



**→Spring 2018 Course offerings**  
**Bachelor of Arts & Minor in Labor Studies**  
**& Certificate in Labor Leadership**  
**UMASS BOSTON Labor Resource Center/CLA**

**Labor Studies Students** become involved in the most exciting campaigns of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, fighting for economic, racial, and gender equality, immigrant workers' rights, food and environmental justice, and a diverse and democratic labor movement.

**Labor Studies Graduates** are in high demand and go on to outstanding careers in labor unions, social justice organizations, legal and legislative work, government agencies, education, human and civil rights, public policy, social services, journalism, and communications.

**The Labor Studies Major/Minor** prepares students to understand the big issues facing society – growing inequality, low wages, discrimination, violence, etc. – while providing students with the practical and analytical skills necessary for not only finding jobs of their own, but advancing social and economic justice. Our interdisciplinary program examines the diversity of work and working-class experience, the changing nature of the workplace, and the past, present, and future of labor organizations, social movements, and conflicts.

- How do changes in the global economy affect work, the lives of working people, and the capacity of workers to effectively organize around the world?
- How and why have workers' rights changed across time and place? What is the relationship between workers' rights and human rights?
- What opportunities and challenges do workers face as the composition of the labor force changes in terms of race, gender, ethnicity, and nationality?
- What are effective methods of organizing by unions, labor organizations, and working people?

**Details of the requirements for the major and minor can be found at:**  
**[www.umb.edu/lrc](http://www.umb.edu/lrc)**

**For more information on the Labor Studies Program, contact**  
**[laborresourcecenter@umb.edu](mailto:laborresourcecenter@umb.edu) / 617-287-7267 / Wheatley 04-151**

# Spring 2018 Labor Studies Course Offerings

## **Labor 210L / Labor & Working Class History / Tues/Thurs 11:00AM–12:15PM**

This course explores the diversity of work and working-class experiences, the history of labor movements, labor conflicts, and the larger processes of social, economic, and political change that have affected work and workers. How have race and gender, immigration and ethnicity, family and community, as well as technology and public policy shaped working-class lives and political organizing across time and place?

## **Labor 222G / Labor and Migration / Tues/Thurs 2:00PM – 3:15PM**

This course explores the relationship between the experience of migration and the world of work. It pays particular attention to the effects of law and enforcement on immigrants' bargaining power at work.

## **Labor 315 / Labor and Community Organizing / Tues/Thurs 9:30AM–10:45AM**

This course explores the challenges facing communities throughout the world. Students will learn new methods and skills with a focus on community organizing and social justice. This will include skills to help communities utilize their resources. This course will be useful to any student who wishes to pursue organizing approaches to social justice.

## **Labor 320 / Union Administration / Weekend Intensive - contact us for dates**

This course will teach students the skills necessary to strengthen our unions. This course will be of interest to students and community leaders who want to build more effective organizations or become union leaders. Topics will include: legal requirements, financial management, personnel and human resources, and the role of technology in organizing stronger and democratic unions.

## **Labor 330 / Race, Class, and Gender at Work / Tues/Thurs 12:30PM – 1:45PM**

The workplace is the most important arena in which race, gender, and class inequality is created or reproduced. This class explores how these factors shape employees' experiences at work and in our communities. This class will also study how historic divisions have impacted inequality in the U.S., how work is changing in the US, how unions have responded to these changes in the workplace, and how unions, worker organizations, and public policy have or have not addressed these critical issues.

## **Labor 335 / Globalization and Labor / Thurs 5:30PM–8:15PM**

This course examines a number of global dynamics that have prevented trade unions and workers from developing world-wide solidarity; the negative impact these dynamics have had on the power, rights, and living conditions of workers; and current strategies to overcome these dynamics. In particular, the course focuses on critiquing and developing strategies whereby US workers can work to strengthen the rights of workers and unions outside of the United States, the importance of such strategies, and the difficulties of undertaking them.

## **Labor 340 / Field Placements in Workers' Organizations / Individual Study Option**

Students majoring or minoring in Labor Studies may elect to complete a field placement with a labor union or worker organization. Placements may include: Mass AFL-CIO, regional labor councils, or other unions. Placements may also include worker organizations such as: MassCOSH, Jobs with Justice and Community Labor United. This field placement is a wonderful opportunity to apply classroom knowledge in practice while gaining experience and networking in the labor movement.