



HIS 269, Civil War and Reconstruction
Elite Learning--Fall 2020
Supporting Colleges: MECC VHCC

Southwest Virginia Education and Training Network

Contact Information

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E-mail: The best way to reach me is by sending a message within your Canvas course; however, my email address is anthony.shipley@scottsschools.com and should be used only as a last resort. Students should expect to receive responses within 24 hours. I will post if I will not be available in the Announcements, so be sure to read the Announcements.

Course (Catalog) Description

VCCS Master Course Description:

HIS 269: Studies factors that led to the division between the States. Examines the war, the home fronts, and the era of Reconstruction.

Students who successfully complete this course will earn 1 high school credit, 3 hours of college credit for *Civil War and Reconstruction/HIS269*, as well as have an overview of significant political, military, economic, and social developments of the United States during that time period.

Course Materials

James A. Henretta, David Brody, and Lynn Dumenil, *America: A Concise History*, Fourth Edition, New York – Bedford/St. Martin's, 2006 (ISBN: 0-312-48541-7)

Collected Internet sites, consisting of primary and secondary source materials, contained within folders for each session's lesson.

Students should contact their facilitator or guidance counselor to receive all textbooks. Any student unable to receive a book within the first few days of class should contact the instructor.

Time & Location of Class Meeting:

This course is asynchronous, which means students will be able to access their course material at any time of the day or night. Students should have a specific time in the day that they will be assigned to work on assignments for this course. It is critical for students to log into the course on a daily basis and complete all assignments.

Technology Requirement:

Students will be required to complete and submit assignments by using Canvas, the learning management system for Elite Learning. Students will need use of the Internet for all coursework.

The Virginia Community College System offers Microsoft Word for free to currently enrolled students. Students are eligible to install Office 365 on up to 5 devices at no cost. The Office 365 product includes Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook. Students can download Microsoft Office 365 by going to: <http://office.vccs.edu>. Students will use their full My VCCS email address as their username, and their My VCCS password to log into the site.

Technical Support:

Technical problems are not common but occur from time-to-time. Trouble tickets, for the most part, will be sent directly to the technical support team at the community college. Students should refer to the *How to Receive Technical Support* document to receive prompt support. This document is found in the *Elite Learning Guide for Students* on Page 28. You should receive a response within 24 hours (usually much sooner). After you have submitted the trouble ticket, please send me an email or message to let me know what problems you are having.

Method of Evaluating Student Achievement

Grading Policy & Scale:

This course will be graded on a ten-point scale:

100-90 %= A 89-80 %= B 79-70 %= C 69-60 %= D 59 % or less = F

All grades will be reported by SVETN to each school with a numeric grade and a recommended letter, but assignment of a final letter grade will be at the discretion of the student's school.

- Personal Introduction Discussion Post 5%
- Internet Resource Discussion Posts 35%
- Essay Responses (2) 30%
- Exams (2) 30%

Discussion Posts and Essay Assignments will be graded according to rubrics included in the course content; examinations are objective assessments. Students should expect to receive feedback from the instructor on all discussion board posts within 48 hours. Because it takes much longer to grade essays, you can expect feedback within 7 days of your submission (usually sooner). Examinations will be graded in Canvas and transferred to the course gradebook as soon as answers are submitted.

Teaching Methods:

Textbook Readings and Internet Resources. Each student should complete all assigned readings in a timely manner.

Study Guides. Students will receive study guides for each course unit. It is the student's responsibility to complete the study guides in preparation for course examinations. Study guides should not be submitted to the instructor.

Handouts: Five instructor-prepared handouts are included within the course. These handouts will also assist students on examinations.

Examinations. Students will take two ninety-minute objective online examinations during the semester. The material on examinations will come from course study guides and handouts.

Each student will be allowed two attempts on each examination, and only the higher of the two scores will count toward the student's final grade.

Videos. Links to videos may be included within each session's lesson. These videos will assist students in preparing and reviewing for examinations. In addition, students may post their responses to videos in various discussion forums.

Essay Responses. Each student will complete two essay responses during the course. Essays must be a minimum of 750 words in length, and students are expected to demonstrate correct grammar, mechanics, spelling, and documentation of sources in their responses. Online writing labs will be part of the course content, so students may wish to consult those sites for assistance. Students may use the MLA, APA, or Chicago (Turabian) style guidelines in documenting source materials used, and the guidelines used should be consistent within the essay. Essay responses will be evaluated on the criteria established in the Essay Response Scoring Rubric.

