



## **HIST 1302.81E: History of the United States Since Reconstruction (Since 1865)**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring Semester

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Dr. Serafin H. Matthews  
Office Location: TBD  
Office Hours: Mon/Wed 12:30pm -1:45pm and By Appointment Only 9:45am-10:45am  
Office Phone: N/A  
University Email Address: TBD  
Preferred Form of Communication: Email  
Communication Response Time: 24-72 hours

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

#### **Course Description**

HIST 1302: A broad interdisciplinary course in the historical development of the United States and North America from 1865. Note: Assignments will focus on reading, writing, and analysis.  
Prerequisites: **ENG 1301** or concurrent enrollment or **ENG 1302** or concurrent enrollment.

This course will cover events from the post-Civil War era up to the dawn of the 21st century, including the Progressive Era, World War I, the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, World War 2, the Cold War, the turbulent 1960's, and the emergence of modern America in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

#### **Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings**

##### **Required Texts:**

Open Stax College: Free online textbook resource  
(available online at [U.S. History – Open Textbook](https://openstax.org/r/us-history))  
Assigned Lecture Videos  
THE AMERICAN YAWP: A Massively Collaborative Open US History Textbook  
(available online at <https://www.americanyawp.com/>)

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## **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**

Course material will be delivered through various modes including, but not limited to, lectures, primary and secondary source analysis, small and large group discussions, and exams. The course will be managed through the university's D2L system where students can access relevant information such as primary source documents, and announcements. Students are responsible for checking D2L periodically to access course assignments and potential changes to the syllabus.

### **Assessment**

Grades for this course will be based on three exams, three essays (unit response assignments) two primary source assignments and one academic honesty quiz.

### **Instructional Methods**

Course instruction will mainly include class lecture and group discussions along with both primary and secondary source readings.

## **ASSIGNMENTS, STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES, EXPECTATIONS, AND TIPS FOR SUCCESS**

### **Assignments/ Exams**

**Testing (3):** There will be 3 exams during the semester. Each exam will be worth 50 points. Exams will be multiple choice, true false, fill in the blank, etc., and will be available through Canvas. Students **MUST** take the exams during the specified day/time designated by your professor. Exams will be timed and no

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

outside resources (including textbooks, internet, phone, etc.) are to be used during the taking of the exam.

**Unit Response Assignment (3):** Students will complete 3 Unit Response Assignment for each unit. Each response will be worth 50 points. This assignment will be a written response that summarizes/analyzes a key theme from the unit using the sources provided for the assignment.

**Primary Source Analysis Assignment (2):** This assignment asks students to analyze information, communicate clearly and effectively, and show awareness of social and civil issues or problems. There will be two Primary Source Assignments that will need to be completed for a total of 50 points per assignment. 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.

**Academic Honesty Quiz:** The academic honesty quiz will be made available to all students on D2L. It provides information on academic honesty and the potential consequences for violating these policies.

## **Student Responsibilities and/or Tips for Success in the Course**

### **Classroom Expectations**

Students are expected to always be respectful and courteous to everyone in the classroom. Students are encouraged to take notes during class as it helps engage with the material and prepare for assignments and exams. Questions and class participation are encouraged.

### **Late Policy**

Students may take makeup exams may be allowed to complete a late assignment for full credit if they miss the assignment due date for legitimate reasons (such as a university-sponsored program or athletic event, an illness, or a family emergency). Approval must be given by instructor and must be taken within a timely fashion.

### **Attendance**

Attendance in class is expected in this course and will be taken every day. Your assignments for this course will be completed online.

If you are or will be absent, please email me as soon as you are aware of the absence. Acceptable Absences include athletics, approved Student Organization travel, medically related absences. Be ready to show documentation for the absence as well if needed. If an absence is not excused, any work during that time frame will be considered late and will have points taken off. *These rules apply equally to all students.*

### **Missing/Late Assignments**

Missing or late assignments may be submitted until the assignments close; however, the assignment will lose half a letter grade for each day the assignment is late.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

*Again, If you have been ill or are having health issues and missed deadlines it is important to contact me about this ASAP.*

## GRADING BREAKDOWN

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 = 410 - 369 Points

B = 368 - 328 Points

C = 327 - 287 Points

D = 286 - 246 Points

F = 245 & Below

Point Breakdown by Assignment:

Academic Honesty Quiz: 10 points

3 Unit Response Assignments: 150 points

2 Primary Source Analysis Assignments: 100 points

First Exam: 50 points

Midterm Exam: 50 points

Final Exam: 50 points

TOTAL: 410 Points

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

	Date	In Class	Reading Due	Assignments Due
<b>Week 1</b>				
	<b>Mon, Jan 12</b>	<b><u>First Day of Class</u></b> Reconstruction Review		
	<b>Wed, Jan 14</b>	The Retreat from Civil Rights & The Gilded Age		

