

**HIS 230 – The American Civil War**

Humanities Department

**Semester [To be added]**

**Catalog Course Description:** This course explores the history of the Civil War from the election of 1860 through

the end of Reconstruction in 1877.

**Prerequisite(s):** RDG 100 or ESL 100 and ENG 100 or ESL 110

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Departmental Website:** <http://www.midlandstech.edu/humanities/>

**D2L Login Page:** <https://elearn.midlandstech.edu/>

**Instructor:**

**Office:** [Adjuncts may delete this]

**Telephone:** [Adjuncts should put departmental telephone number here]

**FAX:** [May be deleted]

**E-mail:**

**Campus Mailbox:**

**Personal Website:** [Delete if none]

**Departmental Assistant:** Ms. Lisa Cheeks (cheeksl@midlandstech.edu)

**Department Chair:** Ms. Elena Martínez-Vidal (vidale@midlandstech.edu)

**Class Schedule[s]:** [Section number, Day, Time, Place]

**Office Hours:** [Adjuncts may delete this]

**Textbook(s):** James McPherson, Ordeal by Fire, The Civil War and Reconstruction, 3rd edition, McGraw-Hill, 2001.

**Additional Textbooks/Readings:** [Delete if none]

**General Education Core Competency Statement:**  **HIS 230** addresses the humanities component of the general education core, which states: “Graduates should understand the diversity of our cultural heritage and the effects of artistic or philosophical influences.”

**Course Objectives:** Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Reconstruct meaningful accounts of the major political, social, and cultural changes in a given society or period of time.

2. Compare and contrast the impact of past events on present-day institutions, ideas, and issues.

3. Analyze how cultural differences create both diversity and unity within the heritage of a given society or period of time.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should also be able to:

1. Trace the emergence of sectionalism to 1860, outlining its major causes and its impact on the American political landscape.

2. Compare and contrast the societies, economies, and political ideals of the antebellum Southern and Northern states prior to 1860.

3. Explain the central role of slavery in the sectional crisis and account for the rise of both the abolitionist movement and the proslavery response after 1830.

Revised 020110

4. Trace the significant events along the path toward disunion from the war with Mexico to the election of 1860, identifying and evaluating the major causes of the secession crisis and the war.

5. Assess the major strengths and weaknesses of the Union and the Confederacy at the beginning of the war.

6. Identify and describe the war’s most significant campaigns and military engagements, explaining their impact on the war’s progress and its eventual outcome.

7. Evaluate the political and military leadership of the two sides.

8. Describe how the war impacted the institution of slavery, and trace the evolution of Union war aims from limited military objectives to the concept of total war.

9. Explain the major factors contributing to Union victory and Confederate defeat.

10. Trace the course of Presidential and Radical Reconstruction, describing the Restoration of the Union, the transition of African Americans from slavery to freedom, and the lasting effects of Reconstruction.

Program and course assessment activities are deployed and results collected in accordance with the College’s assessment schedule. Please refer to the information in the syllabus regarding the applicability of the assessment activity for the current semester

**Course Outcomes and Competencies:**

**Intended Course Outcome #1:** Students will critically analyze the diversity of cultural heritage and the effects of artistic or philosophical influences upon culture through their study of the American Civil War.

**Course Competency (Performance Measure):** Students completing the learning objectives of the American Civil War will demonstrate their critical analysis of the diversity of cultural heritage and the effects of artistic or philosophical influences upon culture through a set of locally developed tests using their knowledge gained through the learning objectives of the course.

**Measurement Instrument:**  At least 75 percent of all students completing HIS 230 will be able to pass identification and evaluation type exam questions created by the faculty.

**Course Attendance:** Each student is expected to attend ALL classes and is responsible for classwork, homework, lecture notes, and reading assignments, whether present or absent. In the event of circumstances beyond one's control, such as illness, the student is allowed to miss no more than twice the number of weekly class meetings or *\_\_\_\_\_*. Exceeding the maximum allowed absences in this course means that the student can receive NO CREDIT for the course, and the instructor will assign the student a grade of W or WF.

**A student entering class from 1-10 minutes late is considered TARDY. Three tardies equal one absence. Any student entering more than 10 minutes late is considered ABSENT. Students are expected to remain in class for the entire period.**

**Courteous, attentive behavior is expected at all times. Tardiness to class, speaking out of turn (or when instructor is speaking), sleeping in class, receiving calls on cell phones/pagers, etc. are behaviors that are disrespectful and disruptive to everyone in the class and will not be tolerated.**

**Withdrawal:** Should the maximum allowable absences be exceeded prior to midterm, a "W" will be submitted to the registrar to be recorded on the student's transcript.  Should the maximum allowable absences be exceeded after midterm, a "W" will be submitted to the registrar if the student was passing the course at the time of withdrawal OR a "WF" will be submitted if the student was failing the course at the time of withdrawal.

**Course Requirements: [This element is required]** [Insert course specifics: projects, papers, quizzes, tests, etc. as well as any instructions needed] [Beginning Spring term 2009, the history program at MTC will require a minimum of two (2) exams per course, plus at least one (1) other required graded project, paper, or other exercise directly related to course objectives. This may include any type of graded paper, discussion, review, map quiz, research, or other history related project as long as it is graded and not optional ]

[Include provisions for make up work]

**Final:** [This element is required] This course includes a final exam, which in part, has approximately 20-30 multiple choice questions covering the entire course. The instructor will provide a review for these questions. The instructor may also add to, or incorporate other questions as a part of the course final.

