

**U.S. Labor & Work, 37:575:201:11, Fall 2023, In-Person, Livingston Campus, Beck Hall  
(Building 4145), Room 111**

## **Contact Information**

### **Instructor**

Catherine Mary O'Brien Sobol (Mary)  
cmo105@scarletmail.rutgers.edu

Office hours: Virtually through Zoom, Wednesday and Friday, 2-3 PM. Or in-person after class.

### **Class Meeting**

- Class Meets in-person on: Mondays **2 PM to 5 PM (EST)**
- Class Location: Livingston Campus, Beck Hall (Building 4145), Room 111

### **Course Introduction**

This course introduces the important developments and themes in the history of work in the Americas from the period of initial contact between European, African, and Native American civilizations through the period of Reconstruction after the American Civil War. The approach of the course centers on the historical shifts that influenced the decisions that shaped early American concepts of work, including slavery, indentured servitude, free labor, and the rise and impacts of industrialization and the early labor movement.

### **Course Objectives**

#### **Core Curriculum: SCL, HST, WCr and WCd**

- Explain the development of some aspect of a society or culture over time. (HST-1)
- Understand different theories about human culture, social identity, economic entities, political systems, and other forms of social organization. (SCL-1)
- 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 and revision. (WCr)
- Communicate effectively in modes appropriate to a discipline or area of inquiry; evaluate and critically assess sources and use the conventions of attribution and citation correctly; and analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights. (WCd)

#### **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)

## **Textbook & Reading Materials**

### **Required Materials:**

- Clark, Hewitt, Brown, Jaffee, *Who Built America? Vol. 1* (Third Edition, ISBN 9780312446918)

The textbook will be provided to you as a PDF, by chapters, in the Modules section under each week's page. Used version of the textbook are relatively inexpensive online, should you decide to purchase.

Alternatively, the text is available online for you to read/view and or download a high-quality PDF version of the chapters you will need for this course. To access the digital version online, go to the [Who Built America](#)

### **Technology Requirements:**

- Access to the internet
- Reliable computer
- Microsoft Word, PowerPoint - refer to [Rutgers University Software Portal](#) - Free Access to download/access if you don't have these applications already
- [Basic Computer Specifications for Canvas \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

## **Evaluation**

### **Written assignments**

You will write two papers this semester, on topics to be announced. Each accounts for 20% of your final grade. You will have the opportunity to submit a draft version for each assignment so that I (your instructor) can provide feedback. Based on the feedback, you then complete the final paper. There will be sign up sheet for individual consultation of your draft (via Zoom). Schedules will be announced.

### **Lateness Policy**

I know you are responsible in submitting assignments on time. However, I also understand there may be circumstances that would prevent you from doing so. Please let me know in advance should you foresee any late submissions of your assignments.

### **In-Class Discussions**

We will be discussing the topics in the course throughout the class. Your participation in the class discussions is part of your course grade so you are highly encouraged to participate.

### **Attendance**

This is an in-person class so you are expected to attend each class, on time, for the duration of the meeting. Attendance also counts towards your course grade so do your best to be present. If you have extenuating situation, please reach out to me.

### **Academic Integrity**

Be sure to review and abide by [Rutgers Academic Integrity Policy](#)

### **Exams**

There will be 2 exams for this course.

### **Grading**

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

<b>Grading Component</b>	<b>Percentage towards Final Grade</b>
In-class discussions and attendance	20%
Paper I	20%
Paper II	20%
First Exam	20%
Second Exam	20%

### **Grading Scale**

<b>Number of Points</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>
90 - 100	A
86 - 89	B+
80 - 85	B
76 - 79	C+
68 - 75	C
60 - 67	D
59 and below	F

## Accommodation Request

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation ([See Documentation Guidelines](#)). If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you and your instructor with a Letter of Accommodations. Please discuss the accommodations with your instructors as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the [registration form](#).

## Class Schedule

- [Week 1 \(September 5\): Introduction of Course](#)
- [Week 2 \(September 12\): Introduction and Rise of the Atlantic World](#)
- [Week 3 \(September 19\): The Evolution of Slavery](#)
- [Week 4 \(September 26\): Colonial Society, Labor and the Revolution](#)
- [Week 5 \(October 3\): Securing Independence](#)
- [Week 6 \(October 10\): Launching the New Republic](#)
- [Week 7 \(October 17\): Writing Conferences](#)
- [Week 8 \(October 24\): The Transformation of American Society](#)
- [Week 9 \(October 31\): Submitting the First Exam](#)
- [Week 10 \(November 7\): Immigration, Expansion and Sectional Conflict](#)
- [Week 11 \(November 14\): The Old South and Slavery](#)
- [Week 12 \(November 21\): From Compromise to Kansas](#)
- [Week 13 \(November 28\): The Civil War](#)
- [Week 14 \(December 5\): Reconstruction](#)
- [Week 15 \(December 12\): Submitting Your Final Draft for Paper 2](#)
- [Week 16 \(December 19\): Final Exam](#)

## Rutgers Support Resources for you

### Rutgers Student Health Services:

- Rutgers Student Affairs is dedicated to health for the whole student body, mind and spirit. It accomplishes this through a staff of qualified clinicians and support staff. [Health, Counseling, and Wellness services](#) are available at several locations throughout Rutgers University.

### Crisis Intervention - Student Health

- [Crisis Situations](#)
- [In the Wake of Trauma](#)

### Academic Services:

- For academic support including tutoring, visit the [Rutgers - New Brunswick Learning Centers](#).
- For coaching help with writing skills and assignments visit the [Rutgers - New Brunswick Writing Tutors in the Learning Center](#).
- Many library resources are available online. Assistance is available through phone, email, and chat. For information, check the [Rutgers Libraries website](#).

### **Veteran Services:**

- Rutgers is proud to support veterans. If you are a veteran of the armed forces, please visit the [Office of Veteran and Military Programs and Services website](#) for more information.

### **TurnItIn Statement**

Your writing submissions in this course will run through the plagiarism tool TurnItIn.

Students (You) agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to **Turnitin.com** (via Canvas Assignments Portal) for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the [Usage Policy \(Links to an external site.\)](#) posted on the Turnitin.com site.

If you do not agree please contact me immediately.

### **Canvas Support Information**

If you are new to Canvas or need a refresher tutorial, visit:

- [Getting Started In Canvas for Students](#)
- [Canvas \(Links to an external site.\)](#)Canvas is Web Accessibility Guidelines compliant. More on [Canvas accessibility Standards](#)

If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem with Canvas:

- Contact [Rutgers IT Help Desk \(Links to an external site.\)](#). 833-648-4357, email [help@oit.rutgers.edu](mailto:help@oit.rutgers.edu), accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Refer to the [Canvas Student TutorialLinks to an external site.](#)
- Canvas [Student Guide PDF Version](#)
- Access Rutgers Canvas via the [MyRutgers Portal](#), [rutgers.instructure.com](http://rutgers.instructure.com), mobile app and <https://canvas.rutgers.edu>
- For Canvas assistance, Passwords, or any other computer-related technical support contact the [Rutgers Canvas Help Desk](#).
  - o [help@canvas.rutgers.edu](mailto:help@canvas.rutgers.edu)

## **Copyright Fair 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.

## **Your Responsibilities**

- Read the syllabus
- 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