



EAST TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY

**HISTORY 1301.08E: THE UNITED STATES THROUGH RECONSTRUCTION
COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2026**



William Sidney Mount, *The Dance of the Haymakers* (1845)
The Long Island Museum of American Art, History, and Carriages, Stony Brook, N.Y.

Instructor: Professor John Howard Smith

Class Meeting Time and Location: Ferguson Social Sciences 309 / Tues. & Thurs., 11:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Office Location: Ferguson Social Sciences 117

Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:00–9:00 a.m., or by appointment

University Email Address: John.Smith@etamu.edu

Communication Response Time: ~ 24 hours

Teaching Assistant: TBA

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Prerequisite/Co-requisite: None

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Required Reading:

Various, *The American Yawp*, Vol. I Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2020

<http://www.americanyawp.com>

Various, *The American Yawp Reader*, Vol. I Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2020

<http://www.americanyawp.com/reader.html>

Supplementary Materials:

Documents and PowerPoint presentations available for download from D2L/Brightspace

Course Description:

History 1301 is a broad interdisciplinary course in the historical development of colonial North America and the United States to 1877. Assignments will focus on reading, writing, and analysis. Prerequisites: ENG 1301 or concurrent enrollment or ENG 1302 or concurrent enrollment.

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. **Oral/Written Communication:** Students will communicate in a manner appropriate to audience and occasion with an evident message and organizational structure.
3. **Personal Responsibility:** Students will be able to understand their role in their own education.
4. **Social Responsibility:** Students will demonstrate awareness of societal and/or civic issues.

ASSIGNMENTS, STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES, EXPECTATIONS, AND TIPS FOR SUCCESS
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Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

This course consists of a series of activities and assessments to assist students in achieving the outcomes/objectives for the course and instructional units/modules. Each week students will work on various combinations of readings, discussions, and research.

Student Responsibility Quiz

Student Learning Outcome no. 4:

The Student Responsibility Quiz consists of a series of questions about the Instructor and the course syllabus that must be taken **no later than Feb. 20**. The quiz is found on the course's D2L/Brightspace under "Activities"—"Quizzes."

Attendance & Participation: (100 pts., 35% of course grade)Student Learning Outcomes nos. 1, 2, 3, & 4:

Attendance to class meetings and participations in discussions of the content are intended to allow students to discuss issues pertaining to the topics at hand concerning various aspects of early American history, and will serve to inform the Instructor about how well students are absorbing course content. **Chronic absenteeism may result in failure of the course.** For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.

<http://www.etamu.edu/admissions/registrar/generalinformation/attendance.aspx>

Primary Source Document Analysis: (25% of course grade)Student Learning Outcomes nos. 1, 2, 3, & 4:

Students will write a 500-word analysis of a primary source document of the Instructor's choosing, in which they will identify the document, describe the circumstances under which it was produced, explain its content and meaning, and finally explain its importance to understanding the relevant historical event(s) involved.

The assignment will be composed using Microsoft Word or Google Docs, and conform to the following parameters:

Spacing: double-spacing

Font type and size: Times New Roman 12 pt.

Citation style: parenthetical (MLA, APA)

All pages must be numbered

The document must be quoted from **at least** three times

Further instructions and guidance will be forthcoming later in the semester.

Exams: (7 @ 100 pts. each, 40% of course grade)Student Learning Outcomes nos. 1, 2, 3, & 4:

The exams, to be administered via D2L/Brightspace, will be open-book examinations wherein students will be required to answer a series of multiple-choice, matching, short-answer, and essay questions over a period ranging from 1.5 to 2.5 hours. Students will be required to utilize their absorption of the course content to demonstrate their understanding of the development of American society and culture at various key stages.

Grading

Grading will be calculated using a standard 10-point scale, with course elements weighted accordingly:

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
0-59	F

Attendance (100 pts.)	35%
Primary Source Document Analysis (100 pts.)	25%
Exams (7 @ 100 pts. each)	40%

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

As this course is web-enhanced through D2L/Brightspace, students are asked to follow these links for information about course enhancements:

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

This course will be facilitated using D2L/Brightspace, the Learning Management System used by East Texas A&M University. To get started with the course, go to: <https://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx>. If you are having technical difficulty with any part of D2L/Brightspace, please contact D2L/Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here: <https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Consistent and reliable access to the Internet is a fundamental requirement for this course.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University 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.etamu.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

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

Statement on the Uses of Artificial Intelligence

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there can be legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words. **However, use of such tools cannot take the place of original composition on academic writing assignments, and therefore is discouraged by the instructor in this course.** Students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, including cases in which A.I. was used, and especially in cases where the A.I. software plagiarized another text and/or misattributed or otherwise misrepresented primary and/or secondary source materials.

