



HIST 1301: History of the United States through Reconstruction

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Lisa Johnson

Office Location: Rains High School, Boles High School

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday before classes

Monday/Wednesday online by appointment

Phone: Rains and Boles students may call their school office to leave messages

University Email Address: lisa.johnson@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required: U.S. History, by OpenStax. Textbook is free and housed within the D2L course shell. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO PURCHASE A TEXTBOOK.**

Chromebook or similar computer with Internet access

Software Required: Word processing software such as Microsoft Word

Optional Texts and/or Materials: Additional free readings, documents and videos within course D2L shell. Note taking materials for class such as pen/pencil and notebook.

Course Description

A survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the pre-Columbian era to the Civil War/Reconstruction period. United States History I includes the study of pre-Columbian, colonial, revolutionary, early national, slavery and sectionalism, and the Civil War/Reconstruction eras. Themes that may be addressed in United States History I include American settlement and diversity, American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, and creation of the federal government.

Credits: SCH = 3 lecture hours per week

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Examine the European Settlement and Exploration of the New World that led to the English colonization of America.

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2. Analyze the causes and effects of the American Revolution.
3. Analyze the government of the United States under the Articles of Confederation and the current Constitution.
4. Analyze the impact of European Wars on the new nation leading to the War of 1812; and show the importance of nationalism, the phenomenon of Jacksonian democracy, and the movement West.
5. Analyze the social, economic, and political forces (with particular emphasis upon the institution of slavery) that ended in civil war.
6. Analyze the issues and events of Reconstruction.
7. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.
8. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.
9. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.

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. Communication - In written, oral, and/or visual communication, A&M-Commerce students will communicate in a manner appropriate to the 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.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students will need to be familiar with the ETAMU learning management system, (myLeo Online), know how to use a personal computer, navigate the Internet, and use basic word processing software such as Microsoft Word, Microsoft Power Point, Google Docs and Google Slides.

Instructional Methods

The following methods of instruction will be utilized for this course:

1. Assigned readings from the required textbook.
2. Lectures and discussions during assigned meeting times.
3. Weekly in class knowledge checks and quizzes.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

To be successful in this course, students are expected to meet the following responsibilities:

1. **Maintain Professional Conduct**

- Follow university standards of conduct and contribute to a respectful, positive learning environment.

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- Treat classmates and the instructor with courtesy and professionalism in class, online discussions, email, and all course communications.
- 2. **Stay Engaged**
 - Check the D2L course site regularly for announcements, assignments, and updates.
 - Read all assigned textbook chapters and other required materials before class.
 - Review supplemental resources provided by the instructor, including articles, videos, websites, and current events related to course topics.
- 3. **Attend and Participate**
 - Attend class regularly and arrive on time.
 - Participate actively in discussions and class activities.
- 4. **Complete Coursework on Time**
 - Complete all quizzes, discussions, writing assignments, exams, and other required coursework by the posted deadlines.
 - Submit assignments through D2L unless otherwise instructed.
- 5. **Practice Academic Integrity**
 - Uphold the highest standards of honesty in all academic work.
 - Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:
 - Plagiarism (using another person's words or ideas without proper citation)
 - Cheating on quizzes, exams, or assignments
 - Unauthorized collaboration (collusion)
 - Falsifying or misrepresenting academic work
 - Damaging or removing university resource materials
 - Work submitted for this course must be your own. Any material taken from textbooks, websites, publications, artificial intelligence tools, or another student must be properly cited according to course guidelines.
- 6. **Consequences of Academic Dishonesty**
 - Academic dishonesty on a quiz or exam will result in a grade of **zero (0)** for that assessment.
 - Academic dishonesty on a writing assignment will result in a **zero (0)** for the semester writing assignment grade.
 - Incidents may also be reported to the appropriate university offices and may result in additional disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.
- 7. **Meet Technical Requirements**
 - Maintain reliable access to a computer and the internet.
 - Comply with all university requirements for myLeo Online and D2L, including any required technology training or software.
 - Contact the instructor promptly if technical issues interfere with completing coursework.

Following these expectations will help create a productive learning environment and contribute to your success throughout the semester.

GRADING

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

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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 = 900 to 1000 points (90% – 100%)
 B = 800 to 899 points (80% – 89%)
 C = 700 to 799 points (70% – 79%)
 D = 600 to 699 points (60% – 69%)
 F = Below 600 points (Under 60%)

Assessments in the calculation of the final letter grade.

