

**HIS 280**  
**History of the U.S. Working Class**

Satisfies: SBS, USA

Thematic Category: "Law, Politics & Social Justice"

M/W 2:30 PM - 3:50 PM

Professor Lori Flores

Through lectures, readings, and films, this course provides a broad overview of the historical trends and transformations that have shaped the lives of working-class men and women in the United States from the colonial period to the present, with an emphasis on the 20th and 21st centuries. Groups of workers studied include slaves, industrial and agricultural workers, fast food workers, high-tech assembly workers, private domestic labor, sex workers, sweatshop employees, and immigrant and guest laborers from around the world. Topics covered include the racialization and feminization of labor, capitalism and Marxism, unionization struggles, workplace tragedies, corporations and borders, and globalization. Course requirements include active class participation, reading response papers and quizzes throughout the semester, and a midterm and final exam.