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

--James Baldwin

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Fall 2020 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 messaging tool in Canvas (sktaylor@echo.rutgers.edu). 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 attending class or 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 kinds of technology should I know how to use?**

- You should be familiar with how to use Canvas, Zoom, and Google Drive.

### **What should you be able to *know* and *do* by the end of this course?**

- Explain the development of some aspect of society or culture over time.
- Understand different theories about human culture, social identity, economic entities, political systems, and other forms of social organization.
- 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.
- 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.

- Demonstrate an understanding of the perspectives, theories, and concepts in the field of labor and employment relations.

- Make an argument using contemporary or historical evidence.
- Analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights.

**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 pts. each	100
Peer Reviews (3) 50 pts. each	150
Writing Assignments (3) 200, 250, 300 pts.	750

Assignments	Due Dates
Forum 1	Opens September 16 First comment due by September 17 by 11:59 a.m. Two replies to peers due by September 18 at 11:59 a.m.
Writing Assignment I Rough Draft, Peer Review, and Final Draft	Writing Assignment I Posted September 23 Rough Draft due by October 7 at 11:59 a.m. Peer Review due by October 9 at 11:59 a.m. Final Draft due by October 11 at 11:59 a.m.
Writing Assignment II Rough Draft, Peer Review, and Final Draft	Writing Assignment II Posted October 21 Rough Draft due by November 4 at 11:59 a.m. Peer Review due by November 6 at 11:59 a.m. Final Draft due by November 8 at 11:59 a.m.
Forum II	Opens November 11 First comment due by November 12 by 11:59 p.m. Two replies to peers due by November 13 at 11:59 a.m.
Writing Assignment III Draft, Peer Review, and Final Draft	Writing Assignment III Posted November 18 Rough Draft due by December 2 at 11:59 a.m. Peer Review due by December 4 at 11:59 a.m. Final Draft due by December 6 at 11:59 a.m.

Modules	Assignments
Discovery and First Contact	<i>Columbus: The Four Voyages</i> pp. 195-204

	<p><i>A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies</i> pp. 14-17</p> <p>Video <i>Columbus and the Age of Discovery</i></p> <p>Video: "Word Crimes"</p>
Sources of Coerced Labor in the Colonies	<p>Video: "Rockin' English"</p> <p>Podcast "Feral Pigs"</p> <p><i>White Trash</i> pp. 17-28</p>
Servitude and Slavery in the Chesapeake Colonies	<p>Video: "Zombie Nouns"</p> <p><i>American Colonies</i> pp. 142-152</p> <p><i>The Barbarous Years</i> pp. 63-67; 71-77</p>
Race and Class in the Virginia Colonies	<p>Video: "Editing Sentences"</p> <p>Writing Resource: "The Writer's Diet"</p> <p><i>American Colonies</i> pp. 153-157</p> <p><i>The Barbarous Years</i> pp. 174-179</p> <p><i>Jamestown: 1619</i> pp. 85-117</p>
The Culture of Artisan Work	<p><i>Tom Paine and Revolutionary America</i> pp. 28-39</p> <p>"The First Unions" pp. 23-30</p>
The Consolidation of Slavery in the South	<p><i>Who Built America?</i> pp. 265-323</p> <p><i>Masterless Men</i> pp. 62-89</p>
The Changing Nature of Work	<p>Adam Smith, "Of the Division of Labor"</p> <p>Alexis de Tocqueville, "How an Aristocracy May Be Created by Manufactures"</p> <p>"Labor Strength in the 1830s" pp. 54-65</p>
The Worsening of Work	<p>"Metropolitan Industrialization" pp. 108-119</p>
One Perspective on Industrialism and the American Worker	<p>Thomas DiLorenzo, "How Capitalism Enriched the Working Class" pp. 93-101</p> <p>Video: "Slavery by another Name"</p>
The Convict Leasing System in the South and the "Railroad Chinese" in the West	<p><i>Slavery by Another Name</i> pp. 53-65</p> <p><i>Ghosts of Gold Mountain</i> pp. 1-13; 138-164; 209-236</p>



### About me

Hello. 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, and run (I will be completing my 21st marathon (virtually) this October. I live with my partner Joanne, two rescue cats, Buckworth and Bandit, and a rescue dog from Hurricane Harvey, Blue, a formidable mongrel mix of Chihuahua, Dachshund, Pomeranian, and Greyhound, who, for reasons only known to her, can unleash a moiling of forces at a moment's notice.