Assessment	Quantity	Points Each	Total Points
Module Exams	5	100	500
Chapter Quizzes	13	30	390
Primary Source Discussions	5	20	100
Syllabus Quiz	1	10	10
Total Course Points			1,000

Course Outline/Calendar

Week	Tuesday	Thursday
Week 1 Aug. 20	—	Aug. 20 • D2L Orientation • Syllabus Review • Student Introductions • Course Expectations • Primary Source Reviews • Note Taking
Week 2 Aug. 25–27	Aug. 25 Module 1 Begins Syllabus Quiz (10 pts) Chapter 1:	Aug. 27 Continue Chapter 1
Week 3 Sept. 1–3	Sept. 1 Chapter 2	Sept. 3 Chapter 2 Quiz (30 pts)

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Week 4 Sept. 8–10	Sept. 8 Chapter 3	Sept. 10 Chapter 3 Quiz (30 pts) Primary Source Discussion Paper#1 (20 pts)
Week 5 Sept. 15–17	Sept. 15 Module 1 Exam (100 pts)	Sept. 17 Module 2 Begins Chapter 4
Week 6 Sept. 22–24	Sept. 22 (no class meeting) Module 2 Begins Independent Study Chapter 4	Sept. 24 (no class meeting) Independent Study Primary Source Discussion Paper#2 (20 pts) Take Chapter 4 Quiz (pts)
Week 7 Sept. 29–Oct. 1	Sept. 29 Chapter 5	Oct. 1 Chapter 5 Quiz (30 pts)
Week 8 Oct. 6–8	Oct. 6 Chapter 6 Chapter 6 Quiz (30 pts)	Oct. 8 ETAMU FALL BREAK No class meeting Students may Take Chapter 6 Quiz
Week 9 Oct. 13–15	Oct. 13 Module 2 Exam (100 pts)	Oct. 15 Module 3 Begins Chapter 7
Week 10 Oct. 20–22	Oct. 20 Chapter 7 Quiz (30 pts) Chapter 8	Oct. 22 Chapter 8 Quiz (30 pts)
Week 11 Oct. 27–29	Oct. 27 Chapter 10	Oct. 29 Chapter 10 Quiz (30 pts) Primary Source Discussion Paper#3 (20 pts)
Week 12 Nov. 3–5	Nov. 3 Module 3 Exam (100 pts)	Nov. 5 Module 4 Begins Chapter 11
Week 13 Nov. 10–12	Nov. 10 Chapter 11 Quiz (30pts) Chapter 12	Nov. 12 Chapter 12 Quiz (30 pts)
Week 14 Nov. 17–19	Nov. 17 Chapter 14	Nov. 19 Chapter 14 Quiz (30 pts) Primary Source Discussion #4 (20 pts) Module 4 Exam (100 pts) Take home D2L Exam
Week 15 Nov. 24–26	Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Holiday–	Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Holiday – No Class

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	No Class	
Week 16 Dec. 1–3	Dec. 1 Chapter 15/16	Dec. 3 Chapter 15 Quiz (30 pts) Primary Source Discussion #5(20 points)
Final Exam Week Dec. 8–10	Dec. 8 Chapter 16/ Chapter Quiz/Review	Dec. 10 Module 5 Final Exam (100 pts)

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.

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 TAMUC 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.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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>

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COURSE

CWID and Password

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.

Technology-Related Issues

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, an ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students will need reliable computer and internet access for this course. Students must be able to effectively use myLeo email, myLeo Online D2L, and Microsoft Office.

Learning Management System (LMS) – D2L

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 the technical requirements:

- View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).
- Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

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 on the [Brightspace Support Webpage](#).

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COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L, so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

Include the Following in Emails with Instructor:

- Course name and subject in the subject line
 - Salutation (Good afternoon, Dr. Jackson)
 - Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)
 - Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)
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COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

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.

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 online in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the [Rules of Netiquette Webpage](#) for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the [Attendance Webpage](#) and the [Class Attendance Policy](#).

Academic Integrity

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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 University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Use of Artificial Intelligence

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.

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 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

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Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu

Website: [Office of 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.

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 ETAMU 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.

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 Supports Students' Mental Health – Counseling Services

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.tamuc.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.

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As an Institutional Member of the National Association of Schools of Music, East Texas State A&M University supports the Association's commitment to student health and wellness. The following web address provides links to information for resources related to physical and mental well-being, as well as assists in offering preventative measures that students can take to avoid serious and/or chronic conditions: [Musician Health and Safety - East Texas A&M University](#)

Department and Accrediting Agency Statement:

School of Music Mission Statement:

The School of Music at East Texas A&M University promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

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