Nelson Rockefeller, Racial Politics, and the Undoing of Moderate Republicanism

Author: Barrett, Marsha Eileen


Abstract: "Nelson Rockefeller, Racial Politics, and the Undoing of Moderate Republicanism" examines shifts in the political terrain of the 1960s as related to social issues such as civil rights, crime, and welfare. The political career of Nelson Rockefeller, four-term Governor of New York (1958-1973), three-time candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, and iconic twentieth century moderate Republican, serves as a lens for understanding many moderate and liberal politicians' struggle to navigate racial politics before and after the passage of the Civil and Voting Rights Acts of 1964 and 1965. Rockefeller's transition from racially liberal advocate for the end of Jim Crow to early adopter of punitive drug laws that disproportionately affected racial minorities provides insight into the difficulty faced by liberals, both Republican and Democratic, when race became central to the political debates of the 1960s. This work reveals that liberal support for racial parity fractured and further entrenched inequality when the nation's focus shifted from equality under the law to the more complex
and intractable issues of equality in economic opportunity, housing, schooling, and criminal justice. "Nelson Rockefeller, Racial Politics, and the Undoing of Moderate Republicanism" examines shifts in popular opinion alongside the actions of politicians and political activists to provide a new perspective on the passage of legislation and implementation of social policies. Charting Rockefeller's political prospects through the reactions of his constituents also creates opportunities to understand the eclipse of the moderate Republican tradition without focusing on the rise of conservative Republican icons of the 1960s. This study relies upon varied sources such as the public and private papers of Nelson Rockefeller, constituent letters, documents produced by the Republican National Committee, popular periodicals, polling data, public hearings, oral histories, and visual artifacts to create a work that takes into account people from all castes and classes regardless of party affiliation who felt the effects of Rockefeller's political activism.

Links:
Title: Nelson Rockefeller, Racial Politics, and the Undoing of Moderate Republicanism
Number of pages: 424

Publication year: 2014

Degree date: 2014

School code: 0190

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303843518

Advisor: Greenberg, David

Committee member: White, Deborah Gray, Katzenelson, Ira, Mittelstadt, Jennifer, Murch, Donna

University/institution: Rutgers The State University of New Jersey - New Brunswick

Department: History

University location: United States -- New Jersey

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses
Writing contingent histories: Temporality and the construction of progress in nineteenth-century American literature

Author: Zogas, Peter

Abstract: Writing Contingent Histories argues that the historiographic dimensions of nineteenth-century
American literature should be understood as both testing and contesting cultural assumptions of progress that emerged broadly during that time—assumptions ranging from political ideologies and models of exceptionalism to the projects of reform, abolition, and Reconstruction. It contends that these engagements were shaped through encounters with contemporary developments in the philosophy of history and calls attention to this line of influence with particular emphasis on post-Enlightenment theories of the nation, in which "newness" emerged as a central temporal category supporting narratives of distinctly progressive historical development. In readings of James Fenimore Cooper, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Charles W. Chesnutt, this project finds the distinctly historiographic work of American literature in the nineteenth century to be its iteration of aesthetic experiences of historical knowledge in relation to theoretical frameworks that sustained concepts of national, racial, and moral progress throughout the century. The Introduction demonstrates the confluence of history and progress in post-Enlightenment theories of the nation and argues for the role of contingent modes of knowledge and narration to our understanding of the function of literature in the nineteenth century. Chapter One uses Cooper's early Leatherstocking Tales to explore the function of antiquity in the historical romance, particularly in its bearing on varying frames of temporal experience that had to be navigated and at times suppressed in order to buttress an image of post-Revolutionary progress. In Chapter Two Hawthorne's short fiction is read alongside the theoretical
assumptions of Romantic history, particularly the possibility of a communal judgment of the past. The chapter finds that Hawthorne’s work illustrates the interplay of history’s hermeneutic basis and its communal reception that marks the attempts of both individuals and communities to inhabit political positions. Chapter Three turns to Emerson’s engagement with European theories of universal history, particularly in their tendency to negate the historical potential of the individual. The chapter contends that Emerson—in contrast to universal history—demonstrates that individual potentiality arises from a stance of dissatisfaction with the social forms inherited from past generations. Chapter Four reads Chesnutt’s novel The Marrow of Tradition in light of an emerging school of Reconstruction historiography headed by William A. Dunning and finds that Chesnutt resists a positivistic history of narrative closure and abstraction by invoking a model of polyvocal historical experience.

Links:
Title: Writing contingent histories: Temporality and the construction of progress in nineteenth-century American literature

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Degree date: 2014

School code: 0188

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303807084

Advisor: Michael, John

Committee member: Tucker, Jeffrey A., Tawil, Ezra, Rubin, Joan S.

University/institution: University of Rochester

Department: School of Arts and Sciences

University location: United States -- New York

Degree: Ph.D.
Metropolitan Dystopia: Color Photographs of Mississippi, Tennessee, and Louisiana, 1968-2005

Author: Kivlan, Anna
Abstract: This dissertation examines color photographs made in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee between 1968 and 2005 and their relation to evolving racial discourse. My discussion revolves around three photographers: William Eggleston, Birney Imes, and William K. Greiner, who make striking color photographs in the U.S. South. I discuss the critical reception of their work and place it within the context of political and cultural attitudes toward the region and issues of race expressed in the media in the 1970s-early 00's. The important role played by Museum of Modern Art [MoMA] curator John Szarkowski was central in shaping discussions about contemporary photography during this period, placing Eggleston as the herald of the color photography explosion. I explore changing attitudes toward artistic and documentary color photography among photographers, critics, and the general public leading into the 1970s, arguing that these attitudes influenced the reception of the often high-intensity color images of Eggleston, Imes, and Greiner, in the decades that followed. I discuss the critical reception of William Eggleston's 1976 photography exhibition at MoMA. I examine how Imes's color photographs of juke joints and roadhouses in Mississippi utilize the expressive potentials of color film to depict these liminal, public/private spaces as sites of boundary crossing in a racially divided culture. I explore the ways in which William K. Greiner uses color to depict the pre-Hurricane Katrina New Orleans metropolitan area. My contribution is to show how Eggleston, Imes, and Greiner employed the expressive, visceral potentials of color photography to interpret and
navigate the uncertain moral terrain of the U.S South in the era following the passage of the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act.

Links:
Subject: American studies; Art history

Classification: 0323: American studies; 0377: Art history

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Communication and the arts, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, William Eggleston, Birney Imes, William K. Greiner, Museum of Modern Art, Photography

Title: Metropolitan Dystopia: Color Photographs of Mississippi, Tennessee, and Louisiana, 1968-2005

Number of pages: 504

Publication year: 2014

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ISBN: 9781303828584

Advisor: Powell, Richard J.
Committee member: Abe, Stanley, Ferris, William R., Leighten, Patricia, Silverblatt, Irene M.

