Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course will explore youth experiences in the labor market. The course starts by examining the work experiences of children and youth in the 19th and early 20th century. We begin by exploring the idea of child labor, and how it is defined in social and economic contexts. We then investigate several industries including---coal mines, manufacturing, textiles, homework, street work and agriculture---to better understand the causes and effects of child labor in US history, why it matters both socially and economically, reform programs that emerged, and how the US history of child labor can contribute to understanding global child labor problems today.

The course next explores contemporary experiences of young people in the labor market. We will explore how young people prepare for work, view their education and workforce development pathways; and view their work and future careers. Here we will focus on the experiences of young workers across racial, class and gender lines and pay particular attention to the growing working poor in the youth labor market, and how public policy can address some of these inequalities. Central to this half of the course will be an analysis of the experiences of young people in the current economic recession, and various policies and programs that can improve their experiences and economic security, especially in the midst of the current economic crisis.

Course Competencies

This course explores several questions, including:

- Why do young people work?
- What jobs/industries are youth likely to work in, and how has this changed over time?
- Why and how are young workers concentrated in specific industries/occupations?
- How does young peoples' role in the labor market today differ from the role of previous generations of young workers?
- What are some of the challenges that young people face at work? How are the challenges that young workers face differ by cultural context and compared with adult workers?
- How can young workers and their advocates improve young peoples' experiences in the labor market?

The Core Curriculum Learning Goals assessed in this course Include:

CCD-1 Analyze the degree to which forms of human differences and stratifications among social groups shape individual and group experiences of, and perspectives on, contemporary issues. Such differences and stratifications may include race, language, religion, ethnicity, country of origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic status, abilities or other social distinctions and their intersections.

SCL-1: Understand different theories about human culture, social identity, economic entities, political systems, and other forms of social organization.

SCL-2: Employ tools of social scientific reasoning to study particular questions or situations, using appropriate assumptions, methods, evidence, and arguments.

Course Requirements

Required Readings

There are two required books for this course. All books available online and through the university bookstore.

1) Cassino-Besen, Yasemin. 2014. Consuming Work: Youth Labor in America. Temple University Press

2) Hindman, Hugh. 2002. Child Labor: An American History. M. E. Sharpe.

Additional articles, videos clips, etc. will be provided to you in the course.

Forums

Forums are asynchronous discussions, which student groups use to process and synthesize course content. Leading questions will be posted with each forum. It is expected that you give your initial impressions in your first post and then engage your classmates in subsequent posts.

For all forums, initial posts should be a minimum of 250 words in length, and each response should be a minimum of 100 words each, to at least two of your classmates. **A MISSED FORUM CANNOT BE MADE**

UP.

See forum rubrics and instructions for required elements, deadlines, and graded aspects for each forum.

<u>Writing Assignments</u>

There are 2 short writing assignments for this course. These should be at least 500 words in length. They are meant to be a brief but thoughtful response to **all** of the readings for that week. Insightfulness and clarity are important. Be sure to cite which articles you are referring to in your articles by using **in-text citations** and a **reference section**, when applicable (this does not count toward the word minimum). These do not re-tell the "story" in the course material but it does identify the main ideas as well as the relationships of these ideas to assigned topics/issues and to other course materials (synthesis).

 See rubrics provided in the instruction area for each writing assignment for specific grading details.

<u>Group Course Project</u>

The course project is a PowerPoint presentation you will design and turn in (with notes) on a topic related to Youth and Work. There are three options for the course project:

- Youth and Media (as it relates to work)
- Youth and Policy (as it relates to work)
- Youth Experiences around the World (as it relates to work)
- Another Topic Approved by the Instructor

Additional Details on the course project will be provided in the classroom.

<u>Final Exam</u>

Your final exam is a project based on the weekly readings and discussions throughout the class. See final exam module for more information.

<u>General Information For Forum Posts, Papers, and Exam:</u>

The papers, posts, and exam are to be your own original work. You should use your books and notes as a reference. Be sure to cite any direct quotations and paraphrasing that you use. You may discuss ideas with other students in the class, but the final product must be your own work. Any papers that are conspicuously similar are automatically sent to the Dean. The focus is on how what we have read and talked about in class can be used in order to critically examine the issues/arguments presented in the papers. Therefore you will be graded on your understanding of the scholarly information, theories and concepts that we have discussed. Simply regurgitating class notes is not a thoughtfully constructed paper.

Grading

A final grade is based on a 1000-point system. Each assignment is worth a specific number of points. Total points accumulated determines final course grade.

A	900-1000 points
B+	870-899 points
B	800-869 points
C	700-799 points
D	600-699 points
F	599 points and below

Grade Distribution (out of 1,000 points)

Forums: 350 points

Writing Assignments: 200 points

Course Project: 250 points

Final Exam: 200 points

Policies and Procedures

Class Sessions

The success of this course depends on active engagement and dialogue by members of the class. You must be fully prepared to discuss and debate the issues raised in the assigned reading material. The course week begins on **WEDNESDAY** for all weeks, with the exception of week 1 which begins with the semester on a Tuesday.

