



EAST TEXAS A&M
— UNIVERSITY —

History 1301.08E
History of the United States to Reconstruction (CRN 80303)
Fall 2026 Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Jessica Wranosky

Class Meets: 12:30 PM-1:45 PM Tues & Thurs in BA Room: 109

Professor Office Located In: Ferguson SS 107

Office Hours: In Person: 10 to 11 AM TR; 2-3 PM TR in Professor Office.

By Zoom and other times: By appointment.

Email: jessica.wranosky@etamu.edu

(Email is the best way to reach me.)

D2L Course Website: located inside “MyLeo” inside your “Apps”

(<https://myleoonline.tamuc.edu/>)

Teaching Assistant: _____

Teaching Assistant Email: _____

Teaching Assistant Office Hours: _____

Teaching Assistant: _____

Teaching Assistant Email: _____

Teaching Assistant Office Hours: _____

COURSE INFORMATION

Please note that this is a reading intensive course with assignments due almost daily.

Please Note: There is also a No AI policy for this course and No Outside Materials, No Web Searches, and No Outside Information or Content Is Allowed (other than the combined ebook textbook and connected content and any resources directly assigned by the professor in d2L or in person in class for this specific course).

REQUIRED CLASS MATERIALS:

IMPORTANT: You have to have access to the combined textbook for the assignments in this class. It is impossible to pass the course without them. The least expensive options have been chosen with student economic wellbeing in mind.

NOTE: The purchase of the combined ebook textbook for this course and all connected digital content has been made in advance for each student through a fee added to the course. No additional resources are required to be purchased other than those provided by the university through student and course specific fees.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Do not purchase the below textbook—it has already been purchased for you and will become available on the first day of class.

1. (REQUIRED)—*Give Me Liberty* 8th Plus edition, Seagull version, volume 1. Pre-purchased for students with course fees. **Do not purchase a copy of this ebook on your own.**
2. (REQUIRED)—Students will need access to Microsoft Word (saved as a .docx to upload to the class) to upload the writing assignments for the course. Access to Microsoft 365, which includes Microsoft Word, is available to students through their university paid fees. If you do not know how to access Microsoft 365 using university sign in, or you do not already have access to Microsoft Word in another way to save your writing assignments as .docx, contact the university IT desk for assistance.
3. (REQUIRED)—Access to leomail student email.
4. (REQUIRED)—Access to D2L Brightspace through Myleo Apps.
5. (REQUIRED)—A reliable computer/laptop/compatible tablet with reliable internet access to take the course and do each day's classwork. (Smart phones will not provide sufficient access and ability to take the course and do coursework.)

A note about course content: The textbook assigned for this course combines the content from the ebooks of *Give Me Liberty* vol. 1. 8th ed. Seagull version <https://wnnorton.com/books/9781324104056/about-the-book/table-of-contents> and *Voices of Freedom* vol. 1. 8th ed. <https://wnnorton.com/books/9781324104599/about-the-book/table-of-contents>. The links provided here are for the table of contents for each of the separate books combined for the PLUS ebook assigned for this course. This course section will cover chapters 1 through 14 in both books. Students will have a choice over which primary source content out of *Voices of Freedom* they write about in all written assignments. The primary sources they will choose from are listed in the above second hyperlink. Multiple choice quizzes have test banks which randomly assign questions for each student's quizzes based on course content skills and readings quizzes based on each chapter of *Give Me Liberty*. Students are welcome to peruse the content of the books prior to the start of the semester to get a general idea of the types of topics covered by the course and determine whether this course is for them or not.

Course Description:

Please note that this is a reading intensive course with assignments due weekly.

HIST 1301: A broad interdisciplinary course in the historical development of the United States and North America to 1877. Assignments will focus on reading, writing, and analysis.

Course Pre-Requisites, Co-Requisites:

Prerequisites: [ENG 1301](#) or concurrent enrollment or [ENG 1302](#) or concurrent enrollment.

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.

