

James Newsom (1968-2023) was a virtual lifelong member of the UT Tyler community, dating back to when he first enrolled as an undergraduate in the Fall 1988 semester. He graduated from UT Tyler with both his BA and MA in history before completing his PhD at Texas Christian University. He began teaching in 2000, where he would spend the rest of his life teaching. Students across generations swept up in his infectious passion for history and the ease with which he told stories about the past that related to students' lives. For his efforts and abilities he was awarded the UT System Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award in 2017. His passion for history also extended beyond the classroom, as he presented to numerous historical groups such as the Sons of the Texas Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Daughters of Confederate Veterans and has given numerous on-campus and off-campus Constitution Day lectures.