Conduct. “

“Students should not attend class when ill or after exposure to anyone with a communicable illness. Communicate such instances directly with your instructor. Faculty will work to support the student getting access to missed content or completing missed assignments.”

## **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

Gee Library- Room 132

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email:

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

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

### **Statement on Nondiscrimination:**

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.

### **Statement on Student Conduct**

“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct). **Turn off all cell phones.**

**Texting during class is forbidden.**

Further, 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](#)

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

**Statement on Campus Concealed Carry**

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 34.06.02R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to

(<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and or consult your event organizer). 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.

**Statement on 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>

**COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Notes/Delivery Mode</b>
1/11	Dr. G	Honors College	F2F
1/18	No class		MLK Jr. Day
1/25	Mr. Howdy Lisenbee	City Manager – Commerce	F2F
2/1	Dr. Mark Rudin	President	F2F
2/8	TBA		
2/15	TBA		
2/22	TBA		<b>Reaction Paper #1 Due</b>
3/1	TBA		
3/8	TBA		
3/15	TBA		
3/22	Dr. Rebecca Judd	Social Work	<b>Letter to Freshman Due</b>
3/29	TBA		

4/5	Class Discussion Day		<b>Reaction Paper #2 Due</b>
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