

Development of the Labor Movement (201:90)

Prof. David Bensman



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David Bensman is Professor of Labor Studies and Employment Relations in the School of Management and Labor Relations at Rutgers University. He received his Ph.D. from Columbia University in History in 1977. He began teaching at Rutgers in 1978. He is the author of several books, including, *The Practice of Solidarity, American Hatters in the Nineteenth Century*, (University of Illinois Press, 1985), *Rusted Dreams: Hard Times in a Steel Community* (with Roberta Lynch, McGraw-Hill, 1987, University of California Press, 1988), *Who Built America? Volume 2* (with Steve Brier, The New Press, 1991), and *Central Park East and Its Graduates: "Learning by Heart."* (Teachers College Press, 2001).

Book to Buy:

James Loewen, *Lies My Teacher Told Me* (2007 edition)

Note: Do not buy the earlier edition. It is out of date!

Books are available at on-line booksellers like Amazon, Powell's Books, Barnes and Noble, etc. Powell's, which is the only union on-line bookseller, is at www.powells.com

Class Schedule:

Unit One: Sept. 5-10 Introduction

Student Introductions

Unit Two: Sept. 11-17 The First Thanksgiving

Readings Loewen, Chapters 3,4

Unit Three: Sept. 18-24 Three Worlds Meet

Readings: WBA? Chapter 1, pp. 3-61. You can find this on-line in the document sharing section of the website.

Unit Four: Sept. 25-Oct. 1 Servitude, Slavery and the Growth of the Southern Colonies

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

Writing Assignment #1 Due, Oct. 1

Unit Five: Oct. 2-8 Family Labor and the Growth of the Northern Colonies

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

Unit Six: 9-15 Towards Revolution

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

Editing Assignment Due, Oct. 15

Unit Seven: Oct. 16-22 Revolution, Constitution, and the People

Reading: WBA? 210-263

Unit Eight: Oct. 23-29 The Consolidation of Slavery

Readings: WBA? Chapter 6, 265-323, Loewen, Chapter 5
Writing Assignment #2 Due, Oct. 29

Unit Nine: 21 Oct. 30-Nov. 5 Northern Society and the Growth of Wage Labor

Readings: WBA? Chapter 7, 325-375

Unit Ten: Nov. 6-12 Immigration, Urban Life, and Social Reform in the Free Labor North

Readings: WBA? Chapter 8, 377-425

Unit Eleven: Nov. 13-19 The Spread of Slavery and The Crisis of Southern Society,

Readings: WBA? Chapter 9, 427-475, Loewen Chapter 6

Unit Twelve: Nov. 20-26 The Settlement of the West and the Conflict over Slave Labor

Readings: WBA? Chapter 10

Unit Thirteen, Nov. 27-Dec. 3

Readings: WBA? Chapter 11

Unit Fourteen: Dec. 4-10 The Civil War: America's Second Revolution

Readings: WBA? Chapter 12

Unit Fifteen: Dec. 11-14 Reconstruction and the Industrial Revolution, Industrial Frontiers,

Readings: Chapter 13 WBA? 632-679

Writing Assignment #3 Due, Dec, 14

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).

Employ historical reasoning to study human endeavors (Goal l).

Understand different theories about human culture, social identity, economic entities, political systems and other forms of social organization (Goal m).

Explain the development of some aspect of society or culture over time, including the history of ideas or history of science (Goal k).

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 (Goal s).

Communicate effectively in modes appropriate to a discipline or area of inquiry and evaluate and critically assess sources and the use of conventions of attribution and citation correctly (Goal t).

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).

Please note that this course partially meets the writing distribution requirement for the School of Arts and Sciences. In addition to developing your own writing skills through writing successive drafts, you will learn how to provide constructive feedback to other students' writings.

In addition: Students will be expected to cite sources correctly, and to abide by regulations of the University's policy on Academic Integrity.

Note: This course fulfills a Rutgers GSAS writing requirement. Consequently, I will endeavor to help you improve your writing by giving you a lot of feedback on your posts and writing assignments. Your performance in class and on writing assignments will be assessed with reference to the above objectives. Your writing assignments are expected to conform to Rutgers' Policy on Academic Integrity. A guide to how to cite sources properly is included in the Resources section, as are writing guidelines.

Grading Policy:

The course grade will be based on the following elements:

1. Participation in forums 15%
2. Writing assignment 1 – 15% When you submit writing assignments, name them with your last name followed by the number of the assignment: Author1, Author2, etc.
3. Editing assignment – 15%
4. Writing assignment 2 - 15%
5. Writing assignment 3 - 20%
6. Quizzes, 20%