



**U.S. History Since Reconstruction (HIST 1302.07E)
Spring 2026**

Class Meeting Days: Tuesdays/Thursdays

Class Meeting Time: 9:00am-10:45am

Class Location: McDowell (BA)256

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Ms. Bridget Akwatia

Office Location: Ferguson 142

Office Hours: Tues/Thurs 11:00am
1:50pm

University Email Address: Bridget.Akwatia@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: **Email**

Communication Response Time: Within 24 hours except Saturday-Sunday

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description

HIST 1302 examines the history of the United States from the end of Reconstruction to the present. The course will focus on major political and economic developments that shaped modern America. Topics include industrialization, immigration, westward expansion, U.S. imperialism, the World Wars, the Great Depression, the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, amongst others.

Students will also explore the experiences of African Americans, Native Americans, women, immigrants, and working-class communities, with attention to how power, inequality, and resistance shaped their lives. Through discussions and primary source analysis, students will

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

gain a deeper understanding of how the post-Reconstruction era continues to influence American society today.

Course Policies

Attendance: **Required**. More than **three unexcused absences** may lower your final grade. Late Work: 10% deduction per day late. No work accepted more than 1 week late without prior approval.

Academic Integrity: Cheating or plagiarism will result in disciplinary action and a grade of zero for the assignment.

Technology: Laptops and tablets are welcome for notetaking or accessing course materials—no phones unless permitted.

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Required Texts:

The American Yawp. Palo Alto, CA: Stanford University Press, 20.

<https://www.americanyawp.com/>

Student Learning Outcomes

As a Core Curriculum requirement, this class focuses on four common 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/Visual Communication** - Students will communicate in a manner appropriate to audience and occasion with an evident message and organizational structure.
3. **Personal Responsibility** - Students will understand and practice academic honesty.
4. **Social Responsibility** - Students will demonstrate an understanding of societal and/or civic issues.

Student Learning Outcomes will be assessed by the Student Responsibility Quiz and a Primary Source Analysis assignment.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods and Assessment

The minimal technical skills required for this course include using the learning management system, university email, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and ADOBE Express.

Assignments, Student Responsibilities, Expectations, and Tips for Success

The course requires a combination of two In-person tests, Student Responsibility Quiz, Primary Source Analysis assignment and a final exam

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Primary Source Analysis Assignment: This assignment asks students to analyze information, communicate clearly and effectively, and show awareness of social and civil issues or problems. Using the selected primary source document, students should write 1-2 paragraphs that: (1) identify the author/creator and context of the document (including when and where it was created); (2) consider the purpose of the document, including the author's goals in its creation and its intended audience; and (3) evaluate the document, analyzing why this document is important to help understand the historical period or the events it describes (its significance), and how the document contributes to our historical understanding of the period (historical causes and effect). The written analysis should be presented using full and complete sentences and proper grammar and punctuation.

Exams

This course will include **two(midterm)essay exams and a Final exam, Primary source analysis** and an **Adobe Assignment**. There are **two reading quizzes** that cover the text and lectures: Quiz due dates are listed on the calendar below, they will each be **taken in person**. **Students must do their own work on the exam. Students should use assigned material only for the exam. Any use of unauthorized sources on the exams (including AI) will result in an automatic ZERO for the exam. The Final Exam will be completed on the Final Exam date listed in the Course Schedule. (The exams will be used to assess SLO 1-3.)**

Student Responsibility Quiz (SRQ)

Finally, a **Student Responsibility Quiz**. Students will complete a Student Responsibility Quiz due in the second week of class (this will be counted as part of the primary source paper grade and will be used to assess SLO #4).

Grading breakdown:

- Quiz 1 10% (10 points)
- Quiz 2 10% (10 points)
- Primary source analysis: 5% (5points)
- Adobe Assignment: 10% (10 points)
- Responsibility Quiz: 5% (5 points)
- Exam 1: 10% (10 points)
- Exam 2: 10% (10 points)
- Final exam: 40% (40 points)
- (100 points total)

NB: Students are to be engaged with the class during Exam Week, whether by taking an exam on the scheduled exam day (see Exam Schedule on University Registrar's web page), or submitting a project, paper, assignment, etc.

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GRADING

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

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades

A = 451- 500 Points

B = 401- 450 Points

C = 351- 400 Points

D = 301- 350 Points

F = 300 & > Points

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

Example:

Assignments	20%
Quizzes	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	40%
TOTAL	100%

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

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 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

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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@etamu.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 ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact at bakwatia@leomail.tamuc.edu

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 Interaction with Instructor Statement 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.

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@etamu.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 Guidebook.

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](#).

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<http://www.etamu.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>

ETAMU Attendance

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>

<http://www.etamu.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all 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>

AI Use Policy

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there may 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, 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 instructor's 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.

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

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Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.etamu.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

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 based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination based on 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 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 East Texas A&M 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.etamu.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 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.

East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health

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.etamu.edu/counsel



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

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

WEEK 1 (13th -15th Jan) Chapter 15 and 16

Reconstruction/Capital and Labor: <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/15-reconstruction/> & <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/16-capital-and-labor>

- Introduction to course/Course Outline explanation
- Reconstruction
- Capital and Labor

WEEK 2 (20th-22nd Jan) Chapter 17

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

WEEK 3 (27th-29th Jan) Chapter 18

Life in Industrial America

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

WEEK 4 (3rd-5th Feb) Chapter 19

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

WEEK 5 (10th-12th Feb) Chapter 20

The Progressive Era: <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/20-the-progressive-era>
Quiz 1 12th Feb

WEEK 6 (17th-19th Feb) Chapter 21

World War I Aftermath: <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/21-world-war-i>

WEEK 7 (24th-26th Feb)

Revision 24th and First Exam 26th Feb

WEEK 8 (3rd-5th March) Chapter 22

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

WEEK 9 No Class Spring Break (9th-13th) March

WEEK 10 (17th-19th March) Chapter 23

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

Quiz 2 19th March

WEEK 11 (24th-26th March) Chapter 24

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

Adobe assignment Due in D2L

WEEK 12 (31st March- 2nd April) Chapter 25

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

Exam 2 Wednesday 2nd April

WEEK 13 (7th-9th April) Chapter 26

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

WEEK 14 (14th-16th April) Chapter 27

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

WEEK 15 (21st-23rd April) Chapter 28 and 29

The triumph of the rights: <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/29-the-triumph-of-the-right>

Week 16 REVISION (28th -30th) April

FINAL Exam 7th May -8am-10am