

Writing Assignment I (20% of final grade)

Development of the Labor Movement I

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Due Wednesday, February 16, 2010 at 11:55am

Although Americans like to believe that the United States was “conceived in liberty,” the reality is somewhat different. For the Europeans to place North America under English rule, the colonial elite first had to seize territory by force of threat of force; coerce and enslave those whose labor was necessary to exploit the land; and maintain power and control over poor whites, Native Americans, and African slaves so as to prevent a common alliance that might lead to insurrection or rebellion. How did the colonial elite accomplish these objectives?

Your paper should have an introduction and a thesis. Each of your paragraphs should follow a logical progression and be in direct support of your argument. Support your points with specific examples from class readings and lecture notes. When citing from Alan Taylor’s *American Colonies*, for example, reference the last name of the author and the page number in parentheses (Taylor, p. 151). Be sure to include a works cited page at the end of your paper (this page does not count as the total length of your paper):

Taylor, Alan (2001) *American Colonies: The Settling of North America*. New York: Penguin.

Jordon, Don and Michael Walsh (2008) *White Cargo: The Forgotten History of Britain’s White Slaves in America*. New York: NYU Press.

Clark, Christopher et. al. (2008) *Who Built America? Working People and the Nation’s History. Volume One: To 1877*. New York: Bedford St. Martin’s.

Selected Virginia Statutes related to Slavery
<http://www.virtualjamestown.org/slavelink.html>

All papers must be typed, double spaced throughout and 5 pages in length, each numbered with standard one inch margins and 12 pitch font. Correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation matter. Use only those sources that have been assigned and discussed in class; do not use any sources from the Internet.

Submit your paper as a MS Word attachment through the assignment tool on Sakai.rutgers.edu. Late papers will be graded downward one letter grade. Contact me if you have any questions regarding this assignment.