Development of the Labor Movement (201:90)

Prof. David Bensman

Office: Labor Education Center Room 150A

Email: dbensman@smlr.rutgers.edu

Telephone: 848-932-1745; cell, 9739518589

Office Hours: By appointment.

Books to Buy:

Who Built America? Volume I by Christopher Clark and Nancy Hewitt

James Loewen, Lies My Teacher Told Me (2009 edition)

Class Schedule:

Unit One: Jan. 22-27 Introduction

Student Introductions

Unit Two: Jan. 28-Feb.3 Thanksgiving

Readings Loewen, Chapters 3,4

Unit Three: Feb. 4-Feb. 10 Three Worlds Meet

Readings: WBA? Chapter 1, pp. 3-61

Unit Four: Feb. 11- Feb. 17 Servitude, Slavery and the Growth of the Southern Colonies

Readings: WBA? Chapter 2, pp. 62-109

Writing Assignment #1 Due, Feb. 17

Unit Five: Feb. 16-Feb. 24 Family Labor and the Growth of the Northern Colonies

Readings: WBA? Chapter 3, pp. 110-159

Unit Six: Feb. 25-March 3 Towards Revolution

Reading: WBA? Chapter 4, pp. 180-209

Editing Assignment Due, March 3

Unit Seven: March 4-10 Revolution, Constitution, and the People

Reading: WBA? 210-263

Unit Eight March 11-16 The Consolidation of Slavery

Readings: WBA? Chapter 6, 265-323, Loewen, Chapter 5
Writing Assignment #2 Due, Oct. 25

Unit Nine: March 25-31 Northern Society and the Growth of Wage Labor

Readings: WBA? Chapter 7, 325-375

Unit Ten: April 1-April 7 Immigration, Urban Life, and Social Reform in the Free Labor North

Readings: WBA? Chapter 8, 377-425

Unit Eleven: April 8-14 The Spread of Slavery and The Crisis of Southern Society

Readings: WBA? Chapter 9, 427-475

Unit Twelve: April 15-21 The Settlement of the West and the Conflict Over Slave Labor

Readings: WBA? Chapter 10, 482-531

Loewen: Chapter 6
Unit Thirteen: April 22-28 Reconstruction and the Industrial Revolution

Readings: WBA? Chapter 12 588-631

Unit Fourteen: April 29-May 5 Industrial Frontiers

Readings: WBA? 632-679

Writing Assignment #3 Due, May 12

Objectives:

This course is designed to enhance your skills in five areas:

a. critical thinking

b. relating social theory to personal experience

c. understanding employment relations in their social context

d. developing argument clearly and persuasively

e. supporting your argument with appropriate evidence

Your performance in class and on writing assignments will be assessed with reference to the above objectives.

Grading Policy:

The course grade will be based on the following elements:

1. participation in forums 15%

2. writing assignment 1 – 15%

3. Editing assignment – 15%

4. writing assignment 2 - 15%

5. writing assignment 3 - 20%

6. Quizzes, 20%