



History 345.01E—United States Civil War and Reconstruction (84482)
Fall 2026 Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Jessica Wranosky

Class Meets: Tues & Thurs 11-12:15 PM

In Building/Room: Ferguson Social Sciences 310

Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 10-11 AM; 2-3 PM; and By Appointment

Office Location: Ferguson SS 107

Email: Jessica.Wranosky@tamuc.edu

(Email is the best way to reach me=

Website: located inside the university's [D2L](#) Online Class System

(<https://myleoonline.tamuc.edu/d2l/home>)

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 that includes requirements to cite all information sources for all written assignments and exams in the manner instructed by Dr. Wranosky.

REQUIRED CLASS MATERIALS:

Required Texts:

- 1) Gary W. Gallagher and Joan Waugh. *The American War: A History of the Civil War Era*, Third Edition. (ISBN 9798985849271)—Please Note This Must Be the 2023 Third Edition Version of the Textbook from FlipLearning Publishers.
- 2) Megan Kate Nelson. *The Three-Cornered War: The Union, the Confederacy, and Native Peoples in the Fight for the West* Paperback. (ISBN 1501152556). Scribner Publishers. 2021. Any print/ebook version of this book with work, but if you choose to purchase the audible/audio book—you will need access to a visual copy of some kind, as well, to cite page numbers and refer to in class.
- 3) Megan Kate Nelson. *Saving Yellowstone: Exploration and Preservation in Reconstruction America*. (ISBN 9781982141356). Scribner Publishers. 2022. Any print/ebook version of this book with work, but if you choose to purchase the audible/audio book—you will need access to a visual copy of some kind, as well, to cite page numbers and refer to in class.

Optional purchase:

- 1) *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, Ninth Edition: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing), by Kate L. Turabian (ISBN 978-0226430577) University of Chicago Press.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Additional Class Materials: Any additional reading and content assignments, such as articles, videos, or primary documents, will be supplied by the instructor in class, through D2L online, or on Reserve in Waters Library. Students will need paper, pencil/pen, and/or tablet or laptop to take notes in class every day the class meets.

Course Description from the 2026-2027 University Catalog:

This course charts national debate over slavery from the early Republic through secession, addressing topics concerning the conduct and outcome of the war, and discussing the legacy of the conflict in American history with special attention to the period of Reconstruction. The course strikes a balance between military, political, economic, and social issues in understanding the period.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Students will discuss geographic regional variances concerning the American Civil War.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Explanation of Evaluation Criteria:

Book Review #1	10%
Book Review #2	15%
Book Review #3	20%
Exam 1	10%
Final Exam	20%
<u>Class Attendance, Participation & Weekly Class Assignments</u>	<u>25%</u>
Semester Total	100%

Grade Breakdown:

A = 89.5-100

B = 79.5-89.4

C = 69.5-79.4

D = 59.5-69.4

F = 0-59.4

Required Reading: All of us will read and discuss the books on the list. They are available for purchase at the campus bookstore, through the Internet, and at many regional book retailers.

TURNITIN.COM: All typed assignments, exams, papers, and reviews must be uploaded to the appropriate D2L assignment link for checking through iParadigm's Turnitin database for plagiarism.

Exams will consist of a mixture of long essay questions (60%) and short answer questions (40%).

Essays: I will grade your essay according to how well you analytically understand and explain (I cannot grade what you do not write down) the evolutionary process discussed in the essay question. More explanation of the essay requirements will appear on your exam reviews and on the course website.

Make-up Exams—in the rare case that a student misses a regularly scheduled exam with a documented reason, that student must contact me **as soon as possible** 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 and

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the circumstances under which the student missed the exam and deadline. *****YOU CANNOT RESCHEDULE THE FINAL EXAM WITHOUT PRIOR AUTHORIZATION—SEE ME ABOUT THIS IF NECESSARY*****

Book Reviews: You are required to write three book reviews for the course. All students will read and review the same books. Each review should be typed with 1-inch margins, free of grammatical and spelling errors, provide correct citation where necessary, and should be **no less than 3 full pages & absolutely no more than 5 pages**. You must turn in a hard copy of the assignment on the day that it is due. I will not accept electronic versions (email, diskette, etc.) of reviews without prior permission. Furthermore, each weekday a paper is late without a documented excuse I will deduct 10% off its earned grade. I will provide further details regarding this assignment in a separate document.

Attendance and Class Participation and Weekly Classwork (25% of the final term grade): 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 highly encouraged that you are in class promptly so that you do not miss anything or disrupt the rest of the students. Please Note: This grade will be made up of actual attendance, actual participation in class and in group discussions, and any small class assignments or work in and out of class that are not accounted for with individual grades on the grade list.

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.

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

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

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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 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 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, Grok, Grammarly, 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.

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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 and System 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.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](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

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

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

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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.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 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](#)

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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.

Course Readings and Due Dates Calendar will be made available in D2L.

Final Exam for the course is according to the university published schedule: Tuesday, December 8, 2026 from 10:30 AM-12:30 PM in the normal classroom.

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

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