
“History does not merely refer to the past . . . history is literally present in all we do.”

--James Baldwin

37:575:201:90

Spring 2023 Syllabus (Asynchronous)

Preliminary—Subject to Change

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Why study U.S. Labor and Work before the End of Reconstruction?

Reconstruction is just one part of the history James Baldwin wanted America to see. In that sense, the history of our nation remains an inspiration for those who hope to build a freer and more equal America. I am hoping that throughout the semester you will develop a deep appreciation for the continuance of Mr. Baldwin’s words.

How do I get in touch with my instructor?

I invite you to email questions that come up as you work through the readings. If you ever find you did not get the feedback that you needed on an assignment, then just email me, or, for that matter, email me about your thoughts, concerns, comments, or anything else on your mind.

Use the Inbox messaging tool in Canvas. If you need to meet with me, I can schedule a meeting using the Conferences tool in Canvas.

When a situation arises, how should I keep my instructor informed?

If one of life’s unforeseen events prevents you from completing work, it’s best to inform me right away so that your issue is not left unattended and therefore unknown to me or brought up too late for me to adequately address and work with you in a timely manner.

If you need accommodations, let me know as soon as possible. You have the right to have your needs met.

How can I be a good citizen in this class?

- You owe it to your peers to submit your work on time, whether participating in a forum or reviewing your peer’s paper. You owe it to yourself, so that you can take full advantage of the points.

What should you be able to *know* and *do* by the end of this course? (CORE LEARNING OBJECTIVES)

- Explain the development of some aspect of society or culture over time. (HST)
- Understand different theories about human culture, social identity, economic entities, political systems, and other forms of social organization. (SCL)
- Communicate complex ideas effectively, in standard written English, to a general audience and respond effectively to editorial feedback from peers, instructors, and/or supervisors through successive drafts & revision. (WCr)
- Communicate effectively in modes appropriate to a discipline or area of inquiry; evaluate and critically assess sources and use the conventions of attribution and citation correctly; and analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights. (WCd)

- Demonstrate an understanding of the perspectives, theories, and concepts in the field of labor and employment relations. (LSER Dept. 1)
- Make an argument using contemporary or historical evidence. (LSER 4)

- Analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights. (SMLR I)

How will I be evaluated?

You will be evaluated based upon forums, peer reviews, and written assignments.

How are you graded?

Criteria	Points
Forums (2)	50, 50
Peer Reviews (3)	50, 50 50
Writing Assignments (3)	200, 250, 300

	Important Due Dates
Forum 1	Opens February 6 First comment due by February 7 at 11:59 a.m. Two replies to peers due February 8 at 11:59 a.m.
Writing Assignment I	Writing Assignment I Posted February 13 Rough Draft due by February 27 at 11:59 a.m. Peer Review due by March 1 at 11:59 a.m. Final Draft due by March 3 at 11:59 a.m.
Writing Assignment II	Writing Assignment II Posted March 6 Rough Draft due by March 20 at 11:59 a.m. Peer Review due by March 22 at 11:59 a.m. Final Draft due by March 24 at 11:59 a.m.
Forum II	Opens April 3 First comment due by April 4 by 11:59 a.m. Two replies to peers due by April 5 at 11:59 a.m.
Writing Assignment III	Writing Assignment III Posted April 10 Rough Draft due by April 24 at 11:59 a.m. Peer Review due by April 26 at 11:59 a.m. Final Draft due by April 28 at 11:59 a.m.

Modules	Assignments
Discovery and First Contact	<i>Columbus: The Four Voyages</i> pp. 195-204 <i>A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies</i> pp. 14-17 Video : <i>Columbus and the Age of Discovery</i> Video: "Word Crimes"

Sources of Coerced Labor in the Colonies	Video: "Rockin' English" Podcast: Feral Hogs <i>White Trash</i> pp. 17-28
Servitude and Slavery in the Chesapeake Colonies	Video: "Zombie Nouns" <i>Many Thousands Gone</i> pp. 29-46 <i>Colonial America</i> pp. 51-65
Race and Class in the Chesapeake Colonies	Video: "Editing Sentences" Writing Resource: The Writer's Diet <i>Many Thousands Gone</i> pp. 109-141 <i>Jamestown: 1619</i> pp. 85-117
The Culture of Artisan Work	<i>Tom Paine and Revolutionary America</i> pp. 28 -39
The Consolidation of Slavery in the South	<i>Cotton and Race</i> pp. 27-38; 50-60 <i>Masterless Men</i> pp. 62-89
The Changing Nature of Work	Adam Smith, "Of the Division of Labor" Podcast: "Why does the Most Monotonous Job in the World Pay \$1 Million?" Alexis de Tocqueville, "How an Aristocracy May Be Created by Manufactures"
The Worsening of Work	"Metropolitan Industrialization" pp. 108-119
The Puddlers at Homestead	<i>The Battle for Homestead</i> pp. 47-56 Video: "Andrew Carnegie—The Richest Man in the World"
The Convict Leasing System in the South and the "Railroad Chinese" in the West	<i>Slavery by Another Name</i> pp. 53-65 Video: "Slavery by Another Name" <i>Ghosts of Gold Mountain</i> pp. 1-13; 138-164; 209-236



About me

Hello. My name is Shawn Taylor. I am a veteran who served as a platoon commander in the United States Marine Corps. In the winter, I ski and snowboard with my son in the Rocky Mountains of Utah and Colorado. In the summer, I hike, bike, surf, and run. I live with my partner Joanne and our beloved rescue dog from Hurricane Harvey, Blue, a formidable mix of Chihuahua, Dachshund, and Pomeranian.

*Please see Course Essentials in Canvas for information on Turnitin, Academic Integrity, and Disability Services.