University/institution: Duke University

Department: Art, Art History, and Visual Studies

University location: United States -- North Carolina

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

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Dissertation/thesis number: 3616083

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The Rise of the Small: Meaning, Metaphysics, and the Microscope

Author: Mikos, Keith Michael


Abstract: From public reminders to sanitize drinking water to philosophical speculation on the sublime, this study documents how microscopical science appears in a wide range of cultural and intellectual concerns. Interweaving a genealogy of microscopy with readings of literary texts, I show how the microscope embodies certain epistemological formulations that disclose original literary and philosophical networks. Through readings of Ralph Waldo Emerson, Charles Sanders Peirce, Herman Melville, and Emily Dickinson, along with diverse intertexts from philosophy, science, and literature, I expose the influence that microscopy had on nineteenth century American metaphysics, spirituality, fiction, and figuration. It explores, for example, questions of invisibility and faith in early American writers such as John Winthrop, Jr. and Cotton Mather, who believed that the microscope presented a divinely mandated opportunity to fully comprehend God's universe, and follows through with Emerson's later arguments that the instrument endorses a dangerous mechanistic ideology at odds with his spiritual sensibilities. It explains how Peirce viewed the
microscope as a means through which to rescue philosophy from crude and untenable metaphysics, how Melville embraced the microscopical to enact a theory of symbolism, how Dickinson meditated on the spiritual dangers of "looking too closely," and how writers from numerous disciplines have all struggled to make sense of extended human vision. The study closes by discussing the model of "deep time" literary history, and questioning the status of the aesthetic detail when placed on the vast scale of a universe expanded by optical instruments. This cosmic vastness threatens to annihilate the significance of human intellectual pursuits, leading to a "scaling-up" that I argue is best addressed in existentialist terms. The microscope made available a novel means of imagining the infinite while revealing the limits of natural perception, expanding assumed scales of understanding, and challenging inherently prejudiced biological categories and social stratifications. This work demonstrates how the microscope came to be, the polemics it provoked, the ideas it preserves, and the role it played in the formations of nineteenth century philosophy, science, fiction, and poetry.

Links:
Title: The Rise of the Small: Meaning, Metaphysics, and the Microscope

Number of pages: 324

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Advisor: Scandura, Jani

Committee member: Mowitt, John, Brown, Tony C., Pepper, Thomas, Shanahan, John

University/institution: University of Minnesota

Department: English

University location: United States -- Minnesota

Degree: Ph.D.
Determinants of the Blue Sky Laws and their Impacts on the U.S. Oil and Gas Industry in the Early 20th Century

Author: Nguyen, Hung Quoc
Abstract: During the early 20th century, especially in the United States, contemporaries worried that the expropriation of minority investors by controlling shareholders would resort to securities fraud. Recent literature has found that cross-country differences in laws and their enforcement affect corporate policies: dividend payout, market valuation, and ownership structure. After constructing a panel data set for 70 firms of the oil and gas industry in 25 states for the years 1911 to 1923, I examine the passage of state investor protection statutes ("blue sky laws" or BSLs) that aim to prevent the sale of fraudulent securities in the U.S. during the early 20th century to estimate the effects of BSLs on firm financing and investment decisions. Regression estimates suggest that the passage of BSLs causes the sample firms to decrease financial leverage through equity issuance, pay out greater dividends, and grow in size. More generally, results from political economy hypotheses and theories for the adoption of the BSLs for the measured changes in corporate policies, which seem to be understudied in economic analyses of investor protection laws, have limited explanatory power and should be more explicitly and more carefully incorporated into the analysis of temporal and spatial variations in securities law fraudulent prevention.

Links:
Determinants of the Blue Sky Laws and their Impacts on the U.S. Oil and Gas Industry in the Early 20th Century

Subject: Law; Economics; Finance

Classification: 0398: Law; 0501: Economics; 0508: Finance

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Minority investors, Securities fraud, Corporate policies, Securities law
Sex and the city: Private vice and public scandal in the American republic

Author: McConahey, Mary Elizabeth
Abstract: The dissertation examines political sex scandals in America at the national level. Studying these events over time with an emphasis on the evolving responses of both statesmen and citizens reveals the republic's deteriorating moral health. Essential to this woeful degeneration has been the collapse of several virtue-cultivating institutions the Founders hoped would help to avert America's dangerous tendency toward servitude: moral education; participation in civic life through voluntary associations; and religion. Using political sex scandals as a lens through which to glimpse the deterioration of these important institutions, the dissertation identifies a trajectory of decline beginning in the twentieth century, by which Americans became less tutored in virtue, less spirited in citizenship, less agreed on questions of moral significance, and ultimately less dexterous in exercising the skills of self-government. The dissertation seeks to show that the freedom from virtue won through the collapse of moral education, voluntary associations, and religion has produced an American citizenry increasingly prone to the kind of dependence and enslavement Tocqueville cautioned against in the 1830s, and argues that the level of our degradation is observable in our response to political sex scandals.

Links:
Subject: Ethics; Political science

Classification: 0394: Ethics; 0615: Political science

Identifier / keyword: Philosophy, religion and theology, Social sciences, political sex scandals, Politicians, Citizenship
Title: Sex and the city: Private vice and public scandal in the American republic

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ISBN: 9781303831133

Advisor: Uhlmann, Michael M.

Committee member: Kesler, Charles R., Balitzer, Alfred, Watson, Bradley C.S.

University/institution: The Claremont Graduate University

Department: Politics and Economics

University location: United States -- California

Degree: Ph.D.
A comparative study of Canada and the United States: Legislative impact on population chronic disease condition and patient experience Understanding healthcare reform, hospital readmissions and the context for change: A contrast of the United States and Canada

Author: Volland, Jennifer L.
Abstract: Canada and the United States (U.S.) have different government structures and healthcare systems for how services are delivered. Canada has evolved from a perspective of healthcare delivery where services are provided universally to all citizens. In contrast, healthcare in the U.S. is often rendered based upon the ability to pay for the services to be provided. Despite these differences, the two nations struggle with the same issues-chronic disease condition management, hospital readmissions, and providing care without bankrupting a strained system. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) of 2010 was a landmark piece of legislation in the U.S. Canada continues to monitor this closely from across the border and is in the process of establishing a national benchmarking system similar to that adopted by the U.S. with the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Health Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey. Under the PPACA, hospitals in the U.S. for the first time are having financial risk tied to patient experience metrics in addition to their clinical outcomes. The question still remains whether legislation works as intended in healthcare--and will the PPACA further improve outcomes for hospitals? Evaluation of hospital programs (and the provider within the clinic/long term care/home health setting, etc.) has occurred more often than the evaluation of legislative impact on population health outcomes and chronic condition management.
As Canada and the U.S. shift to a continuum of care and preventative health model for focusing on rendering services within the most appropriate level of care—an assessment of the disease condition outcomes, which have been identified for focus through the enactment of legislation, also needs to occur as part of the evaluation of healthcare delivery effectiveness. This dissertation is a comparative study of the U.S. and Canada, examining chronic disease conditions that were initially legislated under the PPACA for potential outcomes impact post-enactment. Additionally, Maryland is of focus as the only State that did not fall under the PPACA legislation. Through the contrasting of healthcare delivery differences, and given the geographical proximity, there are aspects of patient care that the U.S. may be able to learn from Canada to improve services and vice versa. A greater evaluation of the legislative impact on chronic disease conditions is needed, rather than almost exclusively using data in the legislative domain to drive the creation of law.

