



## HC 400.1HE Honors Colloquium Fall 2024

**Instructor:** Dr. Erin Webster Garrett  
**Time & Location:** Monday 12:00-12:50 p.m., EDS 129  
**Office & Phone:** Honors College main office, Library 156 | 903-468-3001  
**Office Hours:** Normal business hours (appointment preferred)  
**E-mail Address:** Erin.WebsterGarrett@tamuc.edu

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

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, 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 people's enthusiasm for their field, to be exposed to new ideas, and to share conversation with other intellectually curious students. This colloquium will also be a space in which you will continue to prepare for your thesis defense and for the Annual Research Symposium. The purchase of books or other materials is not required for this course.

### COURSE OVERVIEW

#### A. Attendance

You are allowed one unexcused absence this semester. If you accumulate more than one absence, you will not receive credit for the class. Further, once here, please treat guest speakers with the attention and courtesy that they deserve. **Please turn off cell phones and do not engage in texting while in class.** During discussion, students are expected to participate actively in what should be lively conversation and even debate—come to class prepared to engage with our guest speakers and with each other! 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. Graded Items

To gain credit for HC 400, students are required to:

- Attend class and participate actively in class discussion.
- Complete a draft for the Annual Research Symposium presentation. Further information will be provided in class.
- Write a Reaction Paper responding to one of our class sessions, meaning either a presentation led by a guest speaker or an impactful discussion we have in class ourselves. Further information about the Response Paper is located below.

- Write a synthesis paper that reflects on your overall education. Further information will be provided in class.

### **Response Paper: Further Information**

The Response Paper assignment asks you to reflect on a class discussion that drew your particular attention, provoked thought, or was otherwise meaningful in some way. 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. I am asking you to write a paper that contains intellectual reflection on whatever topic you choose—I'm looking for something that goes beyond being merely a series of notes you take and write up. For length, shoot for a minimum of two double-spaced pages of type with one-inch margins. 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 mistake and a reduction in your grade.

***Please submit your papers through the D2L portal in the relevant week's dropbox***

### **C. Grading**

Your grade in the course will be calculated as follows:

Attendance and Participation	25%
Annual Research Symposium draft	20%
Response Paper	25%
<u>Synthesis Paper</u>	<u>30%</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

### LMS (Learning Management System)

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 the 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)

### 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 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 TAMU-C 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.

#### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of D2L, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options are available here: <https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you need to see me outside of class, the best thing to do is to send an email so that I can make an appointment with you, which I will be more than happy to do. Many of my days are devoted to meetings and interviews with applicants to the HC, but if I am in my office in Prairie Crossing and the door is open, you can also stop in if you have a quick question!

## ADDITIONAL 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**

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 reasonable accommodation for their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Services  
Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Gee Library- Room 132  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148  
Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/CampusLife/CampusServices/StudentDisabilityServices/default.aspx>

### **Statement on Nondiscrimination:**

Students at 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). **Texting during class is forbidden.**

Further, students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in 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)

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

### **AI Usage**

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed. In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

### **Required 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](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx) webpage. <http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

### **Statement on the Counseling Center:**

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)