

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS 459

Trade Unionism
Fall 1990

Professor Zonderman

Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-4 pm
Thursdays 9:15-10:15 am
5213 Humanities
263-1972
263-1800

This course provides an overview of the development, organization, and function of trade unions in the United States. Drawing on a variety of disciplines such as labor history, labor law, industrial sociology, political science, and labor economics, we will explore the historical evolution, legal framework, internal structure, daily practice, economic impact, social composition, and political behavior of trade unions. We will pay close attention to how trade unions both shape contemporary American society and are shaped by forces from the society as well.

The following books are required reading for this course. They are available for purchase at the University Bookstore. There are also copies on reserve in the College Library, Helen C. White Hall.

Foster Rhea Dulles and Melvyn Dubofsky, Labor in America: A History

Marten Estey, The Unions

Richard B. Freeman and James L. Medoff, What Do Unions Do?

Additional readings are marked by the letter "P". They are available in a packet of photocopies for you to purchase at Kinko's (620 University Avenue). Copies are also on reserve at the College Library.

There will be three exams in this course, two during the semester and a final. Each exam will be take-home and open-book, based on short identifications and longer essay questions. The first exam will be distributed in class on Tuesday, October 9th; and it will be due in class on Thursday, October 18th. The second exam will be distributed in class on Thursday, November 8th; and it will be due in class on Tuesday, November 20th. The final exam will be distributed in class on Tuesday, December 4th; and it will be due in mailbox 5024, Humanities Building, at 12:25 pm on Sunday, December 16th. There will be no extensions for any of these due dates.

- September 4 Introduction to the Course
- History of Trade Unionism
- September 6 Origins of Trade Unionism
reading: Foster Rhea Dulles and Melvyn Dubofsky, Labor in America: A History, pp. 21-34, 51-69, 84-89, 95-100
- September 11 Emergence of National Unions: The Knights of Labor and the AFL
reading: Dulles and Dubofsky, pp. 120-156
- September 13 Unions in War and Peace
reading: Dulles and Dubofsky, pp. 215-237, 248-250
- September 18 Unions, the Depression, and the New Deal
reading: Dulles and Dubofsky, pp. 250-264, 272-312
- September 20 Jewish New Year--no class
- September 25 Unions in War and Peace (Again)
reading: Dulles and Dubofsky, pp. 313-342, 356-362
- September 27 The Great Bargain
reading: David Brody, Workers in Industrial America, pp. 173-214 (P)
- October 2 Collapse of the Post-War Industrial Order
reading: Dulles and Dubofsky, pp. 363-370, 378-380, 385-400
- Legal Framework of Trade Unionism
- October 4 Historical Struggle for Labor Law
reading: Dulles and Dubofsky, pp. 187-195, 240-241
Marten Estey, The Unions, pp. 104-111
- October 9 New Deal Labor Legislation
reading: Dulles and Dubofsky, pp. 264-271
Estey, pp. 112-115
- October 11 Institutionalization of Labor Law
reading: Dulles and Dubofsky, pp. 343-351, 370-371
Estey, pp. 117-129
- October 16 Contemporary Labor Law and Trade Unions
reading: Everett J. Burt, Labor in the American Economy, pp. 279-284 (P)
Estey, pp. 116-117

Social and Political Dynamics of Trade Unions

- November 29 Unions and the Changing Composition of the
American Workforce
 reading: Philip Foner, Organized Labor and the
Black Worker, pp. 397-424 (P)
 Ruth Milkman, "Women Workers,
Feminism, and the Labor Movement Since
the 1960s," (P)
- December 4 Unions and the Challenges of Affirmative Action
and Comparable Worth
 reading: Deborah E. Bell, "Unionized Women in
State and Local Government" (P)
 Burtt, pp. 254-256 (P)
 AFL-CIO Executive Council Report on
Civil Rights, 1975 (P)
- December 6 Unions as Political Institutions
 reading: Freeman and Medoff, pp. 191-206
- December 11 Unions in the American Political Arena
 reading: David Brody, Workers in Industrial
America, pp. 215-257 (P)
- December 13 Final Reflections on the Present and Future of
Trade Unionism
 reading: Freeman and Medoff, pp. 3-25, 221-251
- Final Exam due on Sunday, December 16th, 12:25 pm in mailbox
5024, Humanities Building. No extensions.