**Research Question:** How has the PPACA impacted population-based clinical outcomes in the U.S.? This dissertation uses a series of z-tests with year-to-year comparisons from 1999 to 2011 (final data posted by National Vital Statistics Reports, NVSS) of U.S. mortality rates for: heart failure (HF) (the only chronic disease condition initially under the PPACA), diabetes (a non-PPACA chronic disease condition), and accidents (a non-chronic disease). It additionally contrasts HF mortality rates of the U.S. overall with Maryland, by conducting regression testing for each (NVSS data 1999-2011). Regression testing is also applied to U.S.
NVSS data from 1999-2011 for diabetes and accidents. Finally, a comparative examination of HF mortality rates between the U.S. and Canada from 1999-2011 were examined through use of regression testing. Contextual factors, such as U.S. readmission rates, and the differing healthcare landscapes, are qualitatively addressed within the literature review.

Links:
A comparative study of Canada and the United States: Legislative impact on population chronic disease condition and patient experience
Understanding healthcare reform, hospital readmissions and the context for change: A contrast of the United States and Canada

Number of pages: 222
Erin's inheritance: Irish-American children, ethnic identity, and the meaning of being Irish, 1845-1890

Author: Keljik, Jonathan

Abstract: This dissertation explores the concerns and discussions about lessons of Irish identity for the children of Irish immigrants in mid to late nineteenth-century New York and New England. The author argues that there were recurrent efforts to maintain Irish
identity by ensuring the young would understand their Irish and Catholic heritage and that adults often based this identity on the themes of Irish nationalism. Yet Irish-Americans understood that they had to demonstrate Irish loyalty to the United States, so they attempted to blend Irish and American identities in their progeny, articulating an early vision of cultural pluralism for American society. This research contributes to understandings of the invention of ethnicity and ethnic endurance in the United States and how immigrants use conceptions of the meaning of "American" with their national backgrounds as they create identities for their descendants. This dissertation also illuminates the importance of children and ideas about childhood to the development of ethnicity in the United States. But it also has broader meanings for the ways in which religion, ethnicity, and nationality affect the transition of immigrant progeny from the world of their parents to that of the United States and how the children of immigrants eventually become American ethnic groups.

Links:
Subject: European history; American history; History; Ethnic studies

Classification: 0335: European history; 0337: American history; 0578: History; 0631: Ethnic studies

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Childhood, Ethnicity, History, Immigration, Irish

Title: Erin's inheritance: Irish-American children, ethnic identity, and the meaning of being Irish, 1845-1890
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Advisor: Anbinder, Tyler

Committee member: Stott, Richard, Guglielmo, Thomas, Joselit, Jenna, Meagher, Tim

University/institution: The George Washington University

Department: History

University location: United States -- District of Columbia

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses
A Visible Empire: The Ku Klux Klan and American Culture, 1915-1930

Author: Harcourt, Felix

Abstract: This dissertation is the first comprehensive examination of the nativist and bigoted organization's
cultural endeavors. Klan members were not simply extremists on the fringe of society. The Klan of the 1920s had a far more complex relationship with mainstream America than many have acknowledged. Studies of the organization have increasingly agreed that the interwar Klan is best understood as part of the long history of locally oriented political and social movements in the United States, albeit in unusual garb. The Klan's place in American culture, however, remains largely overlooked. An understanding of Klansmen as enthusiastic and active participants in American culture reinforces the growing consensus that its membership was a reflection of the white Protestant population of the United States. The often sympathetic treatment of the Klan in numerous non-Klan cultural works - in adventure novels, on the stage and screen, and in song - offers an important indicator of the heterogeneous spectrum of opinion on the organization. That members of the so-called Invisible Empire were also cultural creators able to reach a wide audience demonstrates the organization's prominent (if not always acceptable) place in interwar society. With a national newspaper syndicate, one of the nation's most powerful radio transmitters, and sports teams that peaceably engaged in games against a variety of non-Klan teams, the supposedly secret organization had a very public presence in American life in the 1920s.

Links:
Identifier / keyword: Philosophy, religion and theology, Social sciences, Ku klux klan, American culture, Political movements, Social movements

Title: A Visible Empire: The Ku Klux Klan and American Culture, 1915-1930

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Place of publication: Ann Arbor

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Advisor: Ribuffo, Leo

Committee member: Arnesen, Eric, Berkowitz, Edward, Lichtman, Allan, Stott, Richard

University/institution: The George Washington University

Department: History

Author: Sokoya, Kinaya
Abstract: The purpose of this research was to study the link between the Black Power Movement and changes that occurred in higher education between 1960 and 1980. The main research question study was, "What effect did the Black Power Movement have on changes in higher education from 1960 - 1980?" The intent of this historical research is to reconstruct knowledge on the complexity of the African American freedom struggle through the voices of thirteen Black Power activists, who were leaders of Black Power organizations, faculty in Black Studies programs, and students. The study used an interview process to conduct the study. Data was collected through semi-structured interviews and a document analysis. The document analysis included primary documents, books, scholarly journals, and organizational websites. The sampling strategy was purposive because of the special knowledge of the participants. The findings were presented within organizations and across organizations. Lewins model of change was used to analyse the catalysts for change and the response of higher educational institutions. There was a consensus among the participants interviewed and the literature reviewed that the Black Power Movement was a student-driven movement that was responsible for the formation of Black student organizations on campuses, particularly Black student unions, establishment of Black studies departments, an increase in African
American faculty, and changes in curricula. The researcher discerned five major themes that describe the era, 1) the challenges of first-generation African American students on predominately White campuses, 2) the role of Black student unions in the success of African American students, 3) the lack of representation of Africans and African Americans in college courses, 4) the role of Black studies departments in providing information on Africans and African Americans, and 5) confusion between the accomplishments of the Civil Right Movement and the Black Power Movement. The major findings of the study have implications for higher education institutions in 1) student affairs, 2) adragogy, 3) curricula, and 4) diversity education. Based on the findings, it is recommended that higher education institutions maintain and build on changes made in the past based on the lessons learned from the Black Power Movement.

Links:
Black+Power+Movement+to+Higher+Education%3A+1960+-+1980


Subject: Black history; School administration; Education history; Higher education

Classification: 0328: Black history; 0514: School administration; 0520: Education history; 0745: Higher education

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Education, African American freedom movements, Higher education, Black power movements, Black studies, Critical race theory

Title: A Historical Analysis of the Contributions of the Black Power Movement to Higher Education: 1960 -- 1980
Schooling readers: Reading common schools in nineteenth-century American literature

Author: Speicher, Allison

Abstract: By 1850, a higher percentage of children in the U.S. attended school than in any other country, thanks in part to the common school movement, which
sought to provide high quality publicly funded local schooling for all children. This dissertation recovers a tradition of fictional narratives about common schooling, bringing together 125 texts ranging from familiar titles to the now-forgotten works of popular authors and anonymous magazine fiction. Though common school narratives appear in a variety of genres -sentimental novels, local color sketches, reform novels, regional novels, cheap magazine fiction--they unfold similarly in each of these contexts. Common school narratives share a protagonist (a teacher), setting (a rural community), and a series of plot points. These plot points--school exhibitions, student-teacher romance, school violence, and teacher-student adoption--define the tradition of the common school narrative. Fiction allowed authors to expose the contradictions at the heart of the school reform program: the common school was an agent of compulsory liberation, expected to provide an antiintellectual education, to strengthen the nation by strengthening the local community, to correct the teachings of mothers through the agency of mother-teachers. Because common schools were an institution in flux, literary portrayals "schooled" readers by offering a particular vision of what schooling did, could, or should look like. We're accustomed to thinking about what literature means and what schools do, but "Schooling Readers" flips this logic, considering instead what literature does and what schools mean. By addressing stories in which teachers marry or adopt their students, find themselves forcefully ejected from their schoolrooms, and attempt to spell their way into
the hearts of the community, "Schooling Readers" productively defamiliarizes our understandings of what it means to teach or attend school.

