

# ATPL-2809: SPECIAL TOPICS: PLUMBING HERITAGE

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## Cuyahoga Community College

**Viewing: ATPL-2809 : Special Topics: Plumbing Heritage**

**Academic Term:**

Fall 2026

**Subject Code**

ATPL - Applied Ind Tech - Plumbers

**Course Number:**

2809

**Title:**

Special Topics: Plumbing Heritage

**Catalog Description:**

This course introduces the apprentices to labor history and the roles of the apprenticeship, apprentice, journeyman, local union and union contractors in the construction industry. The course will also discuss good work habits and skills needed to excel in the construction industry.

**Credit Hour(s):**

2

**Lecture Hour(s):**

2

### Outcomes

**Course Outcome(s):**

Explain the history and influence that the unionized labor movement has had on the construction industry.

**Objective(s):**

1. Identify the major eras in America's history regarding union labor
2. Describe the formation of the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters
3. Understand past and current local union representative structures.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Explain the roles of the apprenticeship and apprentices

**Objective(s):**

1. Describe the history of apprenticeship in its various forms
2. Understand currently what is required by federal and state regulations to complete an apprenticeship and why
3. Explain how the role of an apprentice regarding themselves, the union, and the contractor

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Describe the importance of the roles that journeymen, local union, and union contractors play in the construction world and to the apprentices.

**Objective(s):**

1. Identify how these partners can help or hurt an apprentice.
2. List the duties that these partners have to each other and the construction industry.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Describe the good work habits and skills needed for the construction trades.

**Objective(s):**

1. List traits that allow an apprentice to excel in construction
  2. Understand what traits in themselves will help or impair them to succeed in the apprenticeship
  3. Identify ways to improve impairment traits.
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**Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Participation
2. Attendance
3. Assignments
4. Exams/quizzes

**Course Content Outline:**

1. History of the Labor Movement
  - a. Major Era's in Time
    - i. Pre-1900's
    - ii. 1900 – 1950's
    - iii. 1960's – Present
  - b. Formation of the United Association
    - i. History of different Pipe Trade Unions
    - ii. Combining of Pipe Trade Unions
    - iii. History of the AFL-CIO
  - c. Local Unions
    - i. History of Local Union
    - ii. Representatives of the Local Union
    - iii. Constitution and By-laws
1. Apprentices and Apprenticeships
  - a. Apprenticeships history
    - i. Middle Ages
    - ii. Industrial Revolution
    - iii. Present
  - b. Regulations
    - i. Federal
    - ii. State
    - iii. Local Union
  - c. Role of Apprenticeship
    - i. Education and Training
    - ii. Provide Journeypersons
      1. Local union
      2. Contractor
1. Roles of Journeypersons, Local Union and Contractors
  - a. Helping Apprenticeships/Apprentices
    - i. Pay for Training
    - ii. Experience
    - iii. Safety
    - iv. Representation
  - b. Duties to each Other
    - i. 8 hours of work
    - ii. Safety
    - iii. Collectively Bargain
    - iv. Professionalism
2. Work related Skills and Traits
  - a. Good Traits/Skills
    - i. Hard working
    - ii. Eager to Learn
    - iii. Attitude
    - iv. Communication

- b. Identify Traits in Themselves
- c. Changes to Harmful Traits

### Religious Accommodation

Before reviewing the course schedule, students should carefully review the following religious accommodation policy and other required instructional policies:

#### Religious Accommodation:

Students seeking an accommodation for absences permitted under Ohio's Testing Your Faith Act must provide the instructor with written notice of the specific dates for which the student requires an accommodation and must do so not later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of instruction. Please submit requests for accommodations at this link: [https://portal2.tri-c.edu/ReligiousAccommodation/Religious Accommodation Form](https://portal2.tri-c.edu/ReligiousAccommodation/ReligiousAccommodationForm). Students with questions about their religious accommodations under Ohio's Testing Your Faith Act may contact the College's Office of General Counsel and Legal Services by phone at 216.987.4856 or via email at [legal@tri-c.edu](mailto:legal@tri-c.edu).

#### Other Required Instructional Policies:

<https://www.tri-c.edu/student-resources/curriculum/documents/syllabus-part-b.pdf>

### Weekly Schedule

	Topics
Week 1	Introduction to the Labor Movement
Week 2	Labor Movement Before 1900
Week 3	Labor Movement 1900–1950
Week 4	Labor Movement 1960s–Present
Week 5	History of Pipe Trade Unions
Week 6	History of Pipe Trade Unions
Week 7	Combining Pipe Trade Unions
Week 8	History of the AFL-CIO (American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations)
Week 9	Local Unions and Their History
Week 10	Local Union Representatives and Structure
Week 11	Union Constitution and By-Laws
Week 12	History of Apprenticeships
Week 13	Modern Apprenticeship and Regulations
Week 14	Roles of Apprentices, Journeypersons, and Contractors
Week 15	Safety, Training, and Professional Duties
Week 16	Work Habits, Skills, and Personal Traits

The Course Schedule is subject to change due to pedagogical needs, instructor discretion, parts of term, and unexpected events.

### Required/Recommended Readings

Instructor-provided materials

### Resources for the Instructor

United Association Training Department. *Your Heritage and Future in the Pipe Trades*. Annapolis, MD: United Association, [www.ua.org/training](http://www.ua.org/training)

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Dubofsky, Melvyn, and McCartin. *Labor in America: A History*. 10th ed. Wiley-Blackwell, 2025.

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### Additional Resources for the Instructor

[www.ua.org](http://www.ua.org) (<https://catalog.tri-c.edu/www.ua.org>)

[www.ua.org/training](http://www.ua.org/training) (<https://catalog.tri-c.edu/www.ua.org/training/>)

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