A weekly message will be sent to you each Wednesday. In addition, I will upload this message into the course weekly messages file in document sharing and Course Announcements by 12pm(noon)each Wednesday.

Each week of the semester is divided into Units. In each Unit, I will introduce the topic for the week in the weekly message. This message will contain key terms and phrases; link you to power point slides and/or videos. Each Unit will also contain your reading for the week.

Keeping current with the material and assignments is vital to your success in the course. You are expected to participate in the online class each week fully prepared to discuss and debate the issues raised in the assigned reading material. Exam material will draw heavily from material covered in lectures, reading response entries and forum discussions. **Everything covered in class is fair game for the exam!**

Due Dates

THIS IS NOT A SELF-PACED CLASS! All assignments must be completed by dates indicated on the course calendar. Deadlines are listed in the syllabus with the course assignments section as well as on the course calendar. Due dates are also listed in each of the weekly units and in the weekly messages I email you. Thus, you have significant notification of deadlines.

Forums lock after 11:59pm on the Tuesday following the week in which it was assigned. No comments or responses can be posted after this time. **MISSED FORUMS CANNOT BE MADE UP, NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Communication

You should inform the professor of any personal emergencies that may arise which will prevent you from getting online. I am available via email at any time and I generally try to answer emails on the same day they are received. You may also reach me on my cell phone at 334-663-4880 (you may also text me – but please be sure to identify yourself by name). **Please reserve this form of contact for only pressing issues.** I prefer not to be called before 9am or after 9pm. I have a Frequently Asked Questions tab in which I will share questions and answers that will be useful for the entire class. Please check this tab frequently as it may contain the answers you are looking for. I am here to help you to succeed in the class – but **COMMUNICATION IS CRUCIAL**.

Accommodation Requests

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: **https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines (https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines)** . If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: **https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form (https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form)** .

The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus, assignments, course content, etc. in any way to enhance the learning experience of this course

Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Sat Apr 6, 2019	📅 **Forum 1 Initial Post Due** (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67006&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Sat Apr 13, 2019	📅 **Forum 2 Initial Post Due** (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67007&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Sat Apr 20, 2019	📅 **Forum 3 Initial Post Due** (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67005&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Sat Apr 27, 2019	📅 **Forum 4 Initial Post Due** (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67004&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Sat May 4, 2019	📅 **Forum 5 Initial Post Due** (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67003&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
	📅 **Forum 6 Initial Post Due** (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67002&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Sat Jun 15, 2019	📅 **Forum 7 Initial Post Due** (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67001&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Sat Jan 25, 2020	📅 **Forum 1 initial Post Due** (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67000&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Mon Feb 3, 2020	📝 **Forum 1: Introductions** (https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619373)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Feb 8, 2020	📅 **Forum 2 Initial Post Due** (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=66999&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Tue Feb 11, 2020	📝 **Forum 2: Defining Child Labor** (https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619374)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Feb 15, 2020	📅 **Forum 3 Initial Post Due** (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=66998&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Tue Feb 18, 2020	📝 **Forum 3: Child Labor in Manufacturing** (https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619375)	due by 11:59pm

Sat Feb 22, 2020	📅	Forum 4 Initial Post Due (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=66997&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Tue Feb 25, 2020	📝	Forum 4: Homework and the Streets (https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619376)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Feb 29, 2020	📅	Forum 5 Initial Post Due (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=66996&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Tue Mar 3, 2020	📝	Forum 5: Teen Workers- Part 1 (https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619377)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Mar 7, 2020	📅	Forum 6 Initial Post Due (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=66995&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Tue Mar 10, 2020	📝	Forum 6: Teen Workers Part 2 (https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619378)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 15, 2020	📅	Spring Break (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67383&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Mon Mar 16, 2020	📅	Spring Break (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67384&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Tue Mar 17, 2020	📅	Spring Break (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67385&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Wed Mar 18, 2020	📅	Spring Break (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67386&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Thu Mar 19, 2020	📅	Spring Break (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67387&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Fri Mar 20, 2020	📅	Spring Break (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67388&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Sat Mar 21, 2020	📅	Spring Break (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=67389&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Tue Mar 24, 2020	📝	Writing Assignment 1- Mall Workers (https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619382)	due by 11:59pm

Tue Apr 7, 2020	[Course Project (https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619380)](https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619380)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Apr 21, 2020	[Writing Assignment 2- Letter (https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619383)](https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619383)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Apr 25, 2020	[Forum 7 Initial Post Due (https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=66994&include_contexts=course_51622)](https://rutgers.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=66994&include_contexts=course_51622)	12am
Tue Apr 28, 2020	[Forum 7: The Future of Work and Youth (https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619379)](https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619379)	due by 11:59pm
Sun May 10, 2020	[Final Exam (https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619381)](https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/51622/assignments/619381)	due by 11:59pm