Links:
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p;rft.jtitle=&amp;rft.atitle=&amp;rft.au=Speicher%2C+Allison&amp;rft.aulast=Speicher&amp;rft.aufirst=Allison&amp;rft.date=2014-01-01&amp;rft.volume=&amp;rft.issue=&amp;rft.spage=&amp;rft.isbn=9781303828935&amp;rft.btitle=&amp;rft.title=Schooling+readers%3A+Reading+common+schools+in+nineteenth-century+American+literature
"Look for the union label": The American Federation of Labor and the Jewish Labor Committee's partnership for international human rights and economic justice, 1933 - 1955

Author: Feinmark, Rachel Natalie


Abstract: "Look for the Union Label: The American Federation of Labor and Jewish Labor Committee's Partnership for Economic Justice and International Human Rights, 1933-1955," examines the combined efforts of the American Federation of Labor and the Jewish Labor Committee (an umbrella group of socialist, Jewish unions) to shape the emerging global conversation on the definition and scope of democracy and human rights after WWII. Drawing on a set of English and Yiddish documents that have so far been underutilized, the dissertation traces the development of labor’s particular vision of rights, shaped by their ideals of collectivism, internationalism, and socialism. "Look for the Union Label" explores the origins and dissemination of a class-based vision of economic justice and equality of opportunity. Engaging with the literatures of consumer protest, civil and labor rights, gender studies, American anti-Communism, Jewish
radicalism, and transnational exchange, this dissertation argues that progressive international labor organizations made a significant contribution to a post-War discussion of economic justice, human rights, and political liberalism, setting the terms and creating the structures for public understanding and mass activism in the years that followed.

Links:

Title: "Look for the union label": The American Federation of Labor and the Jewish Labor Committee's partnership for international human rights and economic justice, 1933 - 1955

Number of pages: 268

Publication year: 2014

Degree date: 2014

School code: 0330
Prison house of nations: Police violence and mass incarceration in the long course of Black insurgency in Illinois, 1953-1987

Author: Losier, Toussaint

Abstract: This dissertation examines the rise and fall of Illinois' postwar black insurgency. It details how a generation of Black Chicagoans and their allies approached the administration of criminal justice as a key site of political radicalization and grassroots mobilization. In particular, I focus on the ways in which militant activists and their insurgent organizations contested the policies and practices of policing and incarceration during a brief, but crucial, period, between the War on Gangs and the War on Drugs. In
response to an epidemic of police violence, the Afro-American Patrolmen's League sought to undermine prevailing notions of racial subordination and urban governance through community-oriented programs and broad coalitions like the Concerned Citizens for Police Reform. Over several decades, Black prisoners, first as converts to the Nation of Islam and then as cadre members of the New Afrikan Prisoner Organization, pushed the boundaries of pro se litigation and collective action. Operating in opposition to distinct, but interconnected, aspects of the administration of criminal justice, these two poles of insurgent black politics prompted substantive changes in the letter and application of the law. By tracking the broad arc of Illinois' black insurgency, this dissertation finds that by the 1980s this militant politics declined as these two poles increasingly diverged during a period of changing worldviews, economic structures, and political possibilities. I argue that the criminalization of Black youth played an important role in spurring this divergence. Although identified as a key constituency of the Civil Rights and Black Liberation movements, young, Black Chicagoans, particularly those assumed to members of a gang-involved, lumpenproletariat, would become increasingly marginal to the coalition-building efforts of an insurgent political class. The consequences of this divergence are particularly evident during the administration of Harold Washington, Chicago's first Black Mayor, as these youth became more prominent, both discursively and practically, in the targeted application of police violence and the
further elaboration of mass incarceration that mark the emergence of the carceral state.

Links:
Subject: African American Studies; American history; Political science

Classification: 0296: African American Studies; 0337: American history; 0615: Political science

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Black insurgency, Civil litigation, Criminal justice, Mass incarceration, Street gangs, Urban history

Title: Prison house of nations: Police violence and mass incarceration in the long course of Black insurgency in Illinois, 1953-1987

Number of pages: 339

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Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

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Document 14 of 99

Slavery, freedom, and dependence in pre-Revolutionary Boston, 1700-1775

Author: Hardesty, Jared Ross


Abstract: This dissertation uses an early-modern, transnational lens to examine slavery in eighteenth-century Boston. It serves as a test case for reexamining and reconceptualizing slavery in British North America and the Atlantic World. Rather than the traditional dichotomous conception of slavery and freedom, colonial-era slavery must be understood as part of a continuum of unfreedom. In Boston, African slavery existed alongside many other forms of dependence, including indentured servitude, apprenticeship, pauper apprenticeship, and Indian slavery. Drawing heavily on legal records such as wills and trial transcripts, we can see how African slavery functioned within this complex world of dependency. In this hierarchical, inherently unfree world, enslaved Bostonians were more concerned with their everyday treatment than emancipation. Eschewing modern notions of freedom and liberty and understanding slavery as part of a larger Atlantic World characterized by a culture of unfreedom, this study demonstrates not only how African slaves
were able to decode their new homeland and shape the terms of enslavement, but also how marginalized people engrained themselves in the very fabric of colonial American society.

Links:
States of dispossession: Violence, property, and the subject in American literary regionalism from 1880-1900

Author: Goldfarb, Sarah Anne Stubaus

Abstract: This dissertation examines the ways in which American writers of regionalist fiction contended with the shifting political and economic landscape between 1880 and 1899. As the nation transitioned to a market-based economy after the Civil War, antebellum notions of property realigned to conform to an increasingly nationalizing and incorporating economy. Yet regionally-focused writers of the period demonstrate that pre-Civil War definitions of subject categories and rights shaped by local economic structures persisted. These writers resolve those conflicts instigated by the tensions between regional and nationally standardizing conceptions of property and ownership through violent formal tropes which function to metaphorically restructure their fictional subjects' relationships to property within the region in question. By investigating three sets of literary works, each attuned to a region within the U.S., this dissertation identifies three regionally and economically distinct tropes of violence. In doing so, it also argues that each regionalist writer
uses violence on the level of literary form to resolve the problem of wage labor's effect on property rights after the Civil War, with each trope necessitating the regional subject's confrontation with the marginalizing effects of economic stratification. The first chapter discusses Southern local fiction's attention to the violence inherent in the persisting designation of the ex-slave body as property after the decline of the plantation economy. The second chapter examines urban literature's stylistic declaration and resolution of the violence of immigrant labor exploitation within New York City's industrialized economy. And the final chapter considers the structural function of symbolic violence within regional fiction of the male agrarian laborer in the West in light of those redefinitions of ownership precipitated by railroad speculation.

