



## **HIST-1301, (04E), U.S. History Since 1865**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2025

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Mr. Ryan M. Garland

Office Location: Ferguson Social Sciences #142

Office Hours: MWF 10:00-12:00, or by appointment

University Email Address: ryan.garland@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: **email**

Communication Response Time: Within 24-48 hours, I will try and respond within the first 24.

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

#### **Textbook(s) Required:**

The books for this class are either open source or public domain, you will not need to buy anything.

***The American Yawp* at [www.americanyawp.com](http://www.americanyawp.com). Only Volume II is needed.**

**Smaller readings will be posted in D2L as needed.**

### **Course Description**

#### **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

Use of a web-browser to access the internet. Use of a word processor such as Microsoft Word to create documents.

### Instructional Methods

This will be primarily a lecture & readings course. The lecture & readings will provide all the evidence you need for creating evidence-based answers to the essay questions on the exams & for the reading quizzes. The exams are scheduled for in class, and you will have the entire class period to finish writing your answer.

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

It is in your best interest to do the readings in advance. Lectures are built around [Yawp](#) chapters and will fill in detail that may not be in the lectures. Come to class for the required assignments. Make-ups must be scheduled either the week before or the week after the assignment has been completed in class.

## GRADING

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

| Percentage      | Point Value        |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| A= 90%-100%     | A= 90-100 Points   |
| B= 80%-89%      | B= 80-89 Points    |
| C= 79%-79%      | C= 70-79 Points    |
| D= 60-69%       | D= 60-69 Points    |
| F= 59% or below | F= Under 59 points |

Weights of the assessments in the calculation of the final letter grade.

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Responsibility Quiz: | 5 Points          |
| Short ID (3)         | 30 Points         |
| Reading Quizzes (15) | 15 Points         |
| Midterm Exam         | 25 Points         |
| Final Exam           | 25 Points         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | <b>100 Points</b> |

### Assignments:

**Exams:** This course will have two, one-question essay exams written during allotted class times. These exams will take the entire class period to complete. You will write a clear, coherent, and structured essay. We will go over the rubric in class before the first exam. (SLO 1,2,3, 4)

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**Quizzes:** There will be short, five question reading quizzes in class over the readings for the week. These will usually be on Thursdays. The lowest will be dropped. (SLO 1,3)  
**Short IDs:** These three assignments will ask you to identify and describe the prompt. We will go over the rubric in class, the lowest will be dropped. (SLO 1,2,4)

### **Note on handwriting & spelling:**

Do not fret about whether I can read your handwriting, if there is a serious problem I will ask you about it. Otherwise, assume that I can read your writing just fine. Further, since most of your assignments are written in-class, I will not count spelling errors against you. I am not grading your English; I am grading your knowledge of course material.

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

If you need to reach me outside of normally scheduled office hours, please use email. I typically respond to email within 24 to 48 hours during the week. Do not expect a response during the weekend.

### **When sending an email always do the following:**

- 1) Use a subject line. This tells me what the topic is and prevents your message from ending up in my junk mail.**
- 2) Include your class and section. I need to know exactly which of my courses you are in before I can help you.**
- 3) End the email with your name, that is “sign” your message. I also need to know who you are.**

## **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)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu)

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## 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 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>

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Specific Procedures/Policies

#### Academic Honesty and Dishonesty

You are expected to do your own work. Dishonesty will not be treated lightly. On each graded assignment I expect each student to honor the following pledge: "I hereby give my word that I have neither given nor received aid while completing this assignment."

**Any student found violating this policy will receive a grade of zero for the assignment, and further action may be taken.**

#### Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is taking someone else's work and passing it off as your own words, thoughts, or ideas. This includes, but is not limited to, using direct quotes out of a book or from the internet as your own words, properly using quotation marks but noting the wrong person as the author, purchasing a paper or exam from friends or strangers, using material from the internet verbatim as your own words, and cutting and pasting entire papers or internet pages and passing it off as your own work. Cheating on exams and discussion posts or allowing others to copy your answers is another form of academic dishonesty. It may be acceptable to use

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other people's words as short quotations and ideas as long as they receive credit in citations. If you are unsure about the precise definition of plagiarism and/or think you may have committed this form of academic dishonesty, see the instructor or visit the Online Writing Lab before you turn in the assignment.

**AI: From the University,**

**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**

**Extra-credit**

I do not usually give extra credit. Do not ask; that will lower the possibility further.

