

COURSE: History 236 "The American Civil War"
Instructor: Samuel Plaza
Class Hours: ONLINE
Office Hours: Make arrangements with instructor
Telephone: (734) 642-6843 (cell) OR (313) 845-6425
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TEXTS:

Michael Perman, Major Problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction, Second Edition, Houghton-Mifflin, 1998, ISBN # 0-395-86849-1

Michael Fellman, Lesley J. Gordon, Daniel E. Sutherland This Terrible War, Second Edition, Pearson Longman, 2008, ISBN # 0-321-38960-3

William E. Gienapp, Abraham Lincoln and Civil War America, Oxford University Press, 2002, ISBN # 0-19-515100-3

Abraham Lincoln: Friend or Foe of American Liberty?, Heartland Press, 2007

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: None

Course Grading Scale: A – E scale

Catalog Description: HIST 235 examines the factors that led to the American involvement in Vietnam, the war itself, and the legacy of that conflict.

MAJOR COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of time and chronology in Modern American History;
2. Identify, summarize, and analyze major historical elements in modern American History;
3. Analyze cause and effect in Modern American History;
4. Trace elements of change and continuity in Modern American History;
5. Describe impact of events and personalities in Modern American History upon today.
6. Trace the elements of change and continuity in Modern American history.*

**This learning objective addresses the Critical Thinking General Education Outcomes.*

ASSESSMENT OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Examinations

The HIST 236 Final Examination will be given during Week #16. Specific directions will be found within the Week #16 packet.

HIST 236 Project

The HIST 236 Project will take place during Week 13. You will also be required to either rent or purchase one (1) of the DVD/VHS cassettes listed in the Week 13 packet. The HIST 236 Project will consist of an essay that you will submit. Specific directions will be found within the packet Week 13.

Worksheet Exercises

During some weeks you will be required to write and submit a Worksheet Essay in which you will demonstrate your understanding of the main ideas of a particular topic. The essay should be about one side of a sheet of paper, or about 300 to 400 words. You must rely only upon the course texts from which to write your essay – do not conduct research outside of the readings for the week. You will cite from two to four specific passages from your readings in order to support important points in your essay. Text citations will be no longer than one full sentence from any course text; for example, “Abraham Lincoln was a great president.” (Gienapp, 176). In this example you will note that only one sentence has been quoted. The sentence is set off by quotation marks at the beginning and at the end of the sentence, and in parenthesis is the author of the quoted text and the page from which the quote was taken. Do not cite more than three passages in an essay. Each Worksheet Essay must be completed and properly submitted via the UCompass system no later than seven (7) days after that week’s packet of work has been opened. After that time the packet will be closed and no work can be submitted by any student.

Discussion Boards

During some weeks you will be required to submit a Discussion Board exercise. DB topics are designed to make you take a specific position and defend it on the topic for that week. Your DB grade is composed of two parts, a post and a series of responses. The “post” is your answer to the DB question. It should be constructed in the same fashion as the Worksheet Essay is: use the course texts only, and cite specific passages to support your position. The length may be slightly shorter: about 250 to 300 words. You can only submit the post one time – there are no second opportunities. The maximum grade your post may earn is 5 points. The second part of the DB grade is the responses you make to the posts and responses of your classmates. Each response will be graded upon the quality of the response and the number of quality responses made for that week. You do not need to cite text passages in your responses. The maximum amount to be earned from your responses is 5 points. If you do not earn that amount, you may submit additional responses within that particular week to try to generate the extra score. As with the Worksheet Essays, all DB work must be properly submitted within that particular week of work. After that week is over, that packet will be closed to the entire class and no work can be submitted via UCompass.

Grading

A+	98 – 100%
A	93 – 97%
A-	90 – 92%
B+	88 – 89%
B	83 – 87%
B-	80 – 82%
C+	78 – 79%
C	73 – 77%
C-	70 – 72%
D+	68 – 69%
D	63 – 67%
D-	60 – 62%
E	59% or below

Weekly Topics

WEEK 1: *“Slavery and the Republic”*

WEEK 2: *“Sectional Politics Leads to Secession”*

WEEK 3: *“Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War” (Part 1)*

WEEK 4: *“Soldiers and Sailors in Combat”*

WEEK 5: *“Discovering the Scope of the War: 1861 – 1862”*

WEEK 6: *“Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War” (Part 2)*

WEEK 7: *“Reckoning with Slavery, Reckoning with Freedom”*

WEEK 8: *“An Inconclusive Year: 1863”*

WEEK 9: *“Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War” (Part 3)*

WEEK 10: *“Home Fronts: North and South”*

WEEK 11: *“From Inconclusion to Exhaustion: 1864 – 1865”*

WEEK 12: *“The Other Wars”*

WEEK 13: *“Civil War Media Project”*

WEEK 14: *“Reconstruction” (Part 1)*

WEEK 15: *“Reconstruction” (Part 2)*

WEEK 16: *FINAL EXAM*

ADDITIONAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to log onto the UCompass system to access HIST 236 several times each week in order to read class announcements, obtain assignments, and submit work. If you encounter a personal problem of such a magnitude that it may result in an extended absence from access to a computer, then it is YOUR responsibility to contact me as soon as possible in order to alert me to your particular situation.