Links:
Subject: American literature

Classification: 0591: American literature

Identifier / keyword: Language, literature and linguistics, Regionalism, Violence, New York City, Post-Civil War, Slavery, Property, Masculinity, Naturalism

Title: States of dispossession: Violence, property, and the subject in American literary regionalism from 1880-1900

Number of pages: 364

Publication year: 2014

Degree date: 2014
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Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303843686

Advisor: Evans, Brad

Committee member: Dienst, Richard, Jackson, Gregory S., Wagner, Bryan

University/institution: Rutgers The State University of New Jersey - New Brunswick

Department: Literatures in English

University location: United States -- New Jersey

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3617223

Author: Lorenz, Stephen Fox

Abstract: This dissertation looks at the popular American folksong revival in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan region during the Cold War and Civil Rights era. Examination of folk revival scholarship, local media reports and cultural geography, and the collected interviews and oral histories of Washington area participants, reveals the folk and blues revival was a mass mediated phenomenon with contentious factions. The D.C. revival shows how restorative cultural projects
and issues of authenticity are central to modernity, and how the function of folksong transformed from the populist, labor oriented Old Left to the personalized politics of the New Left. This study also significantly disrupts often romantic scholarship and political narratives about the folk revival and redirects the intellectual attention on New York, Chicago, and San Francisco towards the nation's capital as an overlooked site of cultural production. Washington's "folk world" of music clubs, coffeehouses, record collectors, disc jockeys, performers, folklorists, and folk music aficionados drove folk music studies towards context and cultural democracy, but the local insistence on apolitical, traditional, and rural forms of folksong as the most genuine reinscribed racial and class hierarchies even as they enhanced Washington's status. Washington, D.C., shifted the loose folk revival "movement" into permanent cultural institutions and organizations, and the city gained a cosmopolitan reputation for authentic folk music that intermingled with its regional culture and identity as the nation's capital and site of public protest.

Links:
Subject: American studies; Folklore; Music; Political science

Classification: 0323: American studies; 0358: Folklore; 0413: Music; 0615: Political science

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Communication and the arts, Blues revival, Folk music, Folk revival, Washington d.c.

Title: Cosmopolitan Folk: The Cultural Politics of the North American Folk Music Revival in Washington, D.C.
Number of pages: 421

Publication year: 2014

Degree date: 2014

School code: 0075

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

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ISBN: 9781303819452

Advisor: Kosek, Joseph Kip, Vlach, John

Committee member: Taft, Michael, Osman, Suleiman, McAlister, Melani, Lornell, Kip

University/institution: The George Washington University

Department: American Studies

University location: United States -- District of Columbia

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses
A cinema of wounded bodies: Sensational abjection and the spaces of modern horror

Author: Hart, Adam Charles

Abstract: This dissertation explores the evolution of formal methods by which horror films provoke extreme
affective responses in their viewers, using careful analysis of films such as Psycho (Alfred Hitchcock, 1960), Halloween (John Carpenter, 1978), Friday the 13th (Sean S. Cunningham, 1980), and Nightmare on Elm Street (Wes Craven, 1984) to offer a model of spectatorship based on sensation and affect rather than absorption and sympathetic identification with onscreen characters. My focus is on what I term "modern horror," exploring changes in the genre that begin around the time of Psycho, when horror films begin to arrange themselves more fully around the perspective and desired affects of the viewer, frequently at the expense of classical diegetic coherence. Through a range of case studies, I analyze in depth the ways in which modern horror films utilize offscreen space, arguing that that which lies outside the frame is an unpredictable, at times almost heterogeneous, space of danger occupied by vaguely-defined, largely unseen threats. Often the offscreen space is the location of the monster -- a being that, I argue, functions as a phobic object, a location onto which fears can be directed. Unlike classical horror films, in modern horror the monster tends to remain unseen for most of the movie, shown in incrementally more revealing displays, until a final confrontation provides the first sustained look at the monster. What results from my analysis are two large arguments. First, I provide a structural analysis of the genre based around a formal and thematic dialectic between a vague, ill-defined sense of threat and its progressive containment within a monster's body. Second, I present a new theoretical model of spectatorship that re-orients
viewing around the sensational address of viewers and their affective responses. As a consequence of that sensational address and the overall affective emphasis within the genre, there arises an essential paradox in modern horror spectatorship. An effectively horrific film seems to hold a position of mastery over its viewers, and yet the moment of the scream, or the jump, or even of nausea, viscerally reminds the spectator of his or her own body, and his or her location within the theater (or the living room). Thus, paradoxically, horror movies alienate their viewers at the moments of their greatest power, working against absorption as it has been conventionally understood.

Links:

Subject: Film studies

Classification: 0900: Film studies

Identifier / keyword: Communication and the arts, Abjection, Horror films, Spectatorship

Title: A cinema of wounded bodies: Sensational abjection and the spaces of modern horror

Number of pages: 251

Publication year: 2014

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Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303817274

Advisor: Gunning, Tom

Committee member: Lastra, James F., Lowenstein, Adam

University/institution: The University of Chicago

Department: Cinema and Media Studies

University location: United States -- Illinois

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3615652

ProQuest document ID: 1524723936

Document URL:
Abstract: The U.S. has not ratified any international convention nor has it adopted federal legislation regarding the enforcement or recognition of foreign judgments. The contemporary rule of thumb in judicial proceedings that deal with the recognition or enforcement of foreign judgments is the use of the principles of judicial comity by state or federal judges, where state law is the most important source in the recognition process. The historical root of this rule is a decision from the U.S. Supreme Court dating back to 1895, Hilton v. Guyot, where Justice Gray grounded his reasoning in common law principles and rejected the application by analogy of the Full Faith and Credit Clause in Article IV of the U.S. Constitution. Naturally, the context of global trade and commerce at that time
is dramatically different from today's globalized economic transactions that require a higher level of certainty. The current rule does not provide it and hence has generated several concerns related to the existing diversity between state law interpretations on enforcement grounds. The academic reports show that the fragmentation discourages particular sets of business transactions and forces people to rely on commercial arbitration instead; ironically, this has a clearer set of rules for the enforcement of its awards due to the fact that the U.S. is a party to the New York Convention for the Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards and has adopted federal legislation to implement it. The latest efforts to stop the fragmented approach on the part of the U.S. concerning this issue includes the adoption of international multilateral instruments and the passing of federal legislation that sets principles of enforcement for all federal judicial bodies in the U.S. Nevertheless, both efforts have been unfruitful. This research agrees with the general academic consensus that argues that the most suitable way to solve this fragmentation is to federalize the procedure through legislation. This conclusion comes from the fact that the adoption of an international convention would still need a federal state statute passed to avoid being framed as a non-self executing treaty or a decision from a federal court recognizing its self executing nature in order to put an end to uncertainty. In addition to being free of the traditional perils of the U.S. doctrine on the constitutional status of international covenants, a federal bill would not be subject to this problem.
Subject: Law; Latin American Studies; International law
Title: Recognition and enforcement of foreign judgments between Mexico and the United States of America

Number of pages: 214

Publication year: 2014

Degree date: 2014

School code: 0330

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303817281

Advisor: Wood, Diane

University/institution: The University of Chicago

Department: Law
University location: United States -- Illinois

Degree: J.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3615653

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Commercial Moments: Cinema, Capital, and the Formation of Postwar American Identity

