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**HIST 1302.0CW, History of the United States From Reconstruction**  
COURSE SYLLABUS:

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Dr. Dan Degges  
Office Location: Online  
Office Hours: Email, Telephone or Virtual by Appointment  
University Email Address: Daniel.Degges@tamuc.edu  
Preferred Form of Communication: Email, but phone or virtual chat can be arranged  
Communication Response Time: Within 24 hrs

**COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Required Textbook - The free online textbook, *The American Yawp*, found at <http://www.americanyawp.com/>. With the linked Primary Source Reader. Numerous links and files are provided within the course and under feedback.  
Software - Microsoft Word or other word-processing software is necessary

**Course Description**

The course is a broadly interdisciplinary look at the United States and North America's historical development from 1877. Assignments will focus on reading, writing, and analysis.

**Student Competencies**

- 1) Students will be able to identify significant events, actors, and changes in the United States' development since 1877.
- 2) Students will be able to explain the causes and effects of important events and eras of United States History.
- 3) Students will communicate in a manner appropriate to the audience and occasion, with a clear message and organizational structure.
- 4) Students will be able to analyze and evaluate historical situations, events, and developments when given a set of data and/or texts. The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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## **Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Critical Thinking - Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances, data, texts, or art.
2. Communication - In written, oral, and/or visual communication, A&M-Commerce students will communicate in a manner appropriate to the audience and occasion, with a clear message and organizational structure.
3. Personal Responsibility - Students will understand and practice academic honesty.
4. Social Responsibility - Students will demonstrate an understanding of societal and/or civic issues.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Must be able to use Microsoft Word or other word processing software.

### **Instructional Methods**

This course is an online Competency-Based Education (CBE) course. Learning activities include assorted reading and videos, quizzes, essays, and pre and post-tests.

### **Pre-test**

The Pre-test for this course assesses your knowledge of the United States and North America's historical development from 1877. There are 100 points total (30 from multiple-choice, 20 from short identification, and 50 for essays). You will need a score of 80 to be able to move directly to the post-test.

The purpose of the pre-test is to provide a baseline understanding of your knowledge in this competency. The pre-test is a required course requirement and **must be completed** before placement by Professor into a series of Learning Outcomes (LOs) or Posttest.

### **Module Tests**

Each module has the following types of questions to test your knowledge: multiple-choice quiz, short identification questions, and essays.

### **Quiz**

You need to complete a multiple-choice quiz in each module. It is an excellent opportunity to review what you learned in each module.

### **Short Identification Questions**

The short identification questions require a written response using complete sentences and appropriate grammar and punctuation. It should be one to two paragraphs in length. It should include the Who, What, Where, When, How, and Why of the prompt provided and an explanation of its significance. Significance explains why it is worth knowing about and how it enhances our understanding of the past.

## Essays

Essays require a long form written response, using complete sentences and appropriate grammar and punctuation. Expect to write 500 to 750 words to answer the prompt fully. You will be expected to cite any sources and quotes you use (see Student Responsibilities and Tips below).

## Assessment

### Post-test

The post-test for this course assesses your knowledge of the United States and North America's historical development from 1877. There are 100 points total (30 from multiple-choice, 20 from short identification, and 50 for essays).

The post-test is an assessment of your knowledge of the material required for the competency. A score of 80 points or higher is required to demonstrate competency.

If you score less than 80 points, you will have an opportunity to review the material and re-take the competency post-test. You may take the post-test assessment up to three times. If you have not passed the competency in three attempts, you will work with an Academic Coach to determine another method of fulfilling the program requirements in this subject.

### Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

To be successful in this course, written assessments are critical. If you do not immediately pass the Pre-Test, you will find everything you need to address the written assignments in the readings/videos for this course. Expect to spend 30 or more hours reading/listening (depending on your reading speed). You may use outside source material that you have access to, but be wary; not everything you find may be factual, reliable, and peer-reviewed. If you choose to use a quote, it should be short, no more than two lines. When reviewing your essay for submission, be careful to answer these questions, and avoid the following pitfalls.

- Does my thesis clearly state my argument and its significance?
- Does the main argument in each body paragraph support my thesis?
- Do I have enough evidence within each body paragraph to make my point?
- Have I adequately introduced, analyzed, and cited every quotation I use?
- Do my topic sentences effectively introduce the main point of each paragraph?
- Do I have transitions between paragraphs?
- Is my paper free of grammar and spelling errors?

**YOU MUST CITE YOUR SOURCES.** You may use any standard citation format you choose: APA, MLA, Chicago, or Turabian. If you are unfamiliar with any of these, please utilize the sources provided by the University's Writing Center (<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiessocialsciencesarts/departments/literatureLanguages/writingCenter/default.aspx>). If you have a particular question about the

correct way to cite, you may find the answer at <https://libraries.indiana.edu/help-citing-sources>. Please feel free also to ask me for clarity.

**You will be expected to adhere to the standards of Academic Integrity of university and Department of History policy as linked below in the Academic Integrity subsection.**

## GRADING

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

A = 90%-100% *The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

B = 80%-89%

F = 70%-79% or Below

If the seven-week term ends and you do not complete all competencies, you will receive a grade of "F" and be required to complete the remaining competencies in the next term.

## 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](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](mailto: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

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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. The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change*.

### **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**

Expect responses and feedback to email within **24** hours except feedback on your final project, which may take up to **48** hours.

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

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

In order to demonstrate competency, you must achieve 80% or higher on the post-test.

### **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**

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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**

### **Plagiarism WILL NOT be tolerated in this course.**

Turnitin is used to ensure all assignments meet the standards at Texas A&M University-Commerce. Learners will be tested over their understanding of academic honesty. It is the student's responsibility to avoid plagiarism and contact instructor for specific concerns after completing the multiple-choice test associated with academic honesty.

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>

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.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

Gee Library- Room 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

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<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. *The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

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.

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

<b>Learning Objectives and Competencies</b>	<b>Materials to Read or Review</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
Pre-test	No material required, but use of American Yawp textbook Ch. 16-23 will increase your chances of passing	Pre-test Multiple choice 2 Short Identification questions 2 Essays
If you score over 80 or above on the Pre-test, you can skip directly to the Post-test		
LO1: Capital & Labor through Progressive Era	6 Reading Assignments found in the module	Read the material for the week. Complete the module quiz, short identification and essay
LO2: World War 1 thru Cold War	6 Reading Assignments found in the module	Read the material for the week. Complete the module quiz, short identification and essay
LO3: Post-war Economy through Recent Past	5 Reading Assignments & 1 video found in the module	Read the material for the week. Complete the module quiz, short identification and essay
Post-test	Review all necessary modules and American Yawp Ch. 23 - 30	Complete all 4 parts of the Posttest.

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