Fall 2020 Professor Steve Ross

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SOS 250 Office Hrs: Monday, 1-2pm & by apptmt

***HISTORY 587: STUDIES IN THE POLITICS OF AMERICAN POPULAR CULTURE***

**Seminar Focus**: This course explores selected themes, theories, debates, and key works in the politics of American popular culture. We will focus on analyzing the ways in which mass and popular culture have simultaneously reflected and shaped the nature of social, economic, and political life from the late 19th century to the present. We will also look at the power and powerlessness of audiences to affect the political content of various modes of culture. Finally, the course will examine movies, radio, television, music, etc. not simply as cultural artifacts but as products made in workplaces. To what extent did changes in the economic structure of various culture industries affect the nature of their products?

The most effective way to get a tenure track job is by writing a dissertation that “moves” a field forward rather than simply fills in “gaps.” But to do so, one needs to understand the evolution of a field. To that end, I have organized readings to reflect the evolution in scholarly thinking about popular and mass culture—especially scholarship since the 1980s. We will see how addressing one set of issues raises a whole range of new questions and concerns. The course ends with a focus on the transnational character of American Popular Culture. The books listed in seminar reviews are intended to provide a basis for forming a reading list in the field.

**Seminar Organization**: Seminars will examine (1) the general issues and debates surrounding the week's main themes; (2) how the common core readings fit into the overall scheme of things; and (3) how we might take scholarship in the area a step further. It is strongly recommended that you read major reviews of the week's main text. **PLEASE**, leave yourself time to **think about and synthesize** **the week's reading!** Coming prepared to a graduate seminar means more than just finishing the reading. You need to have a critical take on what **you think** about the week’s themes and issues and how the author handles them—or does not.

 Seminar participants are responsible for **3 written reviews** and **2 oral presentations** (1 review will be of week's readings; the other two are drawn from seminar review list). The reviews (4-5 single spaced pages) should (a) discuss the general context/historiography the book falls within; (b) layout its arguments and theses; (c) critique the book; (d) offer your own reflections. I will distribute a handout describing how to write a seminar review. You can substitute a bibliographic essay for the last review.

Grading: Approximately 50% will be written work and 50% seminar participation. The latter means comes prepared each week to engage in a critical discussion.

**Required Texts**

John Storey *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture: An Introduction* (8th ed)

Lawrence Levine *Highbrow/Lowbrow: Emergence of Cultural Hierarchy in America*

John Kasson *Amusing the Million: Coney Island at the Turn of the Century*

Kathy Peiss *Cheap Amusements: Working Women & Leisure in…NY*

Steven Ross *Working-Class Hollywood: Silent Film & Shaping Class America*

Susan Douglas *Listening In: Radio and the American Imagination*

Michael Denning *The Cultural Front: The Laboring of Am Culture 20th Century*

Lynn Spigel *Welcome to the Dreamhouse: Popular Media & Postwar Suburbs*

Eric Avila *Pop Culture in the Age of White Flight: Fear and Fantasy in Suburban LA*

Peter La Chapelle *Proud to Be an Okie: Cultural Politics, Country Music, &…So Cal*

Craig Werner *A Change Is Gonna Come: Music, Race & The Soul of America*

Lizabeth Cohen *A Consumer's Republic: Politics Mass Consumption Postwar Am*

Steven J. Ross *Hollywood Left and Right: How Movie Stars Shaped Am. Politics*

Victoria DeGrazia *Irresistible Empire: America’s Advance Through the 20th Century*

**JOURNAL ABBREVIATIONS**

AHR = American Historical Review HJFRT= Historical Journal of Film, Radio & TV

RAH = Reviews in American History JAH = Journal of American History

JAH = Journal of American History RHR = Radical History Review

**Aug 17: Introduction**

**Aug 24: Debates Over the Meaning & Politics of Popular & Mass Culture**

John Storey, *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture* (8th edition)

Raymond Williams, "Base and Superstructure in Marxist Cultural Theory,” *New Left Review* I/82, November-December 1973 [copy will be provided by Prof Ross]

T. Jackson Lears, "The Concept of Cultural Hegemony: Problems and Possibilities," *AHR*, 90 (June 1985), 567-93 [JSTOR]

**Seminar Reviews**

Michael Kammen, American Culture American Tastes: Social Change & the 20th Century

Andrew Ross, No Respect: Intellectuals and Popular Culture

John Fiske, Understanding Popular Culture

Meaghan Morris, Too Soon Too Late: History in Popular Culture

Bryan Palmer, Descent into Discourse

Theodor Adorno and Max Horkheimer, Dialectic of Enlightenment

Walter Benjamin, The Work of Art in the Age of Its Technological Reproducibility

M.J. Rymsza-Pawlowska, History Comes Alive: Public History and Popular Culture in the 1970