Author: Burditt, Rebecca
Abstract: Commercial Moments: Cinema, Capital, and the Formation of Postwar American Identity examines the ways in which Hollywood films from roughly 1945-1960 adopted the visual and affective rhetoric of postwar commercial culture. I argue that, predating product placement and independent of narrative function, these "commercial moments" reflected the period's reevaluation of collective and individual identity. For postwar audiences, advertising language referenced the extra-diegetic formation of identity politics, recalling class-driven labor disputes and consumption-based political acts such as boycotts and sit-ins. At the same time, it also alluded to Madison Avenue's segmentation of the mass market into age-based categories (such as children and teenagers) and thus a growing awareness of the distinct phases of human development. Through films such as Niagara, Pillow Talk, and Destination Moon, I argue that commercial moments broadened Hollywood's classical projection of mainstream identity, forcing popular film to acknowledge difference within its once-homogenizing representation of the ideal "self"--both national and personal. This project looks beyond product placement in order to focus on the cultural connotations of both the visual language and the material commodities that commercial moments cite. Since I suggest that the commercial moment represents a particular postwar visuality (and thus the
social, material, and historical elements that comprise this era's "way of seeing"), I have organized the dissertation around the various directions in which postwar Americans trained their sight; four fields of vision that came to signify the politics of collective selfhood while providing a mirror to the newly distinguished stages of human development. Chapter 1, "Looking In," situates the cinematic appropriation of commercial rhetoric in relation to growing popular focus on one's mind and body; Chapter 2, "Looking Back," explores how commercial moments' infantilization of grown men provided a template for postwar Americans to re-imagine collective history; Chapter 3, "Looking Forward," addresses the commercialized representation of teenagers and the ways in which a new emphasis on adolescence served as a metaphor for imminent social change; Chapter 4, "Looking Beyond," examines how the commercial moment's articulation of old age lent form to the era's fear of an unknowable future.

Links:
Subject: American studies; Film studies

Classification: 0323: American studies; 0900: Film studies

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Communication and the arts, Advertising, Cultural history, Hollywood cinema, Postwar American visual culture

Title: Commercial Moments: Cinema, Capital, and the Formation of Postwar American Identity

Number of pages: 334
A Dreamer and A Painter: Visualizing the Unconscious in the Work of Arthur b. Davies, 1890-1920

Author: Gephart, Emily Willard

Abstract: The paintings of U. S. artist Arthur B. Davies (1863-1928) spoke to his viewers in terms of the emergent discipline of psychology, creating visualizations of dreaming. This dissertation examines his work and its reception between 1 890 and 1920, exploring the diversity characterizing American beliefs
about dreams and their function in the unconscious. Painted during a period in which shifting, coalescing disciplines contested the understanding of the inner world of the modern psyche, Davies's art uneasily blended figuration and looser forms of representation, calling up the ambivalence with which his contemporaries greeted profound socio-cultural changes in the Gilded Age and Progressive Era. As I show in five chapters that parallel the trajectory of the artist's career, the discourses of Symbolism, science, spiritualism, psychoanalysis, and various forms of modernism all laid claim to the value of dreams and to Davies's art in wide-ranging, even contradictory ways. Reading Davies's paintings in light of critical responses and popular sources, I examine his varied reception across the art world. First, Sadakichi Hartmann's arguments for Davies's ability to capture suggestive, visionary meaning of Symbolist dreams in the 1890s asserted his paintings' significance as transcendent forms of creative imagination. Then, as psychology emerged as a discipline, Davies's paintings were reinterpreted in light of newly scientific approaches to the unconscious. These claims were paralleled by the competing and overlapping tenets of Spiritualism, the pursuit of psychic research, and the foundation of new religions and forms of popular psychotherapy. After 1909, views of the subconscious began to coalesce under the psychoanalytic approaches offered by Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung, which nonetheless blended with the philosophies of Henri Bergson, to extend and also challenge prior interpretations of dreams. In the teens when Davies explored Cubist form
after his involvement with the Armory Show, Havelock Ellis's ideas about the synaesthetic operation of dreams provided yet another framework by which critics interpreted the artist's hybrid interests. Despite his popularity in his own time, Davies's is largely absent from art historical narratives today. I argue that epistemic changes shaped his art's perceived quality, relevance, and even its visibility. (Copies available exclusively from MIT Libraries, libraries.mit.edu/docs - docs@mit.edu)

Links:

Democracy's proving ground: U.S. military families in West Germany, 1946-1961

Author: Swafford, Emily Lockett


Abstract: Between the occupation of Germany after World War II to the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961, military family policy underwent a dramatic sea change. Military officials shifted from grudging support for families to defending their presence overseas in the face of a Presidential directive, and from positioning military families at the periphery of soldiers' lives and duties to assigning them central roles in support of individual soldier's morale and the military's larger ideological mission to defend "democracy." I argue that this unprecedented, explosive growth in infrastructure created to support military family life--subsidized access to consumer goods, housing, and medical care--was a result of the U.S. military's changed global presence and the new ways of making war created by the ideological imperatives of the Cold War. Having just fought and won World War II in the name of "democracy," the postwar U.S. military had to justify both a massive standing army and its new global presence. Military officials reached a partial solution to these problems by expanding and institutionalizing support for U.S. military families at home and abroad. This reflected contemporary understandings of American family life and solidified the nuclear family
(one that conformed to norms of sexuality, gender, race, and class) as the foundation of an American, democratic "way of life," while simultaneously strengthening the citizenship claims that servicemen (but not necessarily servicewomen) could make on the state. The proliferation of military families abroad also changed domestic organizations, such as the U.S. Girl Scouts, who found themselves occupying a new global position and with new opportunities to test their internationalist rhetoric as a result of the military's new global presence. It also revealed the parallel processes by which both Americans and West Germans attempted to move beyond wartime experiences through the reconstruction of family life.

Links:

Abstract: This dissertation looks at some of the most famous structures by talented and cryptic American architect Louis Sullivan (1856-1924) for fusions of Aesthetic Movement surfaces and two-part Classical Monumentality. For architects, the Aesthetic Movement allowed for a greater amount of freedom when it came to sources, massing, and ornament, which resulted in the creation of more highly textured surfaces than ever before. Under raking light, this texture produces some scintillating effects. Sullivan used this textural freedom throughout his career, creating some surfaces that
sparkle. It will also be demonstrated that Sullivan changed his drawing style to better articulate his textural visions to others. The second way in which this dissertation looks at Sullivan's architecture is through the lens of Classical monumentality, specifically that used in Donato Bramante's Palazzo Caprini (constructed ca. 1512), which is better known today as the House of Raphael. Composed of a basement surmounted by a major order, Bramante's venerable two-part pattern spawned legions of descendants. This dissertation will demonstrate that Sullivan applied lessons from derivatives of this structure's facade to a range of building types. Visual analysis of select building facades will demonstrate that Sullivan kept combining these two themes throughout his career.

