

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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THE PRINTED WORD

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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).
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THE DETECTIVE NOVEL

- John Ball (ed.), THE MYSTERY STORY (1978).
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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).
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 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).
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 Sam Moscovitz, SEEKERS OF TOMORROW (1966).
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- Stephen Becker, COMIC ART IN AMERICA (1960).
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- Lehman Engel, THE AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATER (1967).
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MUSIC

- Christine Ammer, UNSUNG: A HISTORY OF WOMEN IN AMERICAN
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RADIO AND TELEVISION

- Eric Barnouw, A TOWER IN BABEL: A HISTORY OF BROADCASTING
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THE SUCCESS ETHIC

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