**Aug. 31: Creating an Elite Culture: Segmenting Leisure**

Jurgen Habermas, "The Public Sphere," in Chandra Mukerji and Michael Schudson, *Rethinking Popular Culture*, 398-404 [copy will be provided by Prof Ross]

Lawrence Levine, *Highbrow/Lowbrow*

Paul DiMaggio, "Cultural Entrepreneurship in Nineteenth-Century Boston," in Mukerji and Schudson, *Rethinking Popular Culture*, 374-97 [copy will be provided by Prof Ross]

**Seminar Reviews**

Patricia Johnson, ed., Seeing High & Low: Representing Social Conflict in Am.Visual Culture

Alexander Saxton, The Rise and Fall of the White Republic: Class, Politics & Mass Culture in 19e America

Roy Rosenzweig, Eight Hours For What We Will

Elliot Gorn, The Manly Art: Bare Knuckle Prize-Fighting in America

Steven Riess, City Games: The Evolution of Am Urban Society & the Rise of Sports

Sven Beckert, The Monied Metropolis: NYC & Consolidation of the Am Bourgeoisie, 1850-1896

Peter Hall, The Organization of American Culture, 1700-1900

**Sept 7: NO CLASS: LABOR DAY**

**Sept 14: Rise of Commercial Entertainment: Views From Above and Below**

Julia Guarneri, “Popular Culture,” in Christopher M. Nichols and Nancy C. Unger, A Companion to the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*,* pp. 190-202 (available on line thru USC Libraries: https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/socal/reader.action?docID=4788068)

John Kasson, Amusing the Million

Kathy Peiss, Cheap Amusements

**Seminar Reviews**

Daniel T. Rodgers, The Work Ethic in Industrial America 1850-1920

Nicholas Gebhardt, Vaudeville Melodies: Popular Music and Mass Entertainment in American Culture 1870-1929

Chad Heap, Slumming: Sexual and Racial Encounters in American Nightlife, 1885-1940

Alison Kibler, Rank Ladies: Gender and Cultural Hierarchy in Am Vaudeville

Robert Allen, Horrible Prettiness: Burlesque and American Culture

Robert Snyder, The Voice of the City: Vaudeville & Popular Culture in NY 1880-1930

Nadine George-Graves, The Royalty of Negro Vaudeville: The Whitman Sisters & the Negotiations of Race, Gender and Class in African American Theater 1900-40

Bluford Adams, E Pluribus Barnum: The Great Showman and the Making of US Popular Culture

Paul Reddin, Wild West Shows

David Nasaw, Going Out: The Rise & Fall of Public Amusements

Nan Enstad, Ladies of Leisure, Girls of Adventure: Working Women, Popular Culture, & Labor Politics at the Turn of the 20th Century

Lauren Rabinovitz, For the Love of Pleasure: Women, Movies...Chicago

Shelly Stamp, Movie-Struck Girls: Women and Motion Picture Culture After the Nickelodeon

Woody Register, The Kid of Coney Island: Fred Thompson and the Rise of Am Amusements

Judith Adams, ed., The American Amusement Park Industry

Burton Peretti, Nightclub City: Politics and Amusement in Manhattan

Linda Tomko, Dancing Class: Gender, Ethnicity and Social Divides in Am Dance 1890-1920

Lewis Erenberg, Steppin' Out: NY Night Life & the Transformation of Am Culture 1890-1930

Sue Porter Benson, Counter Cultures: Saleswomen, Managers, & Customers in American Department Stores 1890-1940

Kathy Peiss, Hope in a Jar: The Making of America’s Beauty Culture

**Sept 21: Materialism & Movies: How Hollywood Became Hollywood**

Robert Sklar, "Oh! Althusser! Historiography and the Rise of Cinema Studies," in Sklar and Musser, *Resisting Images*, 12-35 [see online version web.grinnell.edu/courses/spn/s02/spn395-01/raf/raf09/raf0902.pdf]

Steven J. Ross, “American Workers, American Movies: Historiography and Methodology,” *International Labor and Working-Class History,* 59, Workers and Film: As Subject and Audience (Spring 2001): 81-105.