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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

Explanation of Evaluation Criteria:

Grade Breakdown:

Exam #1 (Midterm) 10%	A = 89.5-100
Exam #2 (Not Comprehensive Final Exam) 15%	B = 79.5-89.4
Attendance and Participation (25% combined)	C = 69.5-79.4
Movie Poster Assignment 10%	D = 59.5-69.4
Reading and Course Content Quizzes (20% combined)	F = 0-59.4
Primary Source Analysis #1 10%	
<u>Primary Source Analysis #2 10%</u>	
Semester Total 100%	

*****Responsibility Quiz: Each student will have to take the Responsibility Quiz.** These must be submitted by the Friday of the third week in class; failure to submit these sheets when due will result in a failing grade for the course regardless of other work completed. Questions regarding this particular course and departmental requirement should be addressed to the Department of History chairperson, Dr. Sharon Kowalsky. Students will not be dropped from the course for non-compliance.***

Weekly Quizzes:

There will be online readings and content quizzes due every week of the semester in this course. There are links inside D2L to the Give Me Liberty book's chapter InQuizitive Quizzes. Grades will also show up in D2L. There are completion questions inside the eBook for Give Me Liberty that are not required and will not add or subtract from your course grade. **THESE ARE NOT THE WEEKLY QUIZZES. THEY WILL NOT TAKE THE PLACE OF THE InQuizitive Quizzes.**

*****Make sure you are taking the InQuizitive Quizzes linked through the D2L class in each chapter folder in the Give Me Liberty Textbook Access Folder.*****

Make-ups—

There are no make-up quizzes for the class. Students will have from the start of the semester to take all quizzes in the course. Each quiz will close on the deadline. They will not be reopened. There is unlimited time and unlimited takes for quizzes until the deadline. Start early and do not wait until the last minute to take the readings quizzes. It takes some students a number of hours to do well, while other can complete it quickly—all which depends on each individual student's learning style.

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Attendance and Class Participation: Absences are not excused. Students need to determine where they need to be at whatever time. The only exception to this absences policy is if a student is representing the university in an official capacity and provides documentation of the activity.

Class attendance is crucial to your success in this course. Developmental activities occur every day this class meets, and absences will adversely affect your grade. Habitual absences and tardiness are unacceptable. It is required that you are in class promptly so that you do not miss anything or disrupt the rest of the students. Additionally, participation in the class is a part of this portion of the grade. Each student must be involved in class discussions in order to receive credit for class participation. Simply being physically present is not enough. If a student does not participate in class regularly each week, that week's full credit is not earned by the student.

Furthermore, if a student is caught habitually using email, accessing non-class related websites, social networking of any kind, or any other distracting digital or manual activities during lecture or class activities, the entire class will receive a fair warning, no second chance will be issued. On the second occurrence, the ENTIRE class will receive an F as their daily grade. At any time, the professor reserves the right to ban technological devices from classroom use.

Classroom Door Policy: If tardiness becomes a problem, the classroom door will close and lock when class or session begins. If a student leaves early, they may be marked absent for that day. Students need to plan accordingly and take care of all personal needs prior to coming to class.

Lectures and Online Notes: It is highly suggested that you print out the online notes before each lecture series. These notes are a brief outline of the power points used in class and are **NOT** a substitute for lecture. You will not pass the course without attending class. Yet, these notes can help you pay attention and write down live lecture and discussion instead of concentrating on what the slide outlines state.

All Exams: will consist of one long essay question. You will receive a review sheet containing all possible essay questions in advance for each exam. These will be in-class exams that will require you to handwrite your essays legibly for us to grade them. Students will take two long essay exams during the semester. One at midterm and one during final exam week. Students will need to follow instructions for the exams carefully to make sure they provide all the information required in the way it is asked for in the instructions. Your essay will be graded according to how well you understand, explain, and analyze material learned in lecture, the *Give Me Liberty* text, Primary Source material provided in *Voices of Freedom*, and any other resources provided by the professor in order to answer the question. As part of the essays, students must refer directly to Primary Source material in *Voices of Freedom* and content from *Give Me Liberty* and class lectures and any other professor provided materials. We will grade your essay according to how well you analytically understand and explain the details asked for in the essay question according to the directions provided on how to answer an exam essay in this class. Please remember, we cannot grade what you do not write down, and you are being graded on what you prove you know. More explanation of the essay requirements will appear on your exam reviews, on the course website, and will be discussed in class.

Make-ups: In the rare case that a student misses a regularly scheduled exam with a documented reason, that student must contact me **within one week after the exam was scheduled** to set up a make-up exam without penalty. If for some reason the student cannot provide some sort of documentation regarding the reason for the absence during the original exam date OR does not contact me within one week of the regularly scheduled exam, a make-up exam may be taken with a point penalty determined by the instructor. The content of the make-up exam may differ from the regularly scheduled exam, and therefore, it is suggested that students take the exam when scheduled. *****YOU CANNOT RESCHEDULE THE FINAL EXAM WITHOUT PRIOR AUTHORIZATION—SEE ME ABOUT THIS IF NECESSARY***** The instructor of this course reserves the right to deny any make-up exam requests due to lack of documentation. No make-up exams requests for the Final Exam will be granted. All assignments turned in after the deadline will have a point deduction of 10 pts of per day.

