Course Description:
Comprehensive study of the development of collective bargaining; the nature and scope of contracts; the changing character of collective bargaining processes through negotiation, legislation, the courts, and arbitration; the substantive issues in bargaining including the implications for public policy.

Important information:
This class is highly recommended, but not required, for all majors. It is suitable for others who have an interest in the topic and have taken an introductory Labor Studies course (100 or 110). It contains an opportunity to both develop skills and ponder issues related to collective bargaining in the American context.

Learning Objectives. The student is able to:

Labor Studies and Employment Relations Department:
- Make an argument about a matter in the field using contemporary and/or historical evidence (Goal 4).
- Work productively in teams, in social networks, and on an individual basis (Goal 13).

School of Management and Labor Relations:
- Communicate effectively at a level and in modes appropriate to an entry level professional (Goal I).
- Demonstrate an ability to interact with and influence others in a professional manner, and to effectively present ideas and recommendations (Goal VII).

Assessment of student success in meeting learning objectives:
Communication, argumentation, influence, and group productivity skills are developed and assessed through a multi-week collective bargaining exercise.

Additionally a rubric is applied to particular essay or short answer questions on the final exam related to conceptualization of these skills and to relevant background information.

In addition, grades are also based on student performance on papers, exercises, discussions, short written assignments, and objective items on exams.