Steven Ross, *Working-Class Hollywood: Silent Film and the Shaping of Class in America*

**Seminar Reviews**

Laura Serna, Making Cinelandia: Am Films and Mexican Film Culture before the Golden Age

Robert Jackson, Fade In, Crossroads: A History of the Southern Cinema

Richard Abel, Americanizing the Movies and “Movie-Mad” Audiences, 1910-1914

Richard Butsch, The Making of American Audiences: From Stage to TV 1750-1990

Kathryn Fuller At the Picture Show: Small-Town America & the Creation of Movie Fan Culture

Gregory Waller, Main Street Amusements: Movies …in a Southern City, 1896-1930

Shelley Stamp, Movie-Struck Girls: Women and Motion Picture Culture After the Nickelodeon

Melvyn Stokes, Richard Maltby, eds., American Movie Audiences: Turn of the Century to the Early Sound Era

Melvyn Stokes and Richard Maltby, eds., Hollywood Spectatorship: Changing Perceptions of Cinema Audiences

Melvyn Stokes and Richard Maltby, eds., Identifying Hollywood's Audiences: Cultural Identity and the Movies

Richard Maltby, Melvyn Stokes, and Robert C. Allen, eds., Going to the Movies: Hollywood and the Social Experience of the Cinema

VanessaSchwartz and Leo Charney, eds., Cinema and the Invention of Modern Life

Lary May, Screening Out the Past

Robert Sklar, Movie-Made America

Kay Sloan, Loud Silents: Origins of the Social Problem Film

Karen Mahar, Women Filmmakers in Early Hollywood

Jane Gaines, Pink Slipped: What Happened to Women in the Silent Film Industries?

Mark Garrett Cooper, Universal Women: Filmmaking and Institutional Change in Early Hollywood

Shelly Stamp, Lois Weber in Early Hollywood

Cari Beauchamp, Without Lying Down: Frances Marion and the Powerful Women of Early Hollywood

Kevin Brownlow, Behind the Mask of Innocence: Films of Social Conscience

Peter Stead, Film and the Working Class: Feature Film in British & Am Society

John Bodnar, Blue-Collar Hollywood: Liberalism, Democracy, and Working People in Am Film

Mike Nielsen and Gene Mailes, Hollywood’s Other Blacklist: Union Struggles in the Studio System

Danae Clark, Negotiating Hollywood: The Cultural Politics of Actors’ Labor

Emily Carman, Independent Stardom: Freelance Women in the Hollywood Studio System

Christopher Beach, Class, Language and American Film Comedy

Francis Couvares, ed. Movie Censorship and American Culture

Thomas Doherty, Pre-Code Hollywood: Sex, Immorality … in Am Cinema 1930-1934

Gregory Black, Hollywood Censored: Morality Codes, Catholics & the Movies

Jennifer Fronc, Monitoring the Movies: Fight Over Film Censorship in Early 20th Century Am

Sumiko Higashi, Cecile B. DeMille & American Culture: The Silent Era

Robert Sklar and Charles Musser, eds. Resisting Images: Essays on Cinema and History

David James & Rick Berg, eds., The Hidden Foundation: Cinema & the Question of Class

Thomas Cripps, Slow Fade to Black: The Negro in American Film 1900-1942

Cara Caddoo, Envisioning Freedom: Cinema and the Building of Modern Black Life.

Jacqueline Stewart, Migrating to the Movies: Cinema and Black Urban Modernity

Daniel Bernardi, ed., The Birth of Whiteness: Race and the Emergence of U.S. Cinema

David Ehrenstein, Open Secret: Gay Hollywood 1928-1998

Diana McLellan, The Girls: Sappho Goes to Hollywood

**Sept 28: The Popular Front: Rethinking Culture and Politics of the 1930s-1940s**

Lizabeth Cohen, “Encountering Mass Culture,” in Making a New Deal, pp. 99-158

Michael Denning, *The Cultural Front*

**Seminar Reviews**

Warren Susman, Culture As History: The Transformation of Am Society in the 20e

Morris Dickstein, Dancing in the Dark: A Cultural History of the Great Depression

Bill Mullen, Popular Fronts: Chicago & African-Am Cultural Politics 1935-46

Caren Irr, The Suburb of Dissent: Cultural Politics in the US & Canada During the 1930s

Lewis Erenberg, Swingin’ The Dream: Big Band Jazz & the Rebirth of Am Culture

Ellen Graff, Stepping Left: Dance and Politics in New York City 1928-42

Burton W. Peretti**,** Nightclub City: Politics and Amusement in Manhattan

Brenda Gottschild Waltzing in the Dark: Af. Am.Vaudeville &Race Politics in the Swing Era

Burton Peretti, The Creation of Jazz: Music, Race, and Culture in Urban America

Bill Mullen & Sherry Lee Linkon, eds., Radical Revisions: Rereading 1930s Culture

Michael Staub, Voices of Persuasion: Politics of Representation in 1930s Am

Paul Gilmore, The Genuine Article: Race, Mass Culture and Am Literary Manhood

Jonathan Shandall, The American Negro Theater and the Long Civil Rights Era

Richard Pells, Radical Visions & Am. Dreams: Culture & Social Thought in Depression Years

