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

Fall 2019 Syllabus (Online Course)

Syllabus subject to change

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Office Hours: By appointment

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

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1 (September 4) Discovery and First Contact

Columbus: The Four Voyages pp. 195-204
A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies pp. 14-17

Video excerpt, Christopher Columbus and the Age of Discovery
Video: “Word Crimes”

Week 2 (September 11) Sources of Coerced Labor in the Colonies

Video: “Rockin’ English”
White Trash pp. 17-28

Week 3 (September 18) Servitude and Slavery in the Chesapeake Colonies

Forum I opens September 18
First comment for Forum I due by September 19 by 11:59 p.m.
Two replies to peers due by September 20 at 11:59 p.m.

Video: “Zombie Nouns”
American Colonies pp. 142-152
The Barbarous Years pp. 63-67; 71-77

Week 4 (September 25) Race and Class in the Virginia Colonies

Writing Assignment I Posted
Rough Draft due by October 9 at 11:59 p.m.
Peer Review due by October 10 at 11:59 p.m.
Final Draft due by October 11 at 11:59 p.m.

Video: "Editing Sentences"
Writing Resource: "The Writer's Diet"

American Colonies pp. 153-157
The Barbarous Years pp. 174-179
Jamestown: 1619 pp. 85-117

Week 5 (October 2) Peer Review

Peer Review due by October 10 at 11:59 p.m.
Final Draft due by October 11 at 11:59 p.m

Week 6 (October 9) The Culture of Artisan Work

Writing Assignment I Final Draft due by October 11 at 11:59 p.m.

Tom Paine and Revolutionary America pp. 28-39
"The First Unions" pp. 23-30

Week 7 (October 16) The Consolidation of Slavery in the South

Who Built America? pp. 265-323

Week 8 (October 23) The Changing Nature of Work

Writing Assignment II Posted
Rough Draft due by November 6 at 11:59 p.m.
Peer Review due by November 7 at 11:59 p.m.
Final Draft due by November 8 at 11:59 p.m.

Adam Smith, "Of the Division of Labor"
Alexis de Tocqueville, "How an Aristocracy May Be Created by Manufactures"
"Labor Strength in the 1830s" pp. 54-65

Week 9 (October 30) The Worsening of Work

Sean Wilentz, "Metropolitan Industrialization" pp. 108-119

Week 10 (November 6)

Rough Draft due by November 6 at 11:59 p.m.
Peer Review due by November 7 at 11:59 p.m.
Final Draft due by November 8 at 11:59 p.m.

Week 11 (November 13) One Perspective on Industrialism and the American Worker

Forum II opens November 6
First comment for Forum II due by November 8 at 11:59 p.m.
Two replies to peers due by November 10 at 11:59 p.m.

Thomas DiLorenzo, "How Capitalism Enriched the Working Class" pp. 93-101

Video: "Slavery by another Name"

Week 12 (November 20) The Convict Leasing System in the South and the "Railroad Chinese" in the West

Writing Assignment III Posted

Rough Draft due by December 4 at 11:59 p.m.

Peer Review due by December 7 at 11:59 p.m.

Final Draft due by December 11, at 11:59 p.m.

Slavery by another Name pp. 53-65

Week 13 (November 27)

Ghosts of Gold Mountain pp. 1-13; 138-164; 209-236

Week 14 (December 4)

Rough Draft due by December 4 at 11:59 p.m.

Peer Review due by December 7 at 11:59 p.m.

Week 15 (December 11)

Final Draft due by December 11, at 11:59 p.m.