

U.S. Labor Before the End of Reconstruction (575:201:T1)

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Books to Buy:

Who Built America? Volume I by Christopher Clark and Nancy Hewitt (Third edition, 2008)

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

Note: Do not use the earlier editions of either book. If you use the wrong edition of either *Who Built America?* or *Lies My Teacher Told Me*, you will not pass the course. It is not worth the few dollars you may save.

Books are available at on-line booksellers like Amazon, Powell, Barnes and Noble, etc.

Class Schedule:

Unit One: May 31-June 4 Introduction

Student Introductions

Unit Two: June 5-11 Thanksgiving

Readings Loewen, Chapters 3,4

Unit Three: June 12-18 Three Worlds Meet

Readings: WBA? Chapter 1, pp. 3-61

Unit Four: June 19-25 Servitude, Slavery and the Growth of the Southern Colonies

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

Writing Assignment #1 Due, June 25

Unit Five: June 26-July 2 Family Labor and the Growth of the Northern Colonies Readings: WBA? Chapter 3, pp. 110-159

Unit Six: July 3-9 Towards Revolution

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

[Editing Assignment Due, July 9](#)

Unit Seven: July 10-16 The Revolution and the Constitution

Reading: WBA? 210-263

[Writing Assignment 2: Due July 16](#)

Unit Eight: The Consolidation of Slavery July 17-23

Readings: WBA? Chapter 6, 265-323, Loewen, Chapter 5

Unit Nine: Northern Society and the Growth of Wage Labor, Urban Life and Social Reform, July 24-30

Readings: 325- 425

Unit 10: The Spread of Slavery and The Crisis of Southern Society, The Settlement of the West and the Conflict over Slave Labor July 31-August 6

Readings: WBA? Chapter 9, 427-475, Chapter 10, 482-531, Loewen Chapter 6

Unit 11: Aug. 7-13 The Civil War, and Reconstruction

Readings: WBA? Chapter 12 532-631,

Unit 12: Westward Expansion and Industrial Frontiers, Aug. 14-17

[Writing Assignment #3 Due, Aug. 17](#)

Readings: WBA? Chapter 13, 632-679

Objectives:

This course is designed to enhance your skills in five areas:

- a. critical thinking
- b. relating social theory to personal experience
- c. understanding employment relations in their social context
- d. developing argument clearly and persuasively
- e. supporting your argument with appropriate evidence

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%
3. Editing assignment – 15%
4. Writing assignment 2 - 15%
5. Writing assignment 3 - 20%
6. Quizzes, 20%