Barbara Melosh, Engendering Culture: Manhood & Womanhood in New Deal Public Art & Theatre

Susan Quinn, The Furious Improvisation: How the WPA and a Cast of Thousands Made High Art out of Desperate Times

John Bodnar, [Blue-Collar Hollywood: Liberalism, Democracy, & Working People in Am. Film](http://www.amazon.com/Blue-Collar-Hollywood-Liberalism-Democracy-American/dp/080188537X/ref%3Dsr_1_6?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1219515226&sr=1-6)

Lary May, The Big Tomorrow: [Hollywood and the Politics of the American Way](http://www.amazon.com/Big-Tomorrow-Hollywood-Politics-American/dp/0226511634/ref%3Dsr_1_2?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1219515311&sr=1-2)

Sam Girgus, Hollywood Renaissance: Cinema of Democracy in Era of Ford, Capra, and Kazan

Michael E. Birdwell, Celluloid Soldiers: Warner Bros.’s Campaign Against Nazism

Steven J. Ross, Hitler in Los Angeles: How Jews Foiled Nazi Plots Against Hollywood and Am

Saverio Giovacchini, Hollywood Modernism: Film and Politics in the Age of the New Deal

Otto Friedrich, City of Nets: A Portrait of Hollywood in the 1940’s

Nick Roddick, A New Deal in Entertainment: Warner Brothers in the 1930s

Richard Maltby, Harmless Entertainment: Hollywood & Ideology of Consensus

Michael Rogin, Blackface, White Noise: Jewish Immigrants in the Hollywood Melting Pot

Gerald Horne, Class Struggle in Hollywood, 1930-1950

Larry Ceplair, Steven Englund, The Inquisition in Hollywood: Politics in the Film Community

Kenneth Billingsley, Hollywood Party: How Communism Seduced the American Film Industry in the 1930s and 1940s

William Alexander, Film On the Left: Am Documentary Film From 1931 to 1942

Russell Campbell, The Cinema Strikes Back: Radical Filmmaking in the US 1930-1942

**Oct 5: Materialism, Politics, and the Rise of Radio**

Susan Douglas, *Listening In: Radio and the American Imagination, from Amos N Andy and Edward R. Murrow*

Nathan Godfried, "The Origins of Labor Radio: WCFL, the 'Voice of Labor,' 1925-1928, *HJFRT*, 7 (1987), 143-59 [JSTOR]

Derek Vaillant, “Sounds of Whiteness: Local Radio, Racial Formation, and Public Culture in Chicago, 1921-35,” *AQ*, 54 (March 2002), 25-66 [Project Muse]

**Seminar Reviews**

David Goodman, Radio’s Civic Ambition: American Broadcasting and Democracy in the 1930s

Susan Smuylan, Selling Radio: The Commercialization of American Broadcasting, 1920-1934

Susan Douglas, Inventing American Broadcasting

Elena Razlogova, The Listener’s Voice

Derek Valiant, Across the Waves: How the United States and France Shaped the International Age of Radio

Cynthia B. Meyers, A Word From Our Sponsor: Admen, Advertising & the Golden Age of Radio

Michael Stamm, Sound Business: Newspapers, Radio, and the Politics of New Media

Robert McChesney, Telecommunications, Mass Media, and Democracy: The Battle for Control of US Broadcasting, 1928-1935

Nathan Godfried, WCFL: Chicago's Voice of Labor, 1926-78

Kathy Newman, Radio Active: Advertising and Consumer Activism, 1935-1947

## Elizabeth Fones-Wolf, Waves of Opposition: Labor and the Struggle for Democratic Radio

Elizabeth Fones-Wolf, Selling Free Enterprise: The Business Assault on Labor and Liberalism, 1945-60

Erik Barnouw, A Tower in Babel: A History of Broadcasting in the US to 1933

Kathryn H. Fuller-Seeley, Jack Benny and the Golden Age of Radio

Philip Rosen, The Modern Stentors: Radio Broadcasters & the Federal Govt, 1920-34

J. Fred MacDonald, Don't Touch That Dial: Radio Programming in Am.Life from 1920 to 1960

Lawrence Bergreen, Look Now, Pay Later: The Rise of Network Broadcasting

Wm. Solomon and Robert McChesney, eds., Ruthless Criticism: New Perspectives on US Communication History

Douglas Craig, Fireside Politics: Radio and Political Culture in the US, 1920-40

Louis Cantor, Wheelin' on Beale: How WDIA-Memphis Became the Nation's First All-Black Radio Station and Created the Sound that Changed America

