The American Culture Syllabus

Smyth

Lectures Friday 12-1 H3.03 and seminars the following Tuesday 10-11 and 11-12, locations: S1.141 in term 1, H0.01 in term 2, and H3.22 in term 3. Screenings occasionally on Wednesdays 2-4pm in S0.17.

1. Introduction: Frank Sinatra and American Culture

Fall: 1876-1929

2. The Immigrants
See Charles Chaplin, *The Tramp* (1915) and *The Immigrant* (1917)

3. America, Incorporated

4. Virginians and Dudes: Selling the West
Suggested: Owen Wister, *The Virginian* (1902)

5. Yellow Journalism, Relativists, and Social Critique
See *Citizen Kane* (1941)

6. Reading Week

7. The New Woman
Watch *It* (1927)

8. Black Masks and Pulp Fiction

9. Vaudeville and Theatrical Cultures

10. Tramps, Vamps, and Gangsters

Winter: 1930-1985

11. Documenting the Depression

12. The Legend of Dorothy Thompson
See *Woman of the Year* (1942)

13. Wartime Censorship and the Zoot Suit

14. The Organization Man

15. The Second Wave and Intimate Revolts

16. Reading Week

17. Lenny Bruce: Underground
Listen to all of Bruce on YouTube.

18. The Revolution Will Not Be Televised
Watch *Shaft* (1971)

19. States of Decay
Watch *Three Days of the Condor* (1973)

19. Star Wars Generation

Spring: 1986-2000
1. Postmodern America from Jameson to Madonna

2. SoCal and the Erasure of History
Watch *Chinatown* (1974)
3. Revision