



HIST-1302-03E History of the United States Since Reconstruction

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: A. Rodney Mancuso
Office Location: Ferguson Room 142 (Graduate Student Office)
Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 2 – 4 PM or by appointment
University Email Address: august.mancuso@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: Email
Communication Response Time: 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

We will use [American Yawp](#) as our textbook. It is free and available online; you may also purchase a hard copy if you wish. I usually expect you to read one chapter each week. Primary source documents, presentation slides, and any other assigned materials will be made available on D2L throughout the course.

Course Description

A broad interdisciplinary course in the historical development of the United States from 1877 to the present day. Assignments will focus on reading, writing, and analysis.

Prerequisites: ENG 1301/ENG 1302 or concurrent enrollment in either.

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.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

You will need to access and use an internet browser to access the course D2L Learning Management System in addition to the textbook and assigned readings. You will also need basic familiarity with word processing software like MS Word.

Instructional Methods

This course is based on lectures and discussion of the reading you have done and the material we are examining. I encourage students to engage and interact during class. An open exchange of ideas between the class and myself makes class more useful and interesting. Please do not hesitate to ask questions. The only silly question is the one left unasked. You may also occasionally be asked to work together in class with other students on writing assignments.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Attendance

Class attendance is expected. I will record attendance, but it will not be graded. Instead, there will be ten (10) quizzes over the textbook reading at the beginning of class on days of my choosing. If personal difficulties arise that interfere with your ability to attend class, please email or speak with me in person as soon as possible.

In-Class Writing Assignments

You will complete four (4) writing assignments during class time. You may also be asked to collaborate in small groups to write critical examinations of topics under study. These assignments will be due at the end of class. Your work will be graded according to the following standards with more specific rubrics available in the future:

- A: Demonstrates mastery of reading and class material; factual accuracy; thoughtful, historical argumentation demonstrating ability to synthesize.
- B: Good to excellent command of most reading and class material; accuracy; good level of historical argumentation.
- C: Fair command of class material; accuracy; ability to articulate a historical point of view, even if it is unconvincing or is poorly reasoned.
- D: Poor command of required material; significant errors; ahistorical or narrow reasoning.

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Document Analysis Paper

You will complete a four (4) page paper in which you analyze and discuss connections between three primary source documents. You will select these documents from those available in the American Yawp Primary Source Reader Ch. 16 through 30 and submit your selection for my approval. Documents selected must be from different chapters. The next step is to complete a brief outline of your proposed analysis showing how you plan to connect the documents in your paper. The final paper will be due near the end of the semester. All documents must be submitted via D2L. The final paper must be double spaced, written in 12 point Times New Roman font, and use standard 1 inch margins. Include your name, the date, and the class name on each submitted document. Each document should also have a title at the top and a bibliography at the end. If you are having difficulty completing these assignments, please email me and/or schedule a visit with the campus Writing Center for assistance.

Late Work & Exam Makeups

If you miss the midterm exam or a writing assignment, you can make it up by attending my office hours (M/W/F 2-4 PM) or arranging an appointment at another time through email. Makeup work will be available **for a period of two weeks after the due date** except for the final exam or quizzes. Exceptions may be made at my discretion.

.GRADING

Final grades in this course will correspond to the number of points earned:

- A = 901- 1000 Points
- B = 801- 900 Points
- C = 701- 700 Points
- D = 601- 700 Points
- F = 600 & > Points

These points will be earned as follows:

- 100 Points: 10 Quizzes
10 points each
- 200 Points: 4 In-Class Writing Assignments
50 Points Each
- 200 Points: Document Analysis Paper
20 Points – Selection
30 Points – Outline
150 Points – Final Paper
- 500 Points: 2 Exams

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Assessments

You will be assessed based on in-class quizzes and exams.

There will be ten (10) quizzes over the most recently assigned textbook reading. These will consist of a single question drawn from the assigned chapter designed to be answered quickly in two or three sentences. These quizzes cannot be made up if missed.

You will take a midterm exam and a final. The midterm will have two parts: identification questions (IDs) and an essay question. You will select 4 of 8 IDs to complete and choose one of three essay prompts to answer. For the final exam, you will answer two essay prompts. Writing Assignment #2 will be a week before the midterm and include an essay to help you practice and receive feedback before the test. We will also have an in-class review session before the final. Before both tests I will provide you with a study guide to help you prepare. This study guide will include multiple possible essay prompts and potential IDs.

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

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

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

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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.

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

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

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.

<https://inside.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>.

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 [Procedures 13.99.99.R0.01](#)

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

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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>

Graduate Students Academic Integrity Policy and Form

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.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: [Student Disability Services](#)

<https://www.tamuc.edu/student-disability-services/>

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.

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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.

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.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

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

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



<http://telusproduction.com/app/5108.html>

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AI use policy [Draft 2, May 25, 2023]

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

Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Lecture Schedule:

1/13	Intro – What is U.S. History?
1/15	Civil War & Slavery Review
1/17	Reconstruction #1
1/22	Reconstruction #2
1/24	Ch. 16 – Capital and Labor #1
1/27	Capital and Labor #2
1/29	Ch 17 – The West #1
1/31	The West #2

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2/3	Ch 18 – Industrial America #1
2/5	Industrial America #2
2/7	Analyzing Primary Source Documents
2/10	Writing Assignment #1
2/12	Ch 19 – American Empire #1
2/14	American Empire #2
2/17	Ch 20 – The Progressive Era #1
2/19	The Progressive Era #2
2/21	Ch 21 – World War One #1 (Document Selection Due)
2/24	World War One #2
2/26	Exam & Writing Preparation
2/28	Writing Assignment #2
3/3	Ch 22 – The New Era #1
3/5	The New Era #2
3/7	Midterm Exam
3/17	Ch 23 – The Great Depression #1
3/19	The Great Depression #2
3/21	Ch. 24 – World War Two #1 (Paper Outline Due)
3/24	World War Two #2
3/26	Ch. 25 – The Cold War #1
3/28	The Cold War #2
3/31	Ch. 26 – The Affluent Society #1
4/2	The Affluent Society #2
4/4	Ch. 27 – The Sixties #1
4/7	The Sixties #2
4/9	TV & the Civil Rights Movement

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4/11	Writing Assignment #3
4/14	Ch. 28 – The Unraveling #1
4/16	The Unraveling #2
4/18	Ch. 29 – The Triumph of the Right #1
4/21	The Triumph of the Right #2
4/23	History Through Film (Final Paper Due)
4/25	Writing Assignment #4
4/28	Ch. 30 – The Recent Past #1
4/30	The Recent Past #2
5/2	Flex/Review Day

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