Primary Source Analysis Assignments: Students are required to do two primary source analyses during the semester. Students can start it any time during the weeks they are assigned and must complete them and upload them to D2L before the deadline. For the Primary Source Analysis Assignments, students must refer directly to Primary Source material in *Voices of Freedom* and cite page numbers and textbook names for both *Voices of Freedom* and *Give Me Liberty* according to the exam directions. There will be a brief citation guide for the course available in D2L. Lack of proper citation, use of AI in any way, or the use of sources other than those specifically assigned by the professor will result in a lost points and/or a zero for the assignment grade.

Accommodations: This course is designed specifically with most accommodation requests in mind. Having said that, students who have accommodation needs documented and registered with the SDS Office at ETAMU will need to contact the instructor of the course via email for instructions on how to access alternative primary source analysis turn in instructions according to their modification requirements.

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

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.

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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.

Emailing the professor's university email address (Jessica.Wranosky@etamu.edu) is the very best way to reach Dr. Wranosky. In every email, please make sure to provide your full name at the end, which course you are enrolled in, and a description of what your request or question is.

Dr. Wranosky will communicate with students through the email address they have on file in MyLeo (make sure yours is up to date and working throughout the semester) and D2L announcements. Please check these areas daily and before attending class and throughout the week. If an emergency arises, Dr. Wranosky will post the announcement for the class in one or more of these locations.

In all forms of class communication including all online forums, students are expected and required to maintain a respectful tone and use semiformal to formal language.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Audio/Video Recording of Lectures and Class Meetings Policy: Students in the class have the right to expect privacy and security in their learning environments. Therefore, students will not create audio or video recordings of the materials without explicit professor permission. Further, no photographs, audio or video of the course may be uploaded or shared in any environment online or otherwise—including AI software or online notetaking platforms.

AI Use in this Course:

NOTE: Use of AI for this course is not allowed in any way.

ALSO: Do not upload any information from this course to any AI software or website—that is considered academic dishonesty and/or intellectual property theft.

Uploading any content from this course (including exam review information, exam questions, any sound or video files of anyone in the class, lecture note information, lecture note outlines, and/or any content from the publisher's websites or textbooks) to AI software (including DALL-E, ChatGPT, etc., breaks copyright laws. To do so is illegal. AI software companies take ownership and use rights of any words, phrases, or files uploaded or used by their software, and students do not own any of the content from this course except for their own student created work. All AI software tracks users, and there are ways to know who uploaded what content. To

break such laws is against university student code of conduct, as well as being an illegal action, and proper disciplinary procedures will be taken.

AI Use in Courses (Campus Statement):

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.

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.

Class Calendar and Dates: While it is highly unlikely that the dates for the reading and assignments would change, I reserve the right to do so if the need presents itself. Any such changes will be announced in class or via the course website. The reading and writing assignments are due at the *start of class* and considered late thereafter.

UNIVERSITY/SYSTEM SPECIFIC PROCEDURES/POLICIES

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.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx).

<http://www.tamuc.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](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx).

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

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<http://www.tamuc.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 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.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

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

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 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.

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

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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>

ADDITIONAL HELPFUL RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

Parking: If you have parking issues (including not being able to find a parking space) there are a number of general and student lots available on campus, but if you need further help please contact the East Texas A&M University Bursar's Office to obtain information on getting a parking permit. Therefore, parking issues should not cause tardiness or absence.

Illness: If you have health related issues (including needing a physician's attention and documentation for missed class/assignments) the East Texas A&M University Student Health Services Center is located in Henderson Hall. By paying student fees, you have the right to see a physician free of charge or for a nominal fee. Student Health Services is located in Henderson Hall, across from Prairie Crossing, on the corner of Lee St. and Monroe St. Their phone number is (903) 886-5853.

Additional Course Resources: Additional resource links are available on the course website.

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Reading Schedule, Course Schedule, Quiz Due Dates, Exam Due Dates, and Assignment Due Dates are available inside the course D2L online class calendar.

**The Final Exam is scheduled from 10:30-12:30, Thursday,
December 10, 2026 in the normal classroom.**

Have a good semester, and please feel free and empowered to approach us with any questions.

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