Barbara D. Savage, Broadcasting Freedom: Radio, War, and the Politics of Race 1938-1948

Matthew Lasar, Pacifica Radio: The Rise of an Alternative Network

**Oct 12: TV, Film, & the Politics of Collective Memory**

Lynn Spigel, *Welcome to the Dreamhouse: Popular Media & Postwar Suburbs*

George Lipsitz, “The Meaning of Memory: Family, Class, and Ethnicity in Early Network Television,” in *Time Passages: Collective Memory and American Popular Culture*, 39-75

Todd Gitlin, "Television's Screens: Hegemony in Transition," in Lazere, *American Media*, 240-63

**Seminar Reviews**

Herman Gray, Watching Race: Television and the Struggle for Blackness

Beretta E. Smith-Shomade, ed., Watching While Black: Centering the Television of Black Audiences

Todd Gitlin, ed. Watching Television

James Baughman, The Republic of Mass Culture: Journalism, Filmmaking, and Broadcasting in America Since 1941

Gary R. Edgerton and Peter Rollins, ed., Television Histories: Shaping Collective Memory in the Media Age

Sarah Banet-Weiser, Cynthia Chris, and Anthony Freitas, Cable Visions: Television Beyond Broadcasting

Andrea Press, Women Watching Television: Gender, Class, and Generation in the American Television Experience

Ella Taylor, Prime Time Families: Television Culture in Postwar America

Sasha Torres, Black, White and In Color: Television and Black Civil Rights (2003)

Raymond Williams, Television: Technology & Cultural Form

George Lipsitz, Time Passages: Collective Memory and American Popular Culture

Anna McCarthy, Ambient Television: Visual Culture and Public Space

Lynn Spigel, Make Room for TV: Television & the Family Ideal in Postwar Am

Lynn Spigel & Denise Mann, eds, Private Screenings: TV & the Female Consumer

Charles L. Ponce de Leon, That’s the Way It Is: A History of Television News in America

Erik Barnouw, Tube of Plenty

Nancy Bernhard, US Television News and Cold War Propaganda

Christopher Anderson, Hollywood TV: The Studio System in the Fifties

William Boddy, Fifties Television: The Industry and Its Critics

Thomas Streeter, Selling the Air: A Critique of the Policy of Commercial Broadcasting in the US

Allison Graham, Framing the South: Hollywood, TV, & Race During the Civil Rights Struggle

Aniko Bodroghkozy, Groove Tube: Sixties Television and the Youth Rebellion

Gary R. Edgerton, ed., Television Histories: Shaping Collective Memory in the Media Age

Robert C. Allen, ed., Channels of Discourse, Reassembled: Television & Contemporary Criticism

Joseph Keeley, The Left-Leaning Antenna: Political Bias in Television

Paul Buhle, Dave Wagner, Hide In Plain Sight: The Hollywood Blacklistees in Film and Television, 1950-2002

Thomas Doherty, Show Trial: Hollywood, HUAC, and the Birth of the Blacklist

**Oct 19: Race, Class, Identity, and Pop Culture of Postwar Los Angeles**

Eric Avila, *Pop Culture in the Age of White Flight: Fear and Fantasy in Suburban Los Angeles*

**Seminar Reviews**

Kirse Granat May, Golden State, Golden Youth: The Calif Image in Popular Culture, 1955-1966

Lawrence Culver, Frontier of Leisure: Southern California and the Shaping of Modern America

Julian Capo Jr, Welcome to Fairyland: Queer Miami Before 1940

Joanne Meyerowitz, Not June Cleaver: Women and Gender in Postwar Am., 1945-1960

Susan Douglas, Where the Girls Are: Growing Up in the 1950s-1960s

Elaine Tyler May, Homeward Bound: American Families in the Cold War Era

Nina Liebman, Living Room Lectures: The Fifties Family in Film and Television

Daniel Horowitz, Betty Friedan and the Making of *The Feminine Mystique*: The American Left, The Cold War, and Modern Feminism

George Lipsitz, Rainbow at Midnight: Class & Culture in Cold War America

Grace Palladino, Teenagers: An American History

James B. Gilbert, A Cycle of Outrage: America's Reaction to the Juvenile Delinquent in 1950s

Thomas Doherty, Teenagers and Teenpics: The Juvenilization of Am. Movies in the 1950s

Jon Lewis, The Road to Romance and Ruin: Teen Films and Youth Culture

Rickie Solinger, Wake Up Little Susie: Single Pregnancy and Race before Roe v. Wade

Wini Breines, Young, White, and Miserable: Growing Up Female in the Fifties

Alice Echols, Daring to Be Bad: Radical Feminism in America, 1967-1975

Nancy Whittier, Feminist Generations: The Persistence of the Radical Women’s Movement

