



HIST 1302-H1E: HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES SINCE RECONSTRUCTION

COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Susan Speights
Office Location: Whitehouse High School Room 109
Office Hours: Monday-Friday
Office Phone: 903-839-5551
University Email Address: Susan.Speights@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: Email/Scheduled Conference
Communication Response Time: 24 Hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook Required: American Yawp (Free Online)
Materials: Chromebook, 3 Inch Binder, Composition Book

Course Description

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the development of industrialization in America and relate the political-economic impact it had on the Gilded Age.
2. Appraise U.S. imperialism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
3. Compare and contrast the reform movements of the U.S., including Populists, Progressives, the New Deal, and the Great Society.
4. Analyze the involvement of the U.S. in World War I and World War II and appraise the crises of the post-war period.
5. Assess the central elements of domestic history in the United States since 1950, including civil rights, the national debt, presidential politics, and the changes in American Society and culture.
6. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.
7. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.

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8. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.
9. Describe/Discuss the impact and consequences of a major historical event or action.

ETAMU Student Learning Outcomes

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 the societal and/or civic issues.
4. Students will be able to understand their role in their own education.

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

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

Assignments **40%**

Acceptance of Course Requirement, Discussion Boards (6 Total), Tech Project (2 Total)

Exams **60%**

Amendment Project, Historical Skits, Exam, Final Exam

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:

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https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.etamu.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@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 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 POLICIES

Course Specific Policies

If the student has extenuating circumstances that prevent the student from completing projects, quizzes, seminars, or participating in class by the due date, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to make alternative arrangements before the due date whenever possible. Acceptance of late work is at the discretion of the instructor and the instructor may require the student to provide evidence/documentation for verification. Prior notification does not automatically result in a waiver of the late penalties.

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Examples of extenuating circumstances where grace should be given to students may include but are not limited to: personal/family member hospitalization, death in the immediate family, weather/environmental evacuation due to fire/hurricane, or active military assignment where internet connectivity is unavailable for a limited time period. General computer-related issues and internet connectivity issues are not considered extenuating circumstances. Students must ensure the technology they are using is compatible with East Texas A&M University technology requirements and contact IT if they are experiencing any problems with their Canvas accounts.

APA Style

Unless otherwise stated, students are expected to adhere to the APA editorial style in all written work and in discussion forums, citing and referencing work appropriately. There are three basic purposes of citing and referencing: 1) Appropriate credit is given for the sources of information, 2) add credence to original work when informing the reader of sources of information, and 3) avoid plagiarism and academic dishonesty.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the theft of someone else's intellectual property. It is a very serious infraction in higher education. If it is determined that a student has plagiarized any writing, the consequences will be decided by the professor. This could include a grade of zero and/or a referral to receive disciplinary measures.

AI Technology

AI is the use of technology to produce a product. If it is determined that a student has utilized AI in any writing and presented the work as an original piece by the student, the consequences will be decided by the professor. This could include a grade of zero and/or a referral for disciplinary action.

EXAMS

Exams **MUST** be taken on the day announced. School functions/activities are not an excuse to miss an exam. Students must contact the instructor prior to any event to take the exam. Absences will require a doctor's note to allow the exam to be taken after the announced test date.

Plagiarized work and the use of AI presented as the student's original work will result in a 0 on the assignment with a discipline referral.

EXAM DAYS

On exam/testing days (including makeup testing days) students will abide by all instructions of the professor. Students will have no devices (including tablets, phones, and smart watches) on their desk or on their person during the exam. All belongings are required to be at the front of the classroom with devices placed inside and turned off or on airplane mode. If computers are necessary for a portion of the exam, students shall have all other tabs closed. Any other tabs open or extensions added to the page will result in an automatic grade of zero. Students will only have their Chromebook on their desk during the computer portion of the exam (closed water containers are also allowed

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on desks). You must inform the professor if you have any internet connectivity issues. Failure to do so could result in a 0 if academic integrity is questioned. During the written portion of the exam, students will only have a personal pen or pencil on desk (closed water containers are also allowed on desks). The professor will provide the students the testing papers along with notebook paper to write their essay answers during the exam. Any other items on the desk or surrounding the desk of the student will result in a grade of zero on the exam. Failure to follow these procedures will result in a grade of 0, disciplinary action, and/or possible expulsion from the course.

Classroom Behavior

This is a college level class. Every student is expected to adhere to a protected and safe classroom environment. Any negative or derogatory comments directed towards another student will result in immediate disciplinary consequences from Whitehouse High School administration. Consistent disregard for proper classroom etiquette and classroom behavior can result in a grade of 0 for the weekly assignment including exams, failure of the course, and/or expulsion from the course.

***The instructor of this course reserves the right to change the syllabus and add any additional reading materials deemed pertinent to student learning and productive educational outcomes.**

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.etamu.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>

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedures 13.99.99.R0.01](#)

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

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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>

Graduate Students Academic Integrity Policy and Form

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<https://inside.etamu.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

East Texas A&M University
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu

Website: [Student Disability Services](#)

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

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.

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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 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 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 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 University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

East Texas A&M University Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, 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

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]

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

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

- Week 1** (1/12) Chapter 16: Capital and Labor
Due 1/18: Acceptance of Course Requirements; Syllabus
- Week 2** (1/19) Chapter 17: The West
Due 1/25: Farming Game
- Week 3** (1/26) Chapter 18: Life in Industrial America
Due 2/1: Discussion Board: *Jacob Riis, How the Other Half Lives (1890)*
- Week 4** (2/2) Chapter 19: American Empire
Due 2/8: Discussion Board: *Rudyard Kipling "The White Man's Burden" (1899)*
- Week 5** (2/9) Chapter 20: The Progressive Era
Due 2/15: Discussion Board: *Woodrow Wilson Request War, April 2, 1917*
- Week 6** (2/16) Chapter 21: World War I and Its Aftermath
Due 2/22: Exam
- Week 7** (2/23) Chapter 22: The New Era
Due 3/1: Discussion Board: *Hiram Evans, "The Klan's fight for Americanism" (1926)*
- Week 8** (3/2) Chapter 23: The Great Depression
Due 3/8: Tech Project (Timelines)
- Week 9** (3/16) Chapter 24: World War II
Due 3/22: Discussion Board: *FDR, Executive Order no 9066 (1942)*
- Week 10** (3/23) Chapter 25: The Cold War
Due 3/29: Discussion Board: *National Organization for Women, "Statement of Purpose" (1966)*
- Week 11** (3/30) Chapter 26: The Affluent Society
Due 4/5: EOC Packet
- Week 12** (4/6) Chapter 27: The Sixties
Due 4/12: Historical Skits
- Week 13** (4/13) Chapter 28: The Unraveling
Due 4/19: Discussion Board: *Pat Buchanan on the Cultural War (1992)*
- Week 14** (4/20) Chapter 29 & 30: The Triumph of the Right and The Recent Past
Due 4/26: Semester Project
- Week 15** (4/27) Finals Week
Due 5/1: FINAL EXAM

NOTE: This course requires student artifacts to be shared with faculty of East Texas A&M University for accountability purposes through the History and Dual Credit Departments. This could include assignments or exams through electronic means including video or picture evidence.

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