U.S. Labor and Work Before the End of Reconstruction

Fall 2019 Syllabus

Syllabus is subject to change.

Monday, 6:10pm-9:00pm
Scott Hall, Room 115
Dr. Shawn Taylor
sktaylor@rutgers.edu
Office Hours: Monday, 4:30pm-5:30pm
Rutgers Academic Building, Room 1125
848-932-1662 (office phone)

Please note: Make sure to read the Course Essentials in Canvas

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1 (September 9) Introductions and Overview
No class readings

In-class video: Excerpt from, Christopher Columbus and the Age of Discovery

Week 2 (September 16) Sources of Coerced Labor in the Colonies

White Trash pp. 17-28

Week 3 (September 23) Servitude and Slavery in the Chesapeake Colonies

**Writing Assignment I Posted**

American Colonies pp. 143-152

The Barbarous Years pp. 63-67; 71-77

Week 4 (September 30) Race and Class in the Virginia Colonies

The Barbarous Years pp. 174-179

1619: Jamestown pp. 85-117

Week 5 (October 7) Peer Review

*Writing Assignment I Due*
Class will meet in the computer lab, Academic Building, rooms 1210 and 1220

**Week 6 (October 14) The Culture of Artisan Work**

"Tom Paine and Revolutionary America" pp. 28-39

“The First Unions” pp. 23-30

**Week 7 (October 21) The Consolidation of Slavery in the South**

*Who Built America?* pp. 265-323

**Week 8 (October 28) The Changing Nature of Work**

*Writing Assignment II Posted*

Adam Smith, “Of the Division of Labor”

Alexis de Tocqueville, "How an Aristocracy May Be Created by Manufactures"

Melvyn Dubofsky, “Labor Strength in the 1830s” pp. 54-65

**Week 9 (November 4) The Worsening of Work**

Sean Wilentz, “Metropolitan Industrialization” pp. 108-119

In class video excerpt: “Race: The Power of an Illusion”

**Week 10 (November 11) Peer Review**

*Writing Assignment II Due*

Class will meet in the computer lab, Academic Building, rooms 1210 and 1220

**Week 11 (November 18) One Perspective on Industrialism and the American Worker**

“How Capitalism Enriched the Working Class” pp. 93-101

**Week 12 (November 25) Convict Laborers in the South and the “Railroad Chinese” in the West**

*Writing Assignment III Posted*

*Slavery by Another Name* pp. 51-98
*Ghosts of Gold Mountain* pp. 1-13; 138-164; 209-236

**Week 13 (December 2) Reconstructing the Nation, 1865-1877**

In-class video: “1877: The Grand Army of Starvation”
Week 14 (December 9) Peer Review

*Writing Assignment III Due*

Class will meet in the computer lab, Academic Building, rooms 1210 and 1220