



Honors College

EAST TEXAS A&M

HC 400.1HE Honors Colloquium Fall 2025

Instructor: Dr. Erin L. Webster Garrett
Modality: In-person with online asynchronous components.
Time & Location: Mondays, 12:00-12:50 p.m., EDS 129.
Office & Phone: Honors College main office, Library 156 | 903-468-3005
Office Hours: Wednesdays 8:30-9:30 am and by appointment
E-mail Address: Erin.WebsterGarrett@etamu.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Honors colloquium is a weekly opportunity for Honors students to engage with speakers who present on topics about which they are passionate. This semester students will identify speakers to invite to speak to the class. Speakers can be nominated from the ETAMU community, students lived experience, alumni, or community members. A focus of our time together will be asking, *what is your “why” and how might your answer inform a pathway to a future that is uniquely your own?*

The course will provide opportunities to be motivated by other people’s enthusiasm for their field, to be exposed to new ideas, and to chart your own path forward. This colloquium will also be a space in which you will practice telling others about your work and why it matters. The course will culminate with presentation of your thesis research at the Research Symposium on April 16. The purchase of books or other materials is not required for this course.

COURSE OVERVIEW

A. Attendance

- Students without documented schedule conflicts are allowed one unexcused absence with no penalty. Additional unexcused absences may result in failure of the course at the discretion of Dr. Webster Garrett.
- If you have an academically related schedule conflict that will interfere with your regular attendance, please email Dr. Webster Garrett to discuss your options.
- Honors students are expected to follow the tenets of a scholarly community and to demonstrate their commitment to the pursuit of truth and expanded understanding through evidence-based research, intellectually honest and open exchanges of ideas, and respect for diverse perspectives. During discussion, students are expected to participate actively—come to class prepared to engage with our guest speakers and with each other. Your attendance in mind and body is a non-negotiable.
- All students enrolled at the university are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#) and to *“conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates respect for the rights and property of others and is consistent with the educational goals and mission of the university. This Code of Student Conduct (“Code”) focuses on personal responsibility and*

accountability for students' actions and the impact those actions may have on the greater community."

B. Graded Items

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

- Attend class and participate actively in class discussion.
- Prepare and publicly present a poster at the fall Honors College symposium showcase or to share an ePortfolio focused on synthesizing their Honors College experience. Further information will be provided in class. (Tentative date of showcase: November 18)
- Submit a minimum of 5 substantive reflections, 3 of which must focus on the class speakers. Further information about the reflection essays will be provided in class.
- Complete brief online modules and assignments.

C. Grading

Your grade in the course will be calculated as follows:

Attendance and Participation	25%
Research Poster or ePortfolio	40%
Reflections/responses	25%
Online modules	10%
	<hr/>
	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 East Texas A&M University 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

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: In the event of personal computer and internet connection problems, please visit the Honors College office in Waters Library. Loaner computers are available through the library, and the Honors College suite offers a conference room space and perhaps even an office if you need a quiet space to work.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

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: COURSE CONTENT
--

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact me:

Dr. Erin Webster Garrett

Email: erin.webstergarrett@etamu.edu

Office Tel: 903-468-3005

Text: 540-230-3579 (please identify yourself when you text)

I also will be holding regular office hours on **Wednesdays from 8:30-9:30 am and by appointment**. As a dean, my availability is often not in my control but I will do my level best to accommodate you.

Please know that I have an open-door policy—please feel free to stop into my office. If the door is open, I am available.

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.

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
East Texas A&M University
Waters Library- Room 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: 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).

Further, students at East Texas A&M University 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

East Texas A&M University 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

For this course: As a simple rule, if you wouldn't ask your professor to do it, don't ask AI (would you ask your professor to provide feedback or brainstorm ideas? Of course! Would you ask your professor to write your paper? Um. No.)

Required Statement on Campus Concealed Carry

Texas Senate Bill – 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University 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