Discussion Posts. Students will participate in online discussion forums based on assigned course readings. Student discussion will be evaluated on the criteria established in the Discussion Forum Scoring Rubric.

Late Work Policy:

This is a college course, and you are expected to plan ahead for due dates and give yourself plenty of time to complete all work. DO NOT wait until the last minute. For example, if a writing assignment is open for an entire week, but you wait until ten minutes before the assignment closes and experience a technical problem, you will not be given an extension because ample time was provided for you to submit your work. Plan accordingly if you will be out of school on trips. All work must be completed before leaving for a school trip to prevent them from being late. Due dates are located on the calendar and throughout the course.

If you do not turn in an assignment on the deadline, you will be allowed to submit it with point deductions for one week (exceptions may apply). For example: If assignment is due on August 10, you will have until August 17 to submit it for partial credit. There will be an automatic 25 point deduction for all late submissions.

- Sue doesn't turn in her work by the August 10 deadline. On August 11, the instructor posted the following into Sue grade book: *This assignment was due on August 10 but not submitted. You may submit the work until August 17 with a 25-point deduction.*
- Sue turns in her work three days late. After grading the assignment, her instructor believes it is quality work. He assigns her a 90 BUT he then deducts 25 points because the assignment was late. Sue will see a 65 in the grade book. Students will be made aware of the last day to submit the assignment within the grade book.
- If Sue doesn't turn in her assignment by the final deadline, she will see the following statement in her grade book. *This assignment is now closed. It was not submitted by the final deadline. You may longer submit this assignment for a grade. Previous message: This assignment was due on August 12 but not submitted. You will have until March 19 to submit it for partial credit.*

Exceptions to the late work policy will only be allowed IF a documented excuse is provided by your school's guidance counselor or administrative staff (illness, family emergency, etc.). Email the teacher if problems occur so they can be handled on a one-on-one basis. Please be aware that SVETN's schedule requires that we adhere to deadlines, even when schools are closed. If you have internet access at home, continue to log in and participate in class even if your school is closed. If you do not have home internet access, it is your responsibility to inform the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

Attendance Policy:

Because this is an Internet based course, there is not a scheduled time set for your coursework. Regular class attendance is required. When absence from a class is necessary, it is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor prior to the absence. The student is responsible for the subsequent completion of all work missed during an absence. The Virginia Community College System is committed to academic quality and student success. Elements that support both values are regular attendance and participation in class. The college policy states that regular class attendance is required.

At least once every school day, you are required to log into Canvas and perform three tasks:

1. Check your inbox for new messages.
2. Check for new course announcements.
3. Check the calendar under to see what work is due.

You should then proceed to work on the assignments within the current unit.

Elite Learning Inclement Weather or School Closure Policy:

Asynchronous online courses have many advantages over the traditional classroom. Among those advantages are the availability of the instructor, the opportunity to "attend" class from many locations, the flexibility of schedule, and no make-up days due to snow. To provide the required amount of "seat-time" for students, Elite Learning instructors will continue to present class material and require assignment submissions. When some schools are temporarily closed, it is necessary to require a continuation of assigned work even if students are absent from school due to weather or school closures. It is the responsibility of the student to access the class via Internet during this type of absence. **Students without Internet access beyond school hours will need to discuss this with their instructor at the beginning of the semester.**

This policy will also be in place due to Covid-19 school closures or any other unexpected closures.

How to be Successful:

- Students should ensure they understand the requirements of this course by reading the course syllabus.
- Stay on task by printing off your assignment sheets and keeping them in a notebook with a calendar.
- Students should plan ahead and avoid procrastination. The dual-enrollment classes are college classes. An asynchronous class requires discipline. If a student is not self-disciplined in his or her studies, the student should rethink the decision to take this class.
- Students should stay focused and keep a steady pace, or they will fall behind.
- Students should be aware that technical difficulties may occur. Remember that technical difficulties happen with online courses. Report technical problems as soon as possible by submitting a trouble ticket at www.svetn.org under the "Contact" tab.