Peter Biskind, Seeing Is Believing: How Hollywood Taught Us to Stop Worrying & Love the 50s

Alan Nadel, Containment Culture: American Narrative, Postmodernism, and the Atomic Age

Susan Faludi, Backlash: The Undeclared War Against American Women

Neal Gabler, Walt Disney: The Triumph of the American Imagination

Richard Schickel, The Disney Version: The Life, Times, Art, and Commerce of Walt Disney

Marc Elliot, Walt Disney: Hollywood’s Dark Prince

**Oct 26: The Peculiar Politics of Country-Western Music**

Charles L. Hughes, “Get in Formation”: Recent Scholarship on Popular Music and American Identities,” *American Quarterly*, 68 (Dec. 2016), 1033-44 [Project Muse]

Peter La Chapelle, *Proud to Be an Okie: Cultural Politics, Country Music, and Migration to So California*

**Seminar Reviews**

Peter La Chapelle, I’d Fight the World: A Political History of Old-Time Hillbilly, and Country Music

Richard A. Peterson, Creating Country Music: Fabricating Identity

Charles Wolfe, The Grand Ole Opry: The early Years 1925-35

Bill Malone, Country Music USA

Neil Rosenberg, Bluegrass: A History

Russel Sanjek, Pennies from Heaven: The American Popular Music Business in the 20th Century

Neil V. Rosenberg, ed. Transforming Tradition: Folk Music Revivals Examined

Timothy D. Taylor, Global Music: World Music, World Markets

Andre Millard, America on Record: A History of Recorded Sound

**Nov 2: Music, Politics, Protest, and Race: The Power of Culture**

Eric Lott, “'The Seeming Counterfeit': Racial Politics and Early Blackface Minstrelsy,” *AQ*, 43 (June 1991), 223-54 [Project MUSE]

Craig Werner, *A Change Is Gonna Come: Music, Race & The Soul of America*

**Seminar Reviews**

Peter Vacher, Swingin’ on Central Avenue: African American Jazz in Los Angeles

Anthony Macias, Mexican American Mojo: Popular Music, Dance, and Urban Culture in Los Angeles, 1935–1968

John W. Troutman, Indian Blues: American Indians and the Politics of Music, 1970–1934

Alice Echols, Hot Stuff: Disco and the Remaking of American Culture

David Suisman, Selling Sounds: The Commercial Revolution in American Music

Scott Saul, Freedom Is, Freedom Ain’t: Jazz and the Making of the Sixties

R.J. Smith, The Great Black Way: Los Angeles in the 1940s and the Lost African American Renaissance

Shane White and Graham White, Stylin’: African American Expressive Culture from Its Beginnings to the Zoot Suit

Joseph C. Edwoozie, Break Beats in the Bronx: Rediscovering Hip-Hop;s Early Years

S. Craig Watkins, Hip Hop Matters: Politics, Pop Culture, and the Struggle

Juan Flores, From Bomba to Hip-Hop: Puerto Rican Culture and Latino Identity

Peter Braunstein and Michael W. Doyle, Image Nation: The American Counterculture in the 1960s and 1970s

Peter Doggett, There’s a Riot Going On: Revolutionaries, Rock Stars, and the Rise and Fall of the ‘60s

Philip K. Eberly, Music in the Air: The Changing Tastes in Popular Music, 1920-1980

Brian Ward, Just My Soul Responding: Rhythm and Blues, Black Consciousness, and Civil Rights

Mark Anthony Neal, What the Music Said: Black Popular Music and Black Culture

Michael T. Bertrand, Race, Rock and Elvis

R. Serge Denisoff & R.A. Peterson, eds., The Sounds of Social Change

Burton Peretti, The Creation of Jazz: Music, Race and Culture in Urban America

Robin Kelley, Africa Speaks, America Answers: Modern Jazz in Revolutionary Times

Robin Kelley, Thelonious Monk: The Life and Times of an American Original

Neil Leonard, Jazz and the White Americans

George Nelson, The Death of Rhythm and Blues

Stanley Booth, Rhythm Oil: A Journey Through the Music of the Am South

Johny Otis, Upside Your Head! Rhythm and Blues on Central Avenue

Jon Wiener, Come Together: John Lennon in His Time

Glenn Altschuler, All Shook Up: How Rock ‘N Roll Changed America

Sean Kay, Rockin’ the Free World! How the Rock & Roll Revolution Changed America and the World

Richard Aquilla, Let’s Rock! How 1950s America Created Elvis and the Rock and Roll Craze