Class Decorum

All students must show respect toward the Instructor and the Instructor's syllabus, presentations, assignments, and point of view. Students should also respect each others' differences. If the Instructor determines that a student is not being respectful toward other students or the Instructor, or is otherwise behaving in an inappropriate manner, it is the Instructor's prerogative to remove the student from the class either temporarily or permanently, as the case requires.

Please refrain from using smartphones during class. Food is not permitted in the classroom, though beverages are permitted. Noncompliance will result in deductions from the attendance grade.

Note: Persistent failure to comply with any of the Instructor's policies will result in immediate deregistration from the course.

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.

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University 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 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.

"Campus Carry" Statement

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 46.035 and East Texas A&M University Rule 34.06.02.R1, 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 Penal Code 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M campuses.** Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Statement on Texas Senate Bill 17

Texas Senate Bill 17, the recent law that prohibits certain diversity, equity, and inclusion programs at public colleges and universities in Texas, **does not** affect academic course instruction, including the content, teaching, or discussion in a course at public colleges and universities in Texas. SB 17 does not alter existing expectations and academic freedom for teaching and related classroom discussion, including regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion topics.

University Specific Procedures:

East Texas A&M 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.

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
East Texas A&M University
Waters Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu
[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

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 *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

Mental Health Services

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, 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://telusproduction.com/app/5108.html>

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Jan. 13-15: Pre-Columbian North America

Lecture 1 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 1 (sections I and II); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 1 (document 1)<https://www.pbs.org/show/native-america/collections/sacred-stories-shorts/>**Jan. 20-22: The Clash of the Old and New Worlds, 1492–1630**

Lecture 2 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 1 (sections III, IV, & V), chap. 2 (sections I, II, III & IV); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 1 (documents 2, 3, 4, & 7)**Test #1, Jan. 23-25****Jan. 27-29: Southern Anglo-American Society in the Seventeenth Century**

Lecture 3 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 2 (section V), chap. 3 (sections I, II & IV); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 2 (document 1), chap. 3 (documents 2, 3, & 4)**Feb. 3-5: Northern Anglo-American Society in the Seventeenth Century**

Lecture 4 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 2 (section VI), chap. 3 (sections III & IV); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 2 (documents 2 & 6)**Test #2, Feb. 6-8****Feb. 10: No Class Meeting****Feb. 12: Eighteenth-Century Anglo-America**

Lecture 5 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 3 (sections V & VI), chap. 4 (sections I, II, III & IV); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 4 (documents 1, 2, 3, & 4)**Feb. 17-19: War and Crisis, 1754–1775**

Lecture 6 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 4 (sections V, VI & VII), chap. 5 (sections I, II & III); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 4 (documents 5, 6, & 7), chap. 5 (document 1)**Test #3, Feb. 20-22****Feb. 24: Independence, 1775–1783**

Lecture 7 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 5 (sections IV, V & VI); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 5 (documents 2, 3, 4, 5, & 7)

"Jefferson's Original Draft of the Declaration of Independence" (download from D2L)

Feb. 26: No Class Meeting

Mar. 3-5: Creating a Nation, 1775–1789

Lecture 8 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 5 (section VII), chap. 6 (sections I, II, III, IV & V); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 6 (documents 1, 2, 3, & 4)**Test #4, Mar. 6-8****Mar. 9-13: SPRING BREAK****Mar. 17-19: Federalist Domination, 1789–1800**

Lecture 9 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 6 (sections VI, VII, VIII, IX & X); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 6 (documents 5 & 6)**Primary Source Document Analysis Due Mar. 13 (upload to D2L under “Assignments”)****Mar. 24-26: Jeffersonian America, 1801–1824**

Lecture 10 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 7 (all sections), chap. 9 (sections I, II & III), chap. 12 (section VI); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 7 (documents 1, 4, 5, & 6), chap. 8 (documents 1 & 2), chap. 9 (document 1), chap. 12 (document 7)**Test #5, Mar. 27-29****Mar. 31-Apr. 2: Jacksonian America, 1815–1840**

Lecture 11 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 9 (sections IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X & XI), chap. 10 (all sections); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 9 (documents 1, 3, 4, 5, & 7), chap. 10 (all documents), chap. 12 (document 1)**Apr. 7-9: Expansion, Diversification, and “Manifest Destiny”**

Lecture 12 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 12 (sections I, II, III, IV & V); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 12 (documents 2 & 3)**Test #6, Apr. 10-12****Apr. 14-16: African-American Culture under Slavery**

Lecture 13 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 11 (all sections); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 11 (documents 1, 2, 3, & 4)**Apr. 21-23: The House Divided**

Lecture 14 (YouTube)

The American Yawp, chap. 13 (all sections); *The American Yawp Reader*, chap. 13 (documents 2, 4, 5, 6 & 7)**Apr. 28-30: Civil War and Reconstruction**

Lectures 15 & 16 (YouTube)

The American Yawp Reader, chap. 14 (documents 1, 5 & 7) and chap. 15 (documents 1, 4, 5, & 6)**Test #7, May 1-7**