Disabilities:

Students are encouraged to discuss any special problems, needs or accommodations with the instructor during the first week of class. Students who participate in this class are also high school students. Each high school has resources available for students with disabilities (IEP). Please contact the guidance counselor at your school to request academic accommodations. Each community college also has the Office of Student Services, which may be able to provide additional services. A representative from your school (guidance counselor) may make a request for services at the college.

That office will evaluate the request and make recommendations for appropriate and reasonable accommodations, which the student will provide to the instructor. Please contact your guidance counselor or SVETN for more information.

Emergency Policy:

Follow all emergency policies for your home school. College Emergency Statement: In the event of a College-wide emergency, course requirements, classes, deadlines, and grading schemes are subject to changes that may include alternative delivery methods; alternative methods of interaction with the instructor, class materials, and/or classmates; a revised attendance policy; and a revised semester calendar and/or grading scheme. For more general information about College-wide emergency situations, please refer to:

College Website (www.vhcc.edu); VHCC Alert System (<http://alert.vhcc.edu>)

Academic Integrity:

Each student will be bound by the academic codes of their school. Any violations will be reported to the student's school for appropriate disciplinary action. Cheating will not be tolerated. Because these courses are considered college courses, each student is considered a responsible adult, and will face the consequences of their chosen actions. It is assumed that students will maintain standards of conduct appropriate to membership in Elite Learning as well as the community college. Emphasis is placed on standards of student conduct rather than on limits or restrictions. Guidelines and regulations governing student conduct are developed by the Elite Learning faculty, staff, and administration. More detailed information is found in the *Elite Learning Student Guide*.

Netiquette Guidelines:

All conditions contained in VHCC College Catalog/Student Handbook pertain to this course.

Remember when online to adhere to the same standards of behavior that you would in real life. Use appropriate language, grammar and punctuation for the classroom setting. Do not make remarks that could be construed as derogatory including the use of profanity. Do not use online forums as a “soap box” for personal or political opinions. Carefully follow guidelines for discussion posts.

Avoid short, useless comments but also avoid long or rambling dissertations. Stay on topic and do not cut and paste material from other sites into your discussions. Remember you can never “take something back” that you say online. Make sure your messages are clear prior to posting them to your forum.

ALL CAPS are interpreted by many as being a form of screaming at the recipient. Remember that an online classroom is still a classroom.

NOTE: Special thanks to THE CORE RULES OF NETIQUETTE that are excerpted from the book Netiquette by Virginia Shea. These complete guidelines may be viewed at the following website. <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

Additional Netiquette Guidelines can be found in your Elite Learning Guide for Students.

Course Learning Outcomes/Objectives

Identify the political, cultural, economic, and social issues dividing America in the years prior to the outbreak of the Civil War and the ways in which the cotton gin, the reaper, the railroad, slavery, states rights, women's suffrage, and abolitionism increased sectional tensions.

Explain the historical significance of specific events and sectional crises leading to the disruption of the Union, as well as efforts at compromise following secession and the formation of the Third Party System.

Identify and explain the significance of key Civil War leaders and battles in the Eastern, Western, and Trans-Mississippi Theaters of battle, explain how “total war” influenced the home fronts of both sections during the conflict and how these changes revolutionized American life, and discuss the human side of the conflict by focusing on the perspectives of soldiers, women, and slaves.

Identify and analyze the major components of Presidential, Congressional, and “Radical” Reconstruction plans and the ways in which Reconstruction policy as implemented influenced the development of the South, as well as the ways in which the cause of human freedom was expanded by the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments.

Course Information

Module	Readings	Assignment(s)
1	Handouts: Reform Era, Sectional Issues, Transportation Revolution	Personal Introduction Forum Discussion Forum #1
2	Pages 260-89, 319-48	Discussion Forum #2
3	Pages 349-406	Discussion Forum #3 Essay Response #1 Due
4		Discussion Forum #4 Exam #1
5	Pages 407-36	Discussion Forum #5
6	Pages 437-51	Discussion Forum #6
7	Pages 452-67	Discussion Forum #7 Essay Response #2 Due
8		Discussion Forum #8 Exam #2

It is critical that all students read the Elite Learning Guide for Students. This guide is located at www.svetn.org as well as within your course. Contact Dawn Stafford, SVETN Executive Director, if you have questions or concerns.

Course syllabus and schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.