Elizabeth Christian, Rock Brands: Selling Sound in a Media Saturated Culture

Simon Reynolds, Bring the Noise: 20 Years of Writing About Hip Rock and Hip Hop

**Nov 9: The Consumer Society & The Politics of Consumption**

David Steigerwald, “All Hail the Republic of Choice: Consumer History as Contemporary Thought” as ensuing responses, *JAH*, 93 (Sept. 2006), 385-413 [JSTOR]

Lizabeth Cohen, *A Consumer's Republic: The Politics of Mass Consumption in Postwar America*

**Seminar Reviews**

Charles McGovern, Sold American: Consumption and Citizenship, 1890-1945

Kristin Hoganson, The Consumer’s Imperium: The Global Production of American Domesticity, 1865-1920

Lisa Jacobson, Raising Consumers: Children and the Am Mass Market in the Early 20th Century

Gary Cross, An All-Consuming Century: Why Commercialism Won in Modern America

Emily E. LB Twarog, Politics of the Pantry: Food and Consumer Protest in 20th Century America

Martha Olney, Buy Now, Pay Later: Advertising, Credit, and Consumer Durables

Richard Longstreth, City Center to Regional Mall: Architecture, the Automobile, and Retailing in Los Angeles, 1920-1950

T. Jackson Lears, Fables of Abundance: A Cultural History of Advertising in America

Roland Marchand, Advertising the American Dream: Making Way for Modernity, 1920-1940

Roland Marchand, Creating the Corporate Soul: The Rise of Public relations & Corporate Imagery in American Business

Stuart Ewen, All Consuming Images: The Politics of Style in Contemporary Culture

Dana Frank, Purchasing Power: Consumer Organizing, Gender & the Seattle Labor Movement, 1919-29

Lawrence Glickman, A Living Wage: American Workers & the Making of Consumer Society

Lendol Calder, Financing the American Dream: A Cultural History of Consumer Credit

Daniel Horowitz, The Morality of Spending: Attitudes Toward Consumer Society

Stuart Ewen, Captains of Consciousness: Advertising & Social Roots of Consumer Culture

Adam Rome, The Bulldozer in the Countryside: Suburban Sprawl and the Rise of American Environmentalism

Mark Gottdiener, The Theming of America: Dreams, Visions, and Commercial Spaces

**Nov 16: Hollywood and Politics: How Movie Stars Shaped American Politics**

Michael Kazin, “The Grass-Roots Right: New Histories of U.S. Conservatism in the 20th Century,” AHR, 97 (Feb, 1992), 136-55  **[JSTOR]**

Alan Brinkley, “The Problem of American Conservatism,” AHR, 99 (April 1994), 409-52 **[JSTOR]**

Steven J. Ross, *Hollywood Left and Right: How Movie Stars Shaped American Politics*

**Seminar Readings**

Ronald Brownstein, The Power & the Glitter: Hollywood-Washington Connection

Kathryn Brownell, ShowBiz Politics: Hollywood in American Political Life

Gary Wills, Reagan’s America: Innocents at Home

[Darrell M. West](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/search-handle-url?%5Fencoding=UTF8&search-type=ss&index=books&field-author=Darrell%20M.%20West), [John M. Orman](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/search-handle-url?%5Fencoding=UTF8&search-type=ss&index=books&field-author=John%20M.%20Orman)**,** Celebrity Politics

[Mark Wheeler](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/search-handle-url?%5Fencoding=UTF8&search-type=ss&index=books&field-author=Mark%20Wheeler), Hollywood: Politics and Society

Burton Peretti, The Leading Man: Hollywood and the Presidential Image

[Jeffrey P. Jones](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/search-handle-url?%5Fencoding=UTF8&search-type=ss&index=books&field-author=Jeffrey%20P.%20Jones)**,** Entertaining Politics: New Political Television and Civic Culture

John Street, Politics And Pop Culture

Paul McDonald, The Star System: Hollywood’s Producer of Popular Identities

Edgar Morin, The Stars

Maya Montanez Smukler, Liberating Hollywood: Women Directors and the Feminist Reform of 1970s American Cinema

David A. Schultz, ed., It's Show Time!: Media, Politics, and Popular Culture (Politics, Media, and Popular Culture

Charles Maland, Chaplin and American Culture: The Evolution of a Star Image

Robert Sklar, City Boys: Cagney, Bogart, Garfield

David F. Prindle, The Politics of Glamour: Ideology & Democracy in the Screen Actors Guild

Garry Wills, John Wayne

Emilie Raymond, From My Cold, Dead Hands: Charlton Heston and American Politics

Gary Wills, Reagan’s America: Innocents at Home

Stephen Vaughn, Ronald Reagan in Hollywood: Movies & Politics

Michael Rogin, Ronald Reagan the Movie

Paul Smith, Clint Eastwood: A Cultural Production

Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, With Ossie and Ruby: In This Life Together

