

History 346
The Gilded Age
T - TH 11:00 - 12:20
GHH 108
Roger Williams University
Fall Semester 2011

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Hours: M, W, F, 11:00 - 12:00 T: 2-30 - 4:00
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Week of September 20, 2011

For ***Tuesday, September 20***

Many of you have been aware of the controversies surrounding immigration policy and "controlling our borders" which have flooded the news in the last several years. Nativism of one kind or another has been part of the American political and social scene for well over 160 years. It tends to be particularly vigorous during times of economic uncertainty.

All our resources for this class are on the Internet, and the variety is immense. By exploring this page you should find five links, four behind pictures and one in the text. Two of them are short summaries -- read all of each.

One is a book of gilded age pictures. Read as much as you can of the interspersed vignettes, but do look at all the pictures. If they don't move you check your pulse. Read all of the document linked by text, and as far as the jokes go, the instructions should be self-explanatory. I'll do show and tell to help explain all of this.

ASSIGNMENT: I want each of you to read or tell an ethnic story or joke from the book, **Choice Dialect**. I'll circulate a table of contents in class Thursday and ask people to initial two or three which seem of special interest to them. Read them, and let me know which is your final choice. Extra credit for trying a "Choice Dialect"

For ***Thursday, September 22***

Read, in Schlereth:

Chapter 2: Working, to sub-head Office Work and Service Jobs

pp. 33-66

Most of the mobility we discussed so far was not related to recreational touring, however. Whether people commuted or migrated, they did so in relation to work. We begin a study of working in the Gilded Age by taking a closer look at the factory at the turn of the century, especially the newer heavy industries organized on mammoth scales. Factories like these gave reason for the development of trolley systems to move laborers from home to work site. A bit later we'll look at recreational mobility, perhaps.