Withdrawal/Drop Policy

The HFCC “drop policy” states that a student can drop a course on his or her own initiative up until the end of the tenth week of classes. After that date, all student drops are at the discretion of the instructor. The History Department’s policy is that students cannot obtain a drop after the end of the tenth week of classes merely because of a poor grade, but only for *cause*. Cause is defined as something which prevents a student from finishing the course which is beyond the student’s control. **(Students should understand that *cause* is determined solely by the instructor.)** If a student is receiving a poor grade in that course, they should decide to drop or stay until the tenth week. After that time, they should not expect a drop from the instructor. In addition, a student cannot drop a class if failing for reasons of academic dishonesty. If caught cheating on any coursework, that student will receive the grade assigned by the instructor (an “E” on that assignment, if not for the entire course), not a drop from the Registrar’s Office.

Policy on Incomplete Grades

The HFCC Policy on “incompletes” states that “A student performing satisfactory work in a course may be granted an incomplete (I) at semester’s conclusion if some part of his/her work remains unfinished.” The History Department has agreed that most of a student’s work must be completed and that the student must be passing the course to receive the incomplete (I) grade. Both the student and the instructor must agree to the date of completion of unfinished work and exactly what work needs to be done. A student must not be required to sit through the course again to make up the “I.”

Academic Dishonesty Policy

HFCC considers academic dishonesty to be a serious offense. HFCC policy is that the determination of such an offense and the appropriate action needed to remediate that offense be left to the individual judgment of the instructor. The instructor may administer a penalty up to and including failure in the particular course. It is the professional obligation of the faculty to enforce academic integrity in their courses.

Academic dishonesty is any activity intended to improve a student’s grade fraudulently.* It includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- A. Unauthorized acquisition of tests or alteration of grades;
- B. Unauthorized use of notes, books, or other prohibited materials during an examination;
- C. Open cheating during an examination;
- D. Permitting another person to take a test in the student’s place or receiving unauthorized credit assistance with any work for which academic credit is received;
- E. Providing unauthorized assistance with any work for which academic credit is received;
- F. Revision of graded work in an attempt to receive additional credit fraudulently;
- G. Plagiarism or using another person’s work without acknowledgment;
- H. Any other conduct intended to obtain academic credit fraudulently or dishonestly.

Instructors (or their designees) reserve the right to require students to provide picture identification for test-taking, graded papers or projects or other appropriate purposes. (Source: Minutes of College Organization Meeting of May, 2006).

If an instructor fails a student in a course for academic dishonesty, the instructor will immediately notify, in writing, the division/department head, the student, and the Registrar of the infraction, retaining copies of all notifications.

The Registrar will maintain a record of all such violations. If a student fails two classes as a result of academic dishonesty, he or she will be dismissed from the College for two academic years. In addition, a notation of the reason for academic dismissal will be placed on the student's transcript. The notation may be expunged at the discretion of the appropriate Vice-President/Dean if a student petitions for its removal after at least a two-year period has elapsed since the disciplinary action.

If a student believes that the accusation of academic dishonesty is false, he or she may appeal through the Student Complaint Policies and Procedures. If the appeal reaches the Student Complaint Board, the Board will only consider whether the charge of academic dishonesty is justified and will not set aside the charge or penalty given by the instructor unless the charge of academic dishonesty is set aside.

*Any action that violates the Student Conduct Policy: Due Process Procedure will also be subject to review under that policy.

Instructional Technology & Tech Buddies

If you require assistance accessing UCompass Educator courses, please contact Instructional Technology at 313-845-9663 or via e-mail at signorelli@hfcc.edu, kolin@hfcc.edu, or gagaddis@hfcc.edu. On-campus assistance is also available in the Student Center at the Tech Buddy Desk or within Instructional Technology, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Instructional Technology is located on the lower level of the Learning Technology Center (same building as Campus Safety), Room A-004.

Media Center

Located on the second floor of the Library, the Media Center is an open access computer lab where students can go to work on computer assignments, access the Internet, and/or check their e-mail. For more information, you may contact the Media Center at 313-845-6386. For more information regarding Library Services, you may phone 313-845-9606.

Assisted Learning Services

The Assisted Learning Services Program is designed to assist physically challenged, learning disabled, or academically disadvantaged students at Henry Ford Community College to overcome barriers to education through supportive services. In addition, the Assisted Learning Services Department also provides tutoring services to the general student population. Assisted Learning Services is located in the LRC (Learning Resources Center), north side (parking lot side), main level. For more information, you may contact the office at 313-845-9617 or for the hearing impaired 313-845-9804.

Learning Lab

Located on the second floor of the Learning Resource Center, the Learning Lab assists HFCC students with identifying and improving the skills needed for success in the areas of Reading, Writing, and Math. Although hours may slightly vary each semester, generally, the Learning Lab is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, from 7:30 a.m. – 8:40 p.m., on Friday from 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., and Saturday from 9:40 a.m. – 1:40 p.m. For more information, contact the Learning Lab at 313-845-9643.