**Note on Electronics:**

Using your laptop for notes is acceptable, though I do advise hand-written notes for no other reason than they help you remember things. My only non-negotiable is: **do not use your smartphones in class**. There may be times where I ask the class to look something up, but otherwise, do not use them. Preferably your smartphones will stay silent in your backpack or pocket for the duration of class. These classes are only fifty minutes, you can do without it for that time. Further, it is a distraction for both myself as the instructor and your fellow students.

*Excessive use will ensure that you will not be counted as present on the day's attendance. It is not only rude to be on your phone during lecture, but also cuts from time you paid for.*

**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.

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## 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 [Procedures 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>

[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

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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](mailto: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.

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

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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)

### **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>

### **Statement on Student Grievances**

Students who have questions or concerns about the Instructor's course policies or the conduct either of the Instructor or a classmate should first consult with the Instructor. In the event of a lack of resolution or satisfaction on the matter, the student may bring their concerns to the head of the History Department, Sharon Kowalsky (Sharon.Kowalsky@tamuc.edu). If this does not result in a satisfactory conclusion to the matter, students may bring the issue to the attention of the Associate Dean of Students per procedures outlined on pp. 15-19 of the Student Guide Book.

## **COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

**13 January, Monday: First Class day**

**7 February: First Short ID (20 Minutes at the start of class)**

**7 March: Midterm Exam, second Short ID**

**SPRING BREAK: March 10-14**

**11 April: Third Short ID**

**7 May: Final Exam**

**Weekly reading quizzes will happen on Wednesdays**

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## Readings Schedule:

### **Week 1 | Reading: Reconstruction**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/15-reconstruction/>

Primary Source Readings:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/reconstruction/jourdon-anderson-writes-his-former-master-1865/>

### **Week 2 | Reading: Capital and Labor**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/16-capital-and-labor>

Primary Source Readings:

<https://www.americanyawp.com/reader/16-capital-and-labor/andrew-carnegies-gospel-of-wealth-june-1889/>

### **Week 3 | Reading: The West**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/17-conquering-the-west>

Primary Source Readings:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/17-conquering-the-west/frederick-jackson-turner-significance-of-the-frontier-in-american-history-1893/>

### **Week 4 | Reading: Life in Industrial America**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/18-industrial-america>

Primary Source Readings:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/18-industrial-america/henry-grady-on-the-new-south-1886/>

### **Week 5 | Reading: American Empire**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/19-american-empire>

Primary Source Readings:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/19-american-empire/mark-twain-the-war-prayer-ca-1904-5/>

### **Week 6 | Reading: The Progressive Era**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/20-the-progressive-era>

Primary Source Readings:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/20-the-progressive-era/theodore-roosevelt-on-the-new-nationalism-1910/>

### **Week 7 | Reading: World War I**

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<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/21-world-war-i>

Primary Source Readings:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/21-world-war-i/woodrow-wilson-requests-war-april-2-1917/>

**Week 8 | Reading: The Aftermath**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/21-world-war-i>

Primary Source Readings:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/21-world-war-i/w-e-b-dubois-returning-soldiers-may-1919/>

**Week 9 | Reading: The New Era**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/22-the-twenties>

Primary Source Readings:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/22-the-new-era/warren-g-harding-and-the-return-to-normalcy-1920/>

**Week 10 | Reading: The Great Depression**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/23-the-great-depression>

Primary Source Readings:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/23-the-great-depression/huey-p-long-every-man-a-king-and-share-our-wealth-1934/>

**Week 11 | Reading: World War II**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/24-world-war-i>

Primary Source Readings:

**Week 12 | Reading: The Cold War**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/25-the-cold-war>

Primary Source Readings:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/24-world-war-ii/937-2/>

**Week 13 | Reading: The Affluent Society**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/26-the-affluent-society>

Primary Source Readings:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/26-the-affluent-society/brown-v-board-of-education-of-topeka-1954/>

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**Week 14 | Reading: The Sixties**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/text/27-the-sixties>

Primary Source Readings:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/27-the-sixties/lyndon-johnson-on-voting-rights-and-the-american-promise-1965/>

**Week 15 | Unraveling**

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/28-the-unraveling/>

Primary Source Readings:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader/28-the-unraveling/statement-by-john-kerry-of-vietnam-veterans-against-the-war-1971/>

**Finals Week: EXAM ON MAY 9, 8:00-10:00 AM**

**Schedule:**

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/2025\\_Spring\\_Final\\_Exam\\_Schedule.pdf](https://inside.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/2025_Spring_Final_Exam_Schedule.pdf)