Stephen Vaughn, Ronald Reagan in Hollywood: Movies & Politics

Michael Rogin, Ronald Reagan the Movie

Gary Indiana, The Schwarzenegger Syndrome: Politics and Celebrity in the Age of Contempt

Michael Blitz, Louise Krasniewicz, Why Arnold Matters: The Rise of a Cultural Icon

Joe Matthews, The People’s Machine: Arnold S. and the Rise of Blockbuster Democrac

Donald T. Critchlow and Emilie Raymond, eds., Hollywood and Politics: A Sourcebook

Jennifer Frost, Hedda Hooper’s Hollywood: Celebrity Gossip and Am Conservatism

Janice Peck, The Age of Oprah: Cultural Icon for the Neoliberal Era

[John Corner](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/search-handle-url?%5Fencoding=UTF8&search-type=ss&index=books&field-author=John%20Corner), [Dick Pels](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/search-handle-url?%5Fencoding=UTF8&search-type=ss&index=books&field-author=Dick%20Pels), eds., Media and the Restyling of Politics: Consumerism, Celebrity and Cynicism

Richard Schickel, Intimate Strangers: The Culture of Celebrity

Leo Braudy, The Frenzy of Renown: Fame and its History

Andrew Cooper, Celebrity Diplomacy

Charles Ponce de Leon, Self-Exposure: Human-Interest Journalism and the Emergence of Celebrity in America, 1890–1940

Samantha Barbas, Movie Crazy: Fans, Stars, and the Cult of Celebrity

Samantha Barbas, The First Lady of Hollywood: A Biography of Louella Parsons

Neal Gabler, Winchell: Gossip, Power and the Culture of Celebrity

Val Holley, Mike Connolly and the Manly Art of Hollywood Gossip

P. David Marshall, Celebrity and Power: Fame in Contemporary Culture

Tom Kemper, Hidden Talent: The Emergence of Hollywood Agents

Miranda Banks, The Writers: A History of American Screenwriters and Their Guild

Connor, J.D., The Studios after the Studios: Neoclassical Hollywood (1970-2010)

Catherine Fisk, Writing for Hire: Unions, Hollywood, and Madison Avenue

Denise Mann, Hollywood Independents: The Postwar Talent Take

James Andrew Miller, Powerhouse: The Untold Story of Hollywood's Creative Artists Agencies

**Nov 23: The Globalization of American Popular Culture**

Victoria DeGrazia, *Irresistible Empire: America’s Advance Through 20th Century*

**Seminar Reviews:**

Richard Pells, Modernist America: Art, Music, Movies and the Globalization of American Culture

Richard Candida Smith, Improvised Continent: Pan-Americanism and Cultural Exchange

Andrew C. McKevitt, Consuming Japan: Popular Culture and the Globalizing of 1980s America

Vanessa Schwartz, It's So French!: Hollywood, Paris, and the Making of Cosmopolitan Film Culture

Brooke L. Blower, Becoming Americans in Paris: Transatlantic Politics and Culture Between the World Wars

Kristin Thompson, Exporting Entertainment: Am. in the World Film Market 1907-1934

Ian Jarvie, Hollywood’s Overseas Campaign: The North Atlantic Movie Trade, 1920-1950

John Trumpbour, Selling Hollywood to the World: U.S. and European Struggles for Mastery of the Global Film Industry

Frances Saunders, The Cultural Cold War: The CIA and the World of Arts and Letters

Robert Rydell, Rob Kroes, Buffalo Bill in Bologna: The Americanization of the World, 1869-1922

Wheeler Dixon, 21st Century Hollywood

Ruth Vasey, The World According to Hollywood, 1918-1939

John Trumpbour, Selling Hollywood to the World: US and European Struggles for Mastery of the Global Film Industry

Melvyn Stokes and Richard Maltby, eds., Hollywood Abroad: Audiences and Cultural Exchange

Geoff King, Spectacular Narratives: Hollywood in the Age of the Blockbuster

Thomas Guback, The International Film Industry: Western Europe and America Since 1945

Arjun Appadurai, Modernity at Large: Cultural Dimensions of Globalization

Cari Beauchamp and Henri Behar, Hollywood on the Riviera: The Inside Story of the Cannes Film Festival

Peter Lev, The Euro-American Cinema

Toby Miller, ed., Global Hollywood

Geoffrey Nowell-Smith, Steven Ricci, eds., Hollywood and Europe: Economics, Culture, National Identity, 1945-1995

Richard Pells, Not Like Us: How Europeans Have Loved, Hated, and Transformed American Culture since World War Two