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

<b>Week 2</b>				
	<b>Mon, Jan 19 (MLK Holiday)</b>			
	<b>Wed, Jan 21</b>	The Gilded Age: The Spanish American War	<b>Read:</b> Open Stax College: Go West Young Man! Westward Expansion, 1840-1900	Academic Honesty Quiz
<b>Week 3</b>				
	<b>Mon, Jan 26</b>	The Gilded Age: The Spanish American War, The Early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century		
	<b>Wed, Jan 28 (Census Day)</b>	The Gilded Age: The Early Twentieth Century		
<b>Week 4</b>				
	<b>Mon, Feb 2</b>	The Gilded Age: Populism		
	<b>Wed, Feb 4</b>	The Gilded Age: Progressivism	<b>Read:</b> Open Stax College: Leading the Way: The Progressive Movement, 1890-1920	
<b>Week 5</b>				
	<b>Mon, Feb 9</b>	The Gilded Age & Early Civil Rights	<b>Watch:</b> The Niagara Movement & The Early Battle for Civil Rights Lecture  <b>Watch:</b> The Gilded Age Documentary	<b>Unit 1 Response Assignment:</b> Immigration and Urbanization
	<b>Wed, Feb 11</b>	Progressivism & Theodore Roosevelt		
<b>Week 6</b>				
	<b>Mon, Feb 16</b>	<b>Exam One</b>		<b>Exam One</b>
	<b>Wed, Feb 18</b>	1912-Roosevelt, Taft, & Wilson: The New Freedom vs. the New Nationalism		

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

<b>Week 7</b>				
	<b>Mon, Feb 23</b>	The United States & the First World War		
	<b>Wed Feb 25</b>	The United States & the First World War		
<b>Week 8</b>				
	<b>Mon, March 2</b>	The Roaring '20s	<b>Read:</b> The New Era: Page 22	<b>Primary Source Analysis Assignment:</b> The New Era
	<b>Wed, March 4</b>	The Roaring '20s		
<b><u>Spring Break</u></b>	<b>March 9 to March 13</b>			
<b>Week 9</b>				
	<b>Mon, March 16</b>	Herbert Hoover & The Great Depression		<b>Unit 2 Response Assignment:</b> Race & The Early 20th Century
	<b>Wed, March 18</b>	FDR and the New Deal (Lecture video for the day)	<b>Read:</b> Open Stax College: Brother, Can You Spare a Dime? The Great Depression, 1929-1932  <b>Watch:</b> FDR and the New Deal Lecture Video  <b>Read:</b> Open Stax College: Franklin Roosevelt and the New Deal, 1932-1941	
<b>Week 10</b>				
	<b>Mon, March 23</b>	FDR and the New Deal		
	<b>Wed, March 25</b> <b>(March 27 Last Day to Drop)</b>	FDR and the New Deal	<b>Watch:</b> Lessons From FDR New Deal Video	
<b>Week 11</b>				
	<b>Mon, March 30</b>	<b>Exam Two/ Midterm</b>		<b>Midterm</b>

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

	<b>Wed, April 1</b>	The United States & The Second World War		
<b>Week 12</b>				
	<b>Mon, April 6</b>	The United States & The Second World War		
	<b>Wed, April 8</b>	The United States & The Second World War		
<b>Week 13</b>				
	<b>Mon, April 13</b>	The Cold War		
	<b>Wed, April 15</b> (April 16-Last Day to Withdraw)	The 1950s: The Rise of American Youth Culture	<b>Watch:</b> The Birth of Rock n Roll Video	
<b>Week 14</b>				
	<b>Mon, April 20</b>	The 1960's	<b>Read:</b> The Sixties: Page 27 and The Unravelling: Page 28	<b>Primary Source Analysis Assignment:</b> The Sixties or The Unraveling
	<b>Wed, April 22</b>	The End of the Cold War	<b>Watch:</b> American Experience: Iranian Hostage Crisis of 1979  <b>Watch:</b> 1980's United States Presidential Debate: Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter  <b>Read:</b> Open Stax College: Jimmy Carter in the Aftermath of the Storm	
<b>Week 15</b>				
	<b>Mon, April 27</b>	The End of 20 <sup>th</sup> Century		<b>Unit 3 Response Assignment:</b> Ford Pardons Nixon
	<b>Wed, April 29</b>	The End of 20 <sup>th</sup> Century		
<b>Week 16</b>				

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

	<b>May 2 – May 8</b> Final Exam Week			<b>Final Exam</b>
--	---	--	--	-------------------

## 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](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)

### 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](mailto: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>

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*



## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

Students are expected to always be respectful and courteous to everyone in the classroom. Students are encouraged to take notes during class as it helps engage with the material and prepare for assignments and exams. Ask questions when you have them. Attendance, missing and late assignment policies can be found in the Student Responsibilities, Expectations and Tips For Student Success section of the syllabus.

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

I expect my students to be respectful and attentive; in return I promise to answer all questions to the best of my ability and to give every student a chance to succeed in my classroom. I am open to questions and suggestions; feel free to submit them.

### **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](mailto: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 Guide Book.

## **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.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>

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

### **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>

### **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**

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

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

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu](mailto: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 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.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

### **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://www.etamu.edu/counsel)



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