**Course Grading: [This element is required]** [Include how course requirements are graded] [Include penalties for late work if applicable]

**Grading Scale:** 90-100 A Superior Work

80-89 B Good Work

70-79 C Average Work

60-69 D Below Average Work

0-59 F Unsatisfactory Work

**Special Procedures:** [Delete if none]

**Field Trips:** [Delete if none]

**Classroom Rules/Other:** [Delete if none or expand as needed]

***College Policies and Expectations***

**―――――――――――――――――――――――――――――――――――**

Students are expected to read the *MTC Student Handbook* and abide by its policies.

Some of the more important policies that impact your academic work are listed below.

The *Handbook* is located on the web: <http://www.midlandstech.edu/planner/> .

**Academic Integrity:** The students of MTC have adopted the following Honor Code:

*As a member of the Midlands Technical College community, I will adhere to the college’s Student Code. I will act honorably, responsibly, and with academic integrity and honesty. I will be responsible for my own academic work and will neither give nor receive unauthorized or unacknowledged aid. I will behave courteously to all members of the MTC community and its guests and will respect college property and the property of others.*

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on tests, plagiarism, collusion, and falsification. Such actions will result in discipline.

* Cheating on tests includes copying or presenting someone else’s work as your own, using unauthorized materials during a test, gaining unauthorized access to or information about a test, or collaborating with any other person during a test without permission.
* Plagiarism is taking another person’s work and using it without giving the source credit in any graded assignment.
* For more information about academic dishonesty, see Appendix I at the end of the *MTC Student Handbook*.

**Campus Emergency Protocol**:

* To report safety concerns or suspicious activities: Call Campus Security at 7850 (on campus) or 738-7850 (cell phone or off campus).
* To report a security emergency: Call Campus Security at 738-7199 or dial local 911 immediately.
* The college also provides emergency call boxes; look for these red call boxes in or near parking lots on all campuses.
* If a college-wide emergency occurs, the college will communicate additional information and instructions in a number of ways, including the MTC Information Centers, campus loud speakers, email, the MTC web site, and *MTC Alerts!* To sign up for *MTC Alerts!* and receive emergency text messages on your cell phone, go to <http://www.midlandstech.edu/mtcalerts/>.

**Inclement Weather Policy**: If weather conditions or other emergencies cause the college to close or open late, announcements will be made over local radio and TV stations, on the MTC web site, and on the college’s information line (803-738-8234).

* Check for separate announcements for day and evening classes because weather conditions can change.
* Announcements will be sent to students via *MTC Alerts!* and emailed via CampusCruiser when possible.
* Your class schedule in inclement weather: In standard non-lab and non-clinical classes, if the college closing or reopening means that there is at least 30 minutes of a class remaining, plan to attend that class. For example, if the college opens at 10:00 am, classes that normally meet at 8:00 am will not meet, but classes that normally begin at 9:35 am will begin at 10:00 am. Similarly, if the college closes at 8:00 pm, 6:00 pm classes will meet for their regular time, but 7:35 pm classes will not meet.
* Check your syllabus for specific information about the inclement weather policy for that course.

**Student Email Accounts**: All MTC students are assigned a college email account called CampusCruiser. Follow the link on the *Enrolled Students* page to access your account (look under *Online Resources*).

* The college will communicate with students using CampusCruiser. You are responsible for checking your college email regularly for important information and announcements about registration, financial aid, cancelled classes, emergencies, etc.
* In addition to using CampusCruiser email, students may also be required to communicate with instructors through Desire to Learn (D2L), the college-wide learning management system, or through course-specific software, such as MyMathLab.

**MTC Online:** The college conducts business with students through MTC Online. MTC Online provides many services and resources, including access to transcripts, grades, and your program evaluation; information about your financial aid status; and how to search and register for courses. Follow the link on the *Enrolled Students* page under *Online Resources*.

**Class Attendance and Participation**: Students are responsible for meeting all attendance and participation requirements outlined in each course syllabus.

**Student Evaluation of Instruction**: Toward the end of the semester, students will be encouraged to participate in evaluating their courses. You can complete this confidential evaluation through MTC Online, using your username and password. Announcements will be made during the term concerning how and when to do the online evaluation.

**Children on Campus:** Children are generally not permitted on campus except for special events. Children are not permitted in classes, labs, or advisors’ offices. Children can never be left unattended on campus, including in parking lots.

**Students Requiring Special Accommodations**:

* If a student with a disability requires special accommodations, the student should go to Counseling Services in the Student Center on Beltline or Airport Campus. Documentation regarding a specific disability is required in order for special arrangements to be made. All information received will remain confidential.
* For more information, follow the *Disability Resource Centers* link under *Online Resources* onthe *Enrolled Students* page.

**Course Topic Outline/Course Calendar with Assignments: [**This is required**--**insert a calendar or list of due dates as appropriate. If you normally put the calendar online or give it as a course handout, you must also insert it into the syllabus at this point. A generic calendar of week two, week three, etc is not acceptable. If you are uncertain about some due dates, you must clearly indicate that such dates will be announced in class or online.]

**PLEASE NOTE: Should change become necessary, the instructor reserves the right to adjust the requirements, pace, or scheduling of this course. Any change will be announced in class before it becomes effective. [This element is required]**