HIS 230 – The American Civil War
Humanities Department

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/learn/academics/academic-departments/humanities-department
D2L Brightspace Login Page: https://elearn.midlandstech.edu/d2l/login

Departmental Assistant: Ms. Lisa Cheeks (cheeksl@midlandstech.edu)
Department Chair: Ms. Elena Martínez-Vidal (vidale@midlandstech.edu)


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.
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.
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 80 percent of all students completing HIS 230 will be able to pass identification and evaluation type exam questions created by the faculty.

**Course Attendance:** 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.

**On Campus Course Attendance:** Each student is expected to attend ALL classes and is responsible for class work, homework, lecture notes, and reading assignments, whether present or absent.

- **ABSENCE** - Failure to be present for a scheduled meeting of the class
- **ABSENCE** - Arriving for the class MORE than ten (10) minutes after the scheduled time for the class to begin
- **ABSENCE** – Leaving class More than ten (10) minutes before the scheduled time for class to end
- **ABSENCE** – Leaving class for More than ten (10) minutes during class time for any reason
- **ABSENCE** – Three Tardies
- **TARDY** – Arriving for the class after the instructor has called the roll and before ten minutes past the time scheduled for the class to begin.
- **TARDY** – Leaving class within the last ten (10 minutes) of the scheduled time for class to end

Absences are counted from the first day of classes whether you are enrolled in the course or not on the first day of class.

There are NO "excused" absences; ALL absences are counted, regardless of the reason. Students are expected to remain in class for the entire period. If you are not in the class for the entire period, for whatever reason, you will be counted ABSENT.

**Online Course Attendance:** Online instructors will establish and communicate to students the guidelines for determining attendance in their online courses. Attendance should be established along the same guidelines as on campus courses (see above). Attendance can be counted in a variety of ways such as identifying how many missing assignments constitute an absence or identifying a certain percentage of assignments that must be turned in for the student to be in attendance the required amount of time. Instructors should withdraw any students who exceed the total number of allowed absences.

**Hybrid Course Attendance:** Hybrid instructors will count both on ground and online absences (as defined in the course syllabus and policies) in determining total absences in a hybrid course (see above). Instructor should establish and communicate to students what constitutes in class attendance and what constitutes online attendance. Instructor must be specific in what the online activities are
and how they are graded. Students should be counted absent when they fail to participate in or submit specified online activities and/or assignments that equate to a class meeting. Tardies apply for on campus portion of course. Instructors should withdraw any students who exceed the total number of allowed absences, whether in class, online, or in combination.

**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 "WF" 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.

**No Shows:** If you register for a course and decide not to attend for any reason, you must complete a drop form and process it through the student Records Office. You will not be automatically purged for non-attendance. If you do not submit a drop form, you will be responsible for course tuition and fees. By not officially dropping the course, you will incur a bill with the college that can only be addressed through the College’s Finance Office. The college’s refund policy and dates are posted each semester.

Effective Spring 2015, the Student Ombudsman’s office will no longer be the initial point of contact for requesting No Shows to be processed. Students who incur a bill must contact the Finance Office.

**Administrative Drop Requests:** A student requesting an Administrative Drop resulting from medical event, death of family member, and other extenuating circumstances experienced while enrolled at Midlands Technical College should be directed to the Student Ombudsman’s office. Our policy dictates a request must be made no later than 30 days after the affected term. Supporting documentation is required and must be received before the request can be processed. Once the request form is received along with supporting documentation, it takes approximately three weeks for processing. As a result of an approved Administrative Drop Request, the student may be granted a refund of tuition and fees.

**Military Withdrawal:** According to College Procedure 3.10.1, students having to withdraw from college because of Military Deployment (active duty personnel) while enrolled must complete a withdrawal form and submit to the Records Office along with a copy of military orders.

**Disabilities Statement:** The staff of Counseling and Career Services works to ensure that all educational programming and services are accessible to otherwise qualified students with disabilities. If you have a concern regarding the accessibility of websites, instructional materials, online courses and other electronic or information technology please contact Counseling and Career Services. It is the student’s responsibility to self-disclose as a student with a disability and to request accommodations prior to beginning a program or course. Please contact the staff of Counseling and Career Services at 803-822-3505 (AC) or 803-738-7636 (BC) or via email at disability@midlandstech.edu if you have any questions or concerns.

**D2L Brightspace Help:**

**Online Learning Support Help Desk:** Technical questions related to the operation and use of D2L Brightspace can be answered from our Support Help Desk. A response will be provided within one business day.
To login: use your MTC e-mail account username and password.
(Student Username Example: georgeasmith)
(Faculty Username Example: smithg)

**D2L Brightspace Assistance:** Technical questions related to the operation and use of D2L Brightspace can also be answered by leaving a voicemail at (803) 822-3561, or emailing D2LHelp@midlandstech.edu. A response will be provided within one business day.
**MyMTC Help:** For MyMTC log-in issues please call 803-738-7888.

**Academic Dishonesty:** For more information about academic dishonesty, see the Academic Affairs Student Guidelines and Expectations attached.

If you are suspected of cheating, your instructor will inform you. You may explain or refute the allegation. If your instructor still thinks the charges are founded, you will be referred to the Office of the AVP, SDS. Documentation is submitted to the Office of the AVP, SDS, by your instructor. You will then meet with either Dr. Holloway or Mr. Hayden. After the meeting, you will receive a letter with the sanction grade of zero (0) and any other sanctions deemed appropriate. You will have the right to file an appeal. Once the hearing and the notice of the right to appeal have been completed, instructor will be notified to apply the sanction grade of zero (0).

**Course Requirements:** 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.

**Final:** 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.

**Grading Scale:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Superior Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Good Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Average Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Below Average Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory Work</td>
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