

Course Code: HIS 145

Course Title: History of the Labor Movement

Department: Arts, Media, and Social Sciences

Effective Date: Summer 2026

PCS Code: 1.1 - Baccalaureate/Transfer

CIP Code: 52.1002

Repeatability: 0

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 3-0-3

Credit Hour Distribution:

Lecture: 3

Lab: 0

Clinical: 0

Total: 3

General Course Information

Catalog Description

Effects of labor on economic, political, and social systems of the United States.

General Course Objectives

This course involves study of some of the key historical developments which have shaped the present day labor movement. Particular attention will be placed on the rise of the national union; the recurrent debates over structure; the dynamics of the growth of the labor movement; and the impact of such forces as industrialism, urbanization, immigration, and internal migrations upon the American labor movement. Subject matter includes a historical look at the role of labor in the economy, internal union structure and administration, labor legislation, collective bargaining, the changing labor force, the union status of minorities and women, theories of the labor movement, and how what we have learned can help us address current labor issues.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
None	Placement out of CCS 098	None

Prerequisites

None

Methods of Evaluation

Students take a midterm and a final exam; both are mixed objective-essay exams. Students complete reading and writing assignments which which make use of both primary and secondary sources.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

Labor in America: A History, Author: Dubofsky. 9781118976852

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Critical Thinking and Information Literacy: Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate perspectives, evidence, and implications, and to locate, assess, and use information effectively.
- Global Awareness and Cultural Reasoning: Students will demonstrate their understanding of global issues, gender and sexual orientation, and multicultural perspectives.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Course Introduction: Origins of Labor Unions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss the history of labor unions beginning in the Middle Ages. 2. Describe the formation of the modern labor movement in the United States. 3. Examine the Market Revolution and early industrialization; describe and discuss the labor movement's impact on the economy. 	9	0	0
The Pre-Civil War Producers' Movement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe and discuss how and why labor legislation was formed, and its impact on social institutions. 	9	0	0
The Advent of Monopoly Capitalism, State Power, and the Crisis of the Producers' Movement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine the history of American labor theories and strategies. 	9	0	0
The Rise and Triumph of AFL Unionism	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe and examine labor's role in American politics. 2. Describe and discuss the effect the labor movement had on the working class, including the role of women and minorities in the movement. 	9	0	0
The Modern Labor Movement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine the American labor movement and unions in the late twentieth and early twenty-first century; discuss changes and challenges that have occurred. 	9	0	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
45	0	0