Links:
Subject: Art history; Architecture

Classification: 0377: Art history; 0729: Architecture

Identifier / keyword: Communication and the arts, Aesthetic movement, Classical monumentality, Sullivan, louis, Skyscraper

Title: Louis H. Sullivan: The Aesthetic Movement, Classical Monumentality and the Skyscraper

Number of pages: 181

Publication year: 2014

Degree date: 2014

School code: 2383
Legislator Controlled Information Revelation in Constituent Communications -- Three Essays

Author: Cormack, Lindsey

Abstract: This dissertation theorizes about and analyzes how legislators use the medium of email to strategically communicate to constituents. I draw on the foundational works of political communication (Mayhew 1974, Fiorina 1977, Fenno 1978) as well as more recent research, (Lipinski 2004, Grimmer 2013) to supply the bases for the questions I set out to answer, the theories I seek to test, and the larger framework in which to situate my findings. Using an originally collected and coded dataset of legislator e-newsletters
and Real Simple Syndication feeds, I find that legislators have embraced email communications, with 95% of Representatives and 85% of Senators sending official messages. I also find that there is a good deal of political strategy within these messages. Simply put, legislators communicate ideologically, attempt to reveal information in a manner aligned with their expectations of the most electorally relevant potential voters, and differently situated legislators communicate different types of information. This research contributes valuable resources to the discipline and adds to the nuance of the greater understanding of political communication. Do legislators tend to focus on neutral and risk-averse communication strategies such as advertising as posited by earlier research? On average, no. The 111-113th Congresses all contain many legislators willing to engage in position taking and political posturing in online communications. Are legislators strategic in the votes they reveal to constituents? Yes, legislators are more likely to appear extreme in their communications as compared to their voting history as the ratio of base to swing voters increases in their districts. When voting, however, this ratio seems to exert no explanatory power and instead donor and overall district ideology better explain extremism in legislator voting patterns. Do women and men use these technologies differently? Yes and no. Legislators of both sexes communicate at similar rates, but the messages they seek to convey are different. Women tend to focus more on revealing votes than men. In sum, this dissertation offers insight into how these new technologies are used by politicians, provides a
framework for thinking about strategic vote revelation in political communications, and highlights just a few of the many uses for this new data.

Links:

Subject: American studies; Communication; Political science

Classification: 0323: American studies; 0459: Communication; 0615: Political science

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Communication and the arts, Legislators, Strategic communications, Email, Political strategy

Title: Legislator Controlled Information Revelation in Constituent Communications -- Three Essays

Number of pages: 103

Publication year: 2014

Degree date: 2014

School code: 0146

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Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303805561

Advisor: Gordon, Sanford, Nagler, Jonathan
Clue, code, conjure: The epistemology of American detective fiction, 1841-1914

Author: Weiss, Jennifer R.

Abstract: This dissertation posits American detective fiction between 1841 and 1914 as a meaningful category and interrogates forms of knowledge used in this genre. The conventional wisdom on detective fiction creates a dichotomy of British and American production, with British detective fiction in a rational style dominating in importance into the 1920s, and American detective fiction dominating in importance with the "hard-boiled" style of the 1930s and '40s (as described by Raymond Chandler). This dissertation argues that American detective fiction is a meaningful category before and beyond the hard-boiled style. Abductive reasoning, a form of logic based on observation, hypothesis, and confirmation, is the characteristic mode of detection in fiction. Abductive reasoning requires the use of background knowledge to draw conclusions. Therefore, cultural context and beliefs become part of the interpretive process. Works by Edgar Allan Poe, Metta Victor, Anna Katharine Green, Mark Twain, Pauline Hopkins, Edwin Balmer and William MacHarg, and Arthur B. Reeve are used in this study to demonstrate the wide variety of knowledge sources considered relevant in this period. The clearest
unit of information in detective fiction is the clue: an object or occurrence that provides critical information toward solving the mystery. The detective figure is the master interpreter of clues, with the observational skills, knowledge base, and imagination to identify and interpret information that others do not. The period of 1841 to 1914 saw extensive industrialization, geographic expansion, and racial turmoil in the United States. Forensic science advanced both technically and culturally as part of a larger movement toward scientific management. The transition to scientific thinking as depicted in detective fiction is, however, significantly complicated by continuing reliance on sentimental and sensational elements such as magic, religion, and intuition and on community-based ethics.

Links:
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Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303763113

Advisor: Dolan, Marc

Committee member: Humpherys, Anne, Reynolds, David S.

University/institution: City University of New York

Department: English

University location: United States -- New York

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3613448

Author: Forner, Karlyn Denae

Abstract: In Selma, Alabama in 1965, local African Americans partnered with civil rights organizations to stage a movement for voting rights. The beating of peaceful black marchers by white state troopers on the Edmund Pettus Bridge that March catapulted the city and black demands for the ballot into the national spotlight. When the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was passed five months later, it cemented Selma as a
symbol of voting rights. Since then, Selma has become a triumphant moment in the grand narrative of American democracy and citizenship. However, the years after the voting rights movement failed to bring economic opportunities and justice for black citizens in Selma. At the end of the twentieth century, numbing unemployment, gutted houses, and government transfer payments attested to barriers left unbroken by the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. How, then, did Selma become the site of a nationally-geared campaign for voting rights, and why was the right to vote not enough to bring economic justice for African Americans? This dissertation is a local study that spans the course of century, one that looks at Selma and Dallas County as a place with a long history shaped by white supremacy and agricultural transformation, as well as local relationships and national developments. It begins in 1901, the year that the newly-passed Alabama constitution took the ballot away from nearly every African American in the state, and ends in 2000, when Selma’s residents elected their first black mayor. Using newspapers and magazines, personal papers, organizational records, municipal records, federal publications, and oral histories, it examines how municipal, state, and national politics, as well as enormous economic shifts, intersected with and altered the lives of black and white residents in Dallas County, Alabama. The multifaceted struggle of African Americans for freedom in Dallas County unfolded within the context of a century-long agricultural revolution in the Black Belt. African Americans' overlapping demands for economic opportunity, self-sufficiency, quality
education, and meaningful political representation reflected and responded to local economic shifts from cotton to cattle to industry. The semi-autonomous community black Dallas County residents forged through farmers' organizations, schools, and societies under segregation later helped them mount a frontal challenge to the ramparts of white supremacy. The civil rights movement, however, grew to maturity at exactly the moment when cattle had usurped cotton's reign over the fields, altering the Black Belt's economic and social fabric. Political rights for African Americans in Dallas County did not solve the postwar economic challenges of vanishing farms and the rise of low-wage industry. Meanwhile, local white officials vigorously fought to maintain political control in the wake of the civil rights movement. Their calculated intransigence delayed the meaningful participation of black residents in the economic and political life of Selma. The rise of the Sunbelt South and globalization further siphoned resources away from the struggling Black Belt. As the federal government retracted and nearby military bases closed in the late 1970s and 1980s, rural areas like Dallas County were left without resources in a new economy that favored high-skilled workers in urban centers. Examining black freedom struggles and economic transformation side-by-side illuminates how voting rights alone did not alter the regional network that concentrated both resources and poverty in an uneven process of development. The vote brought political power, but it did not bring the economic justice, security, or quality education that made up the other half of African Americans' demands for freedom.
By singularly focusing on the securing of voting rights, Selma became a pivotal moment in the story of American democracy, but black Dallas County residents' parallel demands for equal economic opportunities remained long after African Americans had won the vote. The triumphant narrative ignores the economic transformation that fundamentally altered the Black Belt. From cotton to cattle, industry to unemployment checks, black citizens perpetually found themselves on the losing end of economic change. At the end of the century, nearly four decades of federal divestment and globalization had sapped Dallas County of jobs, and the government's presence was felt mainly in the form of disability checks and food assistance. The political rights black Dallas County citizens had shed blood for in 1965 could not alone undo this legacy of economic inequality.

