

## 575:201:H6 Labor and Work in the US before 1877 – Summer 2022

Professor: Dr. Christopher Hayes  
Class meetings: Monday and Wednesday, 6:00 PM-9:40 PM, July 11-August 17, LEC-137  
Office hours: By appointment, via Zoom  
Contact: [chayes@smlr.rutgers.edu](mailto:chayes@smlr.rutgers.edu)

### INTRODUCTION

This course will explore the history of working people in the United States up through the Civil War. 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

- Explain the development of some aspect of society or culture over time. (Goal K)
- Understand different theories about human culture, social identity, economic entities, political systems and other forms of social organization. (Goal M)
- Communicate complex ideas effectively, in standard written English, to a general audience, and respond effectively to editorial feedback from peers, instructors, &/or supervisors through successive drafts & revision. (Goal S)
- 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. (Goal T)

#### 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

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

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

## **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

## **EVALUATION**

### **Written assignments**

You will write one paper this summer, on a topic to be announced. It accounts for 25% of your final grade. You will write several drafts of it. All are mandatory, as is participation in peer review. If you miss peer review, it is your responsibility to make it up, or you will receive no credit for it. Each part of the process counts toward your final assignment grade, and missing any of the parts – a draft, peer review – will also earn you a significant reduction on your grade. I expect an honest attempt at a full paper for all drafts. Doing otherwise will negatively impact your grade. It is your responsibility to make sure you turn in each draft and your peer editing form. If you do not have a submission receipt from Canvas, then you have not submitted your essay, and you will be graded accordingly. Declining to make substantial changes to your drafts (unless otherwise advised) will result in a failing grade. Turning in no final paper, or turning in only a final paper, or turning in the same paper multiple times, will result in a zero.

### **Lateness Policy**

All late assignments will be marked down. Ten points 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 or turning them in late will have the same effect on the final draft you hand in for a grade.

**You must complete all written assignments in order to receive credit for this course.** I will turn back all assignments in a timely manner. If I do not turn back your assignment, it is your job to bring this to my attention. If you believe I 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, I will not be able to consider claims that you turned in an assignment if I have no record of it.

### **Discussion forums**

For each class, you will have discussion posts due on Canvas. I will post primary sources and several questions for you to answer about each. You are also required to respond to at least one of your discussion group members, *for each discussion topic*, which helps to make what you are doing actual discussions.

For example: your first discussion posts will be due at 6:00 PM on Monday, July 11. Your response to at least one of your peers, in each discussion topic, will be due by 6:00 PM on Wednesday, July 13. On that same date, Wednesday, July 13, you will also have a new set of initial discussion posts to complete, and then your responses to what your classmates have written will be due by 6:00 PM on Monday, July 18. The only exception will be the last day, August 18, for which you will only have initial posts due, and no responses.

Please indicate which questions you are answering, and separate each into its own paragraph.

Your initial answers and responses should both be substantive contributions, every time. A single-sentence answer and “I agree!” as a response will not earn credit. Please put some time into these, as they are not box-checking exercises to take up your time. I don’t expect multiple-paragraph answers (though if you are really feeling it, go for it!), but these discussions are a prime method of learning, and the more work you put into them, the better off we all are.

All discussions are mandatory, and any that you do not complete will result in a lower overall grade for the course. There is no partial credit for discussions. They are complete or incomplete. Late discussions are incomplete discussions, so be sure to get your answers and responses in by their respective due dates.

### **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 one unexcused absence, your final grade will be reduced by one full grade (e.g. from an A to a B). For every one 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. Leaving early and showing up late will count against you as well. Using the online absence reporter will not excuse an absence. Going on vacation is not 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 (you, your parents, you in the future, Rutgers donors) is paying for you to be here, so try to get the most out of it. 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, and being attentive, meaning not engaging in distractions, including, but not limited to side conversations and use of electronic devices, will earn you 50% of the maximum attendance and discussion grade. Actively participating in class will earn you more points.

### **Cheating/plagiarism**

There are serious consequences, including expulsion, for both cheating and taking someone else's work without attribution. The university has clear, strict policies on these matters. I will report all violations. If you have not done so already, please familiarize yourself with the university's academic integrity policy by visiting [academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/) The relevant parts are brief and straightforward. If you have any questions, please ask me.

### **Exams**

There will be a first exam due August 3, and a second exam due August 17

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Discussion forums and attendance | 20% |
| Paper                            | 25% |
| First exam                       | 25% |
| Second exam                      | 30% |

|  |       |      |      |
|--|-------|------|------|
| I grade according the following grade breakdown: | A 90  |      |      |
|  | B+ 87 | B 80 |      |
|  | C+ 77 | C 70 | D 60 |
|  |       |      |      |

### **Use of Class Materials**

Lectures and materials utilized in this course, including but not limited to the syllabus, videocasts, podcasts, visual presentations, assessments, and assignments, are protected by United States copyright laws as well as Rutgers University policy. As the instructor of this course, I possess sole copyright ownership. You are permitted to take notes for personal use or to provide to a classmate also currently enrolled in this course. Under no other circumstances is distribution of recorded or written materials associated with this course permitted to any internet site or similar information-sharing platform without my express written consent. Doing so is a violation of the university's Academic Integrity Policy. Instructors and students must provide notification if any part of online sessions are to be recorded, and such recordings cannot be circulated outside the course.

### Statement on Abilities and Accommodations

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: [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: [ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form](https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form).

### CLASS SCHEDULE

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|---|--|
| <b>July 11</b><br>Readings                    | <b>Introduction and Rise of the Atlantic World</b><br><i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 1                       |
| <b>July 13</b><br>Readings                    | <b>The Evolution of Slavery</b><br><i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 2  |
| <b>July 18</b><br>Readings                    | <b>Colonial Society, Labor and the Revolution</b><br><i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 3                        |
| <b>July 20</b><br>Readings<br>Assignment      | <b>Securing Independence</b><br><i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 4<br><b>First draft due</b>                   |
| <b>July 25</b><br>Readings                    | <b>Launching the New Republic</b><br><i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 5  |
| <b>July 27</b><br>Readings<br>Assignment      | <b>The Transformation of American Society</b><br><i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 6<br><b>Second draft due</b> |
| <b>August 1</b><br>Readings                   | <b>The Age of Reform</b><br><i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 7   |
| <b>August 3</b><br>Readings<br>First exam due | <b>The Old South and Slavery</b><br><i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 9   |
| <b>August 8</b><br>Readings                   | <b>Immigration, Expansion and Sectional Conflict</b><br><i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 8                     |
| <b>August 10</b><br>Readings<br>Assignment    | <b>From Compromise to Kansas</b><br><i>Who Built America</i> Chapter 10<br><b>Final draft due</b>              |
| <b>August 15</b><br>Readings                  | <b>The Civil War</b><br><i>Who Built America</i> Chapters 11 and 12  |
| <b>August 17</b><br>Second exam due           | <b>Reconstruction</b>  |