

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
SUMMER 1989
June 19 - July 16

HISTORY 406
Mr. Schultz

AMERICAN CULTURAL HISTORY, 1860 - PRESENT

Texts:

Edward Bellamy, Looking Backward
John Hope Franklin (ed.), Three Negro Classics
Sinclair Lewis, Babbitt
Richard Schickel, The Disney Version
Readings Packet (available at Kinko's)

Assignments and Examinations:

There will be a "mid-term" examination, scheduled for June 29, and a final examination, scheduled for July 13. Class members who wish to do so may write a short (4-8 double-spaced, typewritten pages) essay-review based on additional reading on a subject of their choice, in lieu of taking the mid-term examination. Selections of appropriate books may be taken from the appended bibliography or made after consultation with the instructor. Those papers will be due no later than the day of the final, although the instructor encourages students to complete that assignment earlier in the course if possible. **IMPORTANT NOTICE:** *University penalties for plagiarism can be severe. The paper must represent your own work, and all quoted or closely paraphrased material in a paper must be attributed clearly to the original source.*

Course Outline and Readings

	<u>DATE</u>	
I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u> Culture, Popular Culture, and History	June	19
II. <u>THE CULTURE OF AMERICAN SPACE AND TIME</u>		
1. The Wests and the Frontier/ Forms and Formulas in Popular Thought--the Western Reading: Ingraham, "Adventures of Buffalo Bill" - packet	June	20
2. The Rise of the City/ The Utopian City of the Future in Fiction Reading: Bellamy, <u>Looking Backward</u>	June	21
3. The Rise of the Suburbs/ Suburban Culture	June	22
III. <u>THE CULTURE OF NEIGHBORS AND STRANGERS</u>		
1. Foreign Immigration in American Society/ Acculturation and Assimilation in Popular Theater Reading: Vaudeville - packet	June	26
2. Blacks in White American Society/ Images of Blacks in Popular Culture Reading: One of the <u>Three Negro Classics</u> (your choice)	June	27

3. Women's America/
Changing Stereotypes in Popular Culture June 28

Examination, June 29

- IV. THE CULTURE OF SUCCESS AND CRISIS
1. The Success Syndrome in American Society/
Rags to Respectability in Popular Culture July 3
Reading: Alger, "Adrift in New York" - packet
2. The "New Era" of Prosperity, the 1920s/
Cultural Images of the Businessman (Movie) July 5
Reading: Lewis, Babbitt
3. The Great Depression, the 1930s/
Images in the Popular Culture July 6
- V. THE CULTURE OF MASS MEDIA
1. The Graphic Revolution/
Life Imitates Art at the Movies July 10
Reading: Schickel, The Disney Version
2. The Sounds of Social Change in Music/
Sheet Music and Changing Values (Guest) July 11
Reading: Mooney, "Popular Music Since the 1920s"- packet
3. American Society Through the Comics July 12

Examination, July 13

American Popular Culture, 1860 to the Present

Selected Bibliography

GENERAL WORKS

- Ray B. Browne (ed.), POPULAR CULTURE AND THE EXPANDING CONSCIOUSNESS (1973).
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Russel Nye, THE UNEMBARRASSED MUSE: THE POPULAR ARTS IN AMERICA (1970).
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THE PRINTED WORD

- Maxwell H. Bloomfield, ALARMS AND DIVERSIONS: THE AMERICAN MIND THROUGH AMERICAN MAGAZINES, 1900-1914 (1967).
James D. Hart, THE POPULAR BOOK (1961).
Dorothy C. Hockey, THE GOOD AND THE BEAUTIFUL: A STUDY OF BEST-SELLING NOVELS IN AMERICA, 1865-1920 (1947).
Albert Johannsen, THE HOUSE OF BEADLE AND ADAMS (2 vols., 1950).
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Charles Madison, BOOK PUBLISHING IN AMERICA (1966).
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Mary Noel, VILLAINS GALORE: THE HEYDAY OF THE POPULAR STORY WEEKLY (1954).
Raymond H. Shore, CHEAP BOOK PRODUCTION IN THE UNITED STATES, 1870-1891 (1937).
Ron Goulart, AN INFORMAL HISTORY OF THE PULP MAGAZINE (1972).
Frank Luther Mott, AMERICAN JOURNALISM (3d ed., 1962).