Links:
Population control and small wars

Author: Roy, Richard Clarke

Abstract: This thesis argues that while there are various contending notions of how a government can improve its chances of success in a small war, few strategies will be effective without the application of a comprehensive program of population control.
measures. For this study, small wars are conflicts in which a government uses limited means to secure national objectives against an adversary who uses primarily the tactics of guerrilla warfare. Population control measures are defined as those restrictions imposed on movement, on choice of residence, and on the availability of food that protect the population from the insurgents while simultaneously denying the insurgents access to critical resources. This work examines the vital importance of population control measures in overcoming guerrilla forces lacking external sponsors in small wars during the period 1870 to 1960. Five examples are used to determine their importance: the treatment of prairie Amerindians in the Canadian West (1870 - 1890); the guerrilla phase of the Philippine-American War (1898 - 1902); the guerrilla phase of the South African War (1899 - 1902); the Malayan Emergency (1948 - 1960); and the Kenyan Emergency (1952 - 1960). Within the broad strategies used to prosecute these campaigns, population control measures were a consistent feature and were instrumental in contributing to the termination of the conflicts. Despite their importance, these measures are typically overlooked or only treated superficially when discussed by historians. Therefore, to understand more fully the outcome of small wars, greater attention needs to be applied to the study of these measures. In small wars the primary contest between the belligerents is for control of the people. For the government, the strategic value of population control measures is in how they separate the population from the guerrillas. This denies a wide range of critical resources to the
guerrillas and additionally allows the government to both prosecute its campaign more effectively and protect the population better. Population control measures need to be a key component of a government’s strategy in a small war as their proper application may be the tipping-point between success and failure.

Links:
Abstract: The Great Recession is arguably the most important macroeconomic event of the last three decades. Large Increase in Uncertainty About the Future: The Great Recession and its subsequent slow recovery have been marked by a large increase in uncertainty about the future. Uncertainty peaked at the end of 2008 and has remained volatile over the past few years. Zero Bound on Nominal Interest Rates: The Federal Reserve plays a key role in offsetting the negative impact of fluctuations in the economy. Since the end of 2008, the Federal Reserve has been unable to lower its nominal policy rate due to the zero lower bound on nominal interest rates. The zero lower bound represents a significant constraint monetary policy's ability to fully stabilize the economy. Unprecedented Use of Forward Guidance: Even though the Federal Reserve remains constrained by the zero lower bound, the monetary authority can still affect the economy through expectations about future nominal policy rates. By providing agents in the economy with forward guidance on the future path of policy rates, monetary policy can stimulate the economy even when current policy rates remain constrained. Throughout the Great Recession and the subsequent recovery, the Federal Reserve provided the economy with explicit statements about the future path of monetary policy. Large Fiscal Expansion: During the Great Recession, the United States engaged in a very large program of government
spending and tax reductions. Many economists argue that the benefits of increasing government spending are significantly higher when the monetary authority is constrained by the zero lower bound. The goal of this dissertation is to better understand how these various elements contributed to the macroeconomic outcomes during and after the Great Recession. In addition to understanding each of the elements above in isolation, a key component of this analysis focuses on the interaction between the above elements. A key unifying theme between all of the elements is the role in monetary policy. In modern models of the macroeconomy, the monetary authority is crucial in determining how a particular economic mechanism affects the macroeconomy. In the first and second chapters, I show that monetary policy plays a key role in offsetting the negative effects of increased uncertainty about the future. My third chapter highlights how assumptions about monetary policy can change the impact of various shocks and policy interventions. For example, suppose the fiscal authority wants to increase national output by increasing government spending. A key calculation in this situation is the fiscal multiplier, which is dollar increase in national income for each dollar of government spending. I show that fiscal multipliers are dramatically affected by the assumptions about monetary policy even if the monetary authority is constrained by the zero lower bound. The unique nature of the elements discussed above makes analyzing their contribution difficult using standard macroeconomic tools. The overall goal of this dissertation is to use and develop tools in
computational macroeconomics to help better understand the Great Recession. Each of the chapters outlined below examine at least one of the topics listed above and its impact in explaining the macroeconomics of the Great Recession. In particular, the essays highlight the role of the monetary authority in generating the observed macroeconomic outcomes over the past several years. Can increased uncertainty about the future cause a contraction in output and its components? My first chapter examines the role of uncertainty shocks in a one-sector, representative-agent, dynamic, stochastic general-equilibrium model. When prices are flexible, uncertainty shocks are not capable of producing business-cycle comovements among key macroeconomic variables. With countercyclical markups through sticky prices, however, uncertainty shocks can generate fluctuations that are consistent with business cycles. Monetary policy usually plays a key role in offsetting the negative impact of uncertainty shocks. If the central bank is constrained by the zero lower bound, then monetary policy can no longer perform its usual stabilizing function and higher uncertainty has even more negative effects on the economy. The second chapter continues to explore the interactions between the zero lower bound and increased uncertainty about the future. From a positive perspective, the essay further shows why increased uncertainty about the future can reduce a central bank’s ability to stabilize the economy. The essay also examines the normative implications of uncertainty and shows how monetary policy can attenuate the negative effects of higher uncertainty. In
my third chapter, I examine how assumptions about monetary policy affect the economy at the zero lower bound. Even when current policy rates are zero, I argue that assumptions regarding the future conduct of monetary policy are crucial in determining the effects of real fluctuations at the zero lower bound.

Links:
Civil Rights Shakespeares: Race, Education, and Nation in Postwar America

Author: Demeter, Jason M.


Abstract: Drawing upon literary and rhetorical analysis, cultural studies, and critical race theory, "Civil Rights Shakespeares" investigates the poet's presence within American racial discourses during the civil rights/black power era, tracing the poet's protean signification within this contentious phase of American race relations. I contend in the first chapter that Shakespeare's frequent enlistment in debates surrounding racial politics in postwar America is anything but incidental. In an investigation of Julius Caesar 's programmatic dissemination among tenth grade students within early-twentieth-century mass education, I explore the poet's role as an agent of European ethnic consolidation. First, I trace Shakespeare's use within schools of the 1920s and `30s as a homogenizing force thought capable of unifying a diverse constituency of distinct immigrant groups under the rubric of a nascent white American culture rooted in English values and aesthetics; I turn then to the poet's subsequent conscription in support of an emergent socio-political project in which racial conflict in America was concentrated along an increasingly dualistic black/white racial axis. Shakespeare's implication in the furtherance of this large-scale racial
realignment, I argue, helps account for the poet’s reflexive insertion into moments of black and white racial contest in the ensuing years. Building upon these associations in chapter two, I read numerous instances of Shakespearean citation within civil rights discourses as evidence of a wider, pedagogically determined inclination within the American consciousness to correlate Shakespeare with a specifically white form of political dominion. In an analysis of Shakespeare's functionality within the rhetoric of important civil rights and black power figures including Malcolm X, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Eldridge Cleaver, and H. Rapp Brown, as well as within the segregationist addresses of Bull Connor, George Wallace, and members of the Ku Klux Klan, I examine the often-contradictory work Shakespeare is made to perform for a wide and varied constellation of ideologically oppositional constituencies. The second half of my project concerns theatrical adaptations and appropriations that capitalize upon Shakespeare's racially charged signification within the civil rights era. The third chapter looks at a 1971 musical adaptation of The Two Gentlemen of Verona produced for New York's Public Theatre as it is enlisted in contemporary debates regarding racial essentialism, black aesthetics, and the politics of accommodation. Chapter four considers Amiri Baraka's Slave and Dutchman (1964), two thematically interrelated plays that self-consciously enact a kind of appropriative violence upon Shakespeare's Othello. Reading Baraka's Black Nationalist poetics in