

## 575:201:H6 Labor and Work in the US before 1877 – Summer 2020

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### INTRODUCTION

This course will explore the labor history of the United States up through the Civil War. Through looking at labor history, we will learn about social and political history as well. We will occasionally touch on other regions of the world, especially Europe and Africa. This course is aimed primarily at students who have little or no experience with college-level history and assumes no prior knowledge of the historical developments we will cover.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The student is able to:

#### **Core Curriculum: SCL, HST, WCr and WCd**

- Explain the development of some aspect of society or culture over time. (Goal K)
- Understand different theories about human culture, social identity, economic entities, political systems and other forms of social organization. (Goal M)
- Communicate complex ideas effectively, in standard written English, to a general audience, and respond effectively to editorial feedback from peers, instructors, &/or supervisors through successive drafts & revision. (Goal S)
- 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. (Goal T)

#### **School of Management and Labor Relations:**

- Communicate effectively at a level and in modes appropriate to an entry-level professional. (Goal I)
- Demonstrate an understanding of relevant theories and apply them given the background context of a particular work situation. (Goal IV)

#### **Labor Studies and Employment Relations Department:**

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

### REQUIRED TEXT

Clark, Hewitt, Brown, Jaffee, *Who Built America? Vol. 1* (Third Edition, ISBN 9780312446918)

The textbook will be provided to you as a PDF on Canvas, but used copies are quite inexpensive online, if you desire a tangible version.

## **YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Read the syllabus

Do the readings

Turn in your assignments on time

Make sure your assignments are submitted

## **EVALUATION**

### **Written assignments**

You will write one paper this summer, on a topic to be announced. It accounts for 25% of your final grade. You will write several drafts of it. All are mandatory, as is participation in peer review. Each part of the process counts toward your final assignment grade. I expect an honest attempt at a full paper for all drafts. Doing otherwise will negatively impact your grade. It is your responsibility to make sure you turn in each draft and your peer editing form. If you do not have a submission receipt from Canvas, then you have not submitted your essay, and you will be graded accordingly. Declining to make substantial changes to your drafts (unless otherwise advised) will result in a failing grade. Turning in no final paper, or turning in only a final paper, or turning in the identical paper multiple times, will result in a zero.

### **Lateness Policy**

All late assignments will be marked down. One grade will be deducted for every 24-hour period (or portion thereof) your paper is late. That is, a B paper will turn into a C paper if it is up to 24 hours late, and into a D paper if it is up to 48 hours late. While the drafts are not assigned letter grades, failing to turn them or turning them in late will have the same effect on the final draft you hand in for a grade.

**You must complete all written assignments in order to receive credit for this course.** We will turn back all assignments in a timely manner. If we do not turn back your assignment, it is your job to bring this to our attention. If you believe we have not recorded a grade for an assignment you have turned in, you must clear this up during the semester. After the semester is over, we will not be able to consider claims that you turned in an assignment if we have no record of it.

### **Discussion forums**

For each class, you will have discussion posts due on Canvas. I will post primary sources and several questions for you to answer about each. You are also required to respond to at least one of your discussion group members, for each discussion topic, which helps to make what you are doing actual discussions.

For example: your first discussion posts will be due at 9:40 PM on Monday, July 6. Your response to at least one of your peers, in each discussion topic, will be due by 9:40 PM on Wednesday, July 8. On that same date, Wednesday, July 8, you will also have a new set of initial discussion posts to complete, and then your responses to what your classmates have written will be due by 9:40 PM on Monday, July 13. The only exception will be the last day, August 12, for which you will only have initial posts due, and no responses.

Your initial answers and responses should both be substantive contributions, every time. A single-sentence answer and "I agree!" as a response will not earn credit. Please put some time into these, as these are not box-checking exercises to take up your time. I don't expect multiple-paragraph answers (though if you are really feeling it, go for it!), but these discussions are a prime method of learning, and the more work you put into them, the better off we all are.

All discussions are mandatory, and any that you do not complete will result in a lower grade.

### **Cheating/plagiarism**

There are serious consequences, including expulsion, for both cheating and taking someone else's work without attribution. The university has clear, strict policies on these matters. I will report all violations. If you have not done so already, please familiarize yourself with the university's academic integrity policy by visiting [academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/). The relevant parts are brief and straightforward. If you have any questions, please see me.

### **Exams**

There will be a first exam due July 27, and a second exam due August 12. Each will be a take-home exam, consisting of an essay question.

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

Discussion forums	20%
Paper	25%
First exam	25%
Second exam	30%

I grade according the following grade breakdown:	A 90
	B+ 87    B 80
	C+ 77    C 70    D 60

**Use of Class Materials**

The materials used in this class, including, but not limited to, the syllabus, exams, lecture materials, and assignments are copyright protected works. Any unauthorized copying of the class materials is a violation of federal law and may result in disciplinary actions being taken against the student. Additionally, the sharing of class materials without the specific, express approval of the instructor may be a violation of the University's Code of Student Conduct and an act of academic dishonesty, which could result in further disciplinary action. This includes, among other things, uploading class materials to websites for the purpose of sharing those materials with other current or future students. You may not make audio or video recordings of any part of this class without my consent.

**Statement on Abilities and Accommodations**

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: [ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines](https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines). If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: [ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form](https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form).

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

<b>July 6</b> Readings	<b>Introduction and Rise of the Atlantic World</b> <i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 1
<b>July 8</b> Readings	<b>The Evolution of Slavery</b> <i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 2
<b>July 13</b> Readings	<b>Colonial Society, Labor and the Revolution</b> <i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 3
<b>July 15</b> Readings Assignment	<b>Securing Independence</b> <i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 4 <b>Peer editing – first draft due</b>
<b>July 20</b> Readings	<b>Launching the New Republic</b> <i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 5
<b>July 22</b> Readings Assignment	<b>The Transformation of American Society</b> <i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 6 <b>Second draft due</b>
<b>July 27</b> Readings	<b>The Age of Reform</b> <i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 7 <b>Midterm exam due</b>
<b>July 29</b> Readings	<b>The Old South and Slavery</b> <i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 9
<b>August 3</b> Readings	<b>Immigration, Expansion and Sectional Conflict</b> <i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 8
<b>August 5</b> Readings Assignment	<b>From Compromise to Kansas</b> <i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 10 <b>Final draft due</b>
<b>August 10</b> Readings	<b>The Civil War and Reconstruction</b> <i>Who Built America</i> Chapters 11 and 12
<b>August 12</b>	<b>Final exam due</b>