575:202:01 Labor and Work in the US from 1880 to 1945

Professor: Dr. Christopher Hayes
Class meetings: M/Th 10:20-11:40, RC-2
Office hours: By appointment, LEC 114
Contact: chayes@smlr.rutgers.edu and 848-932-1190 (office phone)

INTRODUCTION
This course will explore the history of working people the United States from the end of Reconstruction through the end of World War II. Through looking at labor history, we will learn about social and political history as well. 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
- Understand the bases and development of human and societal endeavors across time and place (Goal H).
- Understand different theories about human culture, social identity, economic entities, political systems and other forms of social organization. (Goal M).
- Apply concepts about human and social behavior to particular questions or situations. (Goal N).
- Explain the development of some aspect of society or culture over time, including the history of ideas or history or science. (Goal K).
- Employ historical reasoning to study human endeavors. (Goal L).
- Communicate complex ideas effectively, in standard written English, to a general audience. (Goal S1).
- Respond effectively to editorial feedback from peers, instructors, and/or supervisors through successive drafts and revision. (Goal S2).
- Communicate effectively in modes appropriate to a discipline or area of inquiry. (Goal T).
- Evaluate and critically assess sources and the use of conventions of attribution and citation correctly. (Goal U).
- Analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights. (Goal V).

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

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

NO COMPUTERS
Seriously. No laptops, no tablets, no phones. Computers in class tempt us to multitask (it happens to me!), but you’re not here for that. What people do on their computers in a group setting can be distracting. Plus, best of all, taking notes on paper is better for your understanding! See for yourself:

- [www.wsj.com/articles/can-handwriting-make-you-smarter-1459784659](http://www.wsj.com/articles/can-handwriting-make-you-smarter-1459784659)
- [www.npr.org/2016/04/17/474525392/attention-students-put-your-laptops-away](http://www.npr.org/2016/04/17/474525392/attention-students-put-your-laptops-away)

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES
Read the syllabus
Come to class
Be here on time
Pay attention
Do the readings
Turn in your assignments on time
Make sure your assignments are submitted
Find out what you missed if you are unable to attend

EVALUATION

Papers
You will write two papers this semester, on topics to be announced. Each accounts for 20% of your final grade. You will write three drafts of each – one for peer review, one for your section leader to review, and then turn in a final draft.

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 in or turning them in late will have the same effect on the final draft you hand in for a grade.

If you have a severe personal emergency that makes it impossible for you to meet the deadlines, please see me. Computer problems do not constitute personal emergencies!

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.
Attendance
As with any college course, you are expected to come to class every meeting, on time, for the duration of the meeting. If you have more than three unexcused absences, your final grade will be reduced by one full grade (e.g. from an A to a B). For every three after that, the same will happen. An excused absence would mean something along the lines of a medical emergency or a funeral and requires documentation. “I wasn’t feeling well” isn’t an excused absence. Using the online absence reporter isn’t an excused absence. Leaving early and showing up late will count against you as well.

If you miss an exam, a make-up exam will only be granted through an excused absence.

Being physically present is important, but you should strive to be mentally present as well. Being attentive and actively participating in class enhances your learning, as well as that of those around you. Someone (your parents, you in the future, Rutgers donors) is paying for you to be here, so try to get the most out of it. Working well in your groups and contributing to class discussion is a very easy way to earn a higher overall grade in the course.

Coming to class every time, on time, which you are supposed to do anyway, will earn you 80% of the maximum attendance and participation grade. Actively participating in class will earn you more points.

Cheating/plagiarism
There are serious consequences, including expulsion, for cheating and taking someone else’s work without attribution. The university has clear, strict policies on these matters. If you have not done so already, please familiarize yourself with the university’s academic integrity policy by visiting 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 midterm exam on October 16 and a final exam on December 11, both during regular class time.

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

- Class participation and attendance: 20%
- Paper I: 20%
- Paper II: 20%
- Midterm: 20%
- Final: 20%

Your grade when you have completed the course will be the one you earned throughout the semester. Please do not email me at the end of the semester looking for an arbitrary grade change. If you earned an 87, then expect a B+.

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.
CLASS SCHEDULE

September 7   Introduction

September 11  The failures of Reconstruction
Reading       Who Built America? Chapter One

September 14  The Gilded Age

September 18  The Chinese Exclusion Act
Reading       Who Built America? Chapter Two
Assignment    Peer editing – first draft due

September 21  Immigration and urbanization

September 25  Washington and Du Bois
Reading       Who Built America? Chapter Three
Assignment    Second draft due

September 28  Imperialism

October 2    Populism
Reading      Who Built America? Chapter Four

October 5    Consumerism

October 9    Writing conferences

October 12   Writing conferences

October 16   Midterm
Assignment   Final draft of first paper due

October 19   The Progressive Era

October 23   Lynching
Reading      Who Built America? Chapter Five

October 26   Immigration, part two

October 30   World War I
Reading      Who Built America? Chapter Six

November 2   The Great Migration

November 6   The 1920s
Reading      Who Built America? Chapter Seven
Assignment   First draft of second paper due
November 9  The Mine Wars and the Battle of Blair Mountain

November 13  Marcus Garvey
Reading    Who Built America? Chapter Eight
Assignment Second draft of second paper due

November 16  The Depression

November 20  The New Deal
Reading    Who Built America? Chapter Nine

November 21  The New Deal, continued

November 27  Writing conferences

November 30  Writing conferences

December 4  World War II
Assignment Final draft of second paper due
Reading    Who Built America? Chapter Ten

December 7  Slavery by Another Name

December 11  Final exam