

**JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**State University of New York**

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**INSTITUTIONAL COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Course Title:** The American Civil War

**Course Abbreviation and Number:** HIS 2100

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Course Type:** Lecture

**Course Description:** Students will survey the American Civil War and the subsequent Reconstruction Era. The specific topics to be covered include the causes of the war; the political, economic, military, and diplomatic execution of the war; the problem of waging war in a democracy; the constitutional issues raised by the war; the reasons the South lost the Civil War; the impact of the war and reconstruction on American history; and the reconstruction policies of Lincoln, Johnson, and the Radical Republicans. Lectures will focus on the military aspects of the war.

**Prerequisite/Corequisite:** ENG 1530.

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**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

1. Identify and explain the historical significance of important events, actions, individuals, and other concepts, in relation to the Civil War.
  2. Identify and critically analyze the arguments and evidence used by various authors to support their theories, including the various theories of causation encountered in assigned texts.
  3. Write coherent and chronologically accurate narratives that not only describe what happened, but also explain why it may have happened.
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**Topics Covered:**

- Introduction:
  - The Coming of the Civil War
    - Slavery and the Constitution
    - Sectional Economic Development, 1607-1860
    - The Antebellum South,
    - The Ideological Conflict over Slavery,
    - Manifest Destiny, the Mexican War, and the Wilmot Proviso
    - Kansas-Nebraska and the Emergence of the Republican Party
    - Bungling Buchanan
    - Secession and the Coming of War
  - The War
    - The State of Military Technology in the Mid-19th Century
    - Strategy and Tactics in the Mid-19th Century
    - The Balance Sheet: North and South
    - Fort Sumter to First Bull Run
    - The Western Theatre: Fort Donelson to Shiloh
    - Eastern Theatre: The Peninsula to Chancellorsville
    - Western Theatre: Corinth to Murfreesboro
    - The War at Sea
    - The Eastern Theatre: Gettysburg
    - The Western Theatre: Vicksburg to Chattanooga
    - Grant's Grand Strategy for Victory
    - The Eastern Theatre: The Wilderness to Richmond
    - The Western Theatre: Georgia Howls!
    - End Game: Petersburg to Appomattox,
  - Reconstruction and the Aftermath
    - The Impact of the War
    - Reconstruction
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**Information for Students**

- Expectations of Students
  - [Civility Statement](#)
  - [Student Responsibility Statement](#)
  - [Academic Integrity Statement](#)
- [Accessibility Services](#)

Students who require accommodations to complete the requirements and expectations of this course because of a disability must make their accommodation requests to the Accessibility Services Coordinator.
- [Get Help: JCC & Community Resources](#)
- [Emergency Closing Procedures](#)

- Course grade is determined by the instructor based on a combination of factors, including but not limited to, homework, quizzes, exams, projects, and participation. Final course grade can be translated into a grade point value according to the following:

A=4.0	B+=3.5	B=3	C+=2.5	C=2	D+=1.5	D=1	F=0
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- Veterans and active-duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployments, drill requirements, VA appointments) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these to the instructor.

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**Effective Date:** Fall 2022