THE DETECTIVE NOVEL

- John Ball (ed.), THE MYSTERY STORY (1978).
 Hannah Charrey, THIS MORTAL COIL: THE DETECTIVE NOVEL OF MANNERS (1980).
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 Howard Haycraft, MURDER FOR PLEASURE: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE MYSTERY STORY (1941).
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 Julian Symons, MORTAL CONSEQUENCES (1972).
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THE WESTERN

- E. Douglas Branch, THE COWBOY AND HIS INTERPRETERS (1926).
 John G. Cawelti, THE SIX-GUN MYSTIQUE (1975).
 Philip Durham, "The Negro Cowboy," AMERICAN QUARTERLY, VII (Fall, 1955), 291-301.
 James K. Folsom, THE AMERICAN WESTERN NOVEL (1966).
 Joe B. Frantz, THE AMERICAN COWBOY: MYTH AND REALITY (1955).
 W. R. Hutchinson, "Virgins, Villains, and Varmints," HUNTINGTON LIBRARY QUARTERLY, XVI (Aug., 1953), 381-93.
 Joseph G. Rose, THE GUNFIGHTER: MAN OR MYTH? (1968).
 William W. Savage, Jr., THE COWBOY HERO: HIS IMAGE IN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE (1979).

SCIENCE FICTION

- Kingsley Amis, NEW MAPS OF HELL (1960).
 J. O. Bailey, PILGRIMS THROUGH SPACE AND TIME (1947).
 Reginald Bretnor, MODERN SCIENCE FICTION (1953).
 Basil Davenport, AN INQUIRY INTO SCIENCE FICTION (1955).
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 Sam Moscovitz, EXPLORERS OF THE INFINITE (1963).
 Sam Moscovitz, SEEKERS OF TOMORROW (1966).
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COMICS

- Stephen Becker, COMIC ART IN AMERICA (1960).
Arthur Asa Berger, THE COMIC-STRIPPED AMERICAN (1973).
Pierre Couperie, Maurice Horn, et al., A HISTORY OF
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David Manning White and Robert Abel (eds.), THE FUNNIES
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POPULAR THEATER

- Lehman Engel, THE AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATER (1967).
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John T. Howard, STEPHEN FOSTER: AMERICA'S TROUBADOUR (1962).
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MOVIE SERIAL (1964).
George C. Pratt, SPELLBOUND IN DARKNESS: A HISTORY OF THE
SILENT FILM (rev. ed., 1973).
Terry Ramsaye, A MILLION AND ONE NIGHTS (reprint, 1964).
Richard Schickel, THE DISNEY VERSION (1968).
Robert Sklar, MOVIE-MADE AMERICA: A CULTURAL HISTORY
OF AMERICAN MOVIES (1975).

MUSIC

- Christine Ammer, UNSUNG: A HISTORY OF WOMEN IN AMERICAN
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R. Serge Denisoff and Richard A. Peterson (eds.), THE
SOUNDS OF SOCIAL CHANGE (1972).
David Ewen, AMERICAN POPULAR SONGS (1966).
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Larry Freeman, THE MELODIES LINGER ON (1951).
Charlie Gillett, THE SOUND OF THE CITY: THE RISE OF
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Robert Shelton and Burt Goldblatt, THE COUNTRY MUSIC
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RADIO AND TELEVISION

- Eric Barnouw, A TOWER IN BABEL: A HISTORY OF BROADCASTING
IN THE UNITED STATES TO 1933 (1966).
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Jim Harmon, THE GREAT RADIO HEROES (1967).
Mary Jane Higby, TUNE IN TOMORROW (1968).
Gilbert Seldes, THE GREAT AUDIENCE (1956).
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THE SUCCESS ETHIC

- John G. Cawelti, APOSTLES OF THE SELF-MADE MAN: CHANGING CONCEPTS OF SUCCESS IN AMERICA (1965).
- Lawrence Chenoweth, THE AMERICAN DREAM OF SUCCESS: THE SEARCH FOR SELF IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY (1974).
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1840s many Americans became interested in his ideas, people should share work and living arrangements in these, movement died out quickly. Charles Fourier. French socialist who advocated sharing work and living arrangements. Americans adapted classical Greek styles during Jacksonian era to glorify the democratic spirit of the republic, columned facades graced entryways. Literature. many writers along with Transcendentalists helped to create a distinctly American type, became more nationalistic and eager to read works of American writers about American themes. American culture "our entertainment, our art, and our creative expressions of daily life" has the power to captivate, inspire, and transform us. It brings us together "we share it when we spontaneously recite lines from a favorite movie, dance to the same groove, or recreate a national sports moment on a neighborhood street. It enables us to understand and appreciate our differences" some of the most vital expansions of our democracy, in fact, gained ground through pivotal cultural moments. It spurs important conversations, and can foster important historical change. The National Museum of America... Reader view. 1860-1870. By: Mike Reen. Bibliography. 1860. Homestead Bill. Bill made to encourage settlement towards the west. The Science. Conversational Presenting. For Business. For Education. This article only provides links to specialized topics. This includes knowledge, customs, and arts of Americans; and events in the social, cultural, and political spheres. Counterculture of the 1960s. Cuisine of the United States. Society. Race and ethnicity in the United States. African-American culture. Demographic history of the United States. Society of the United States. History of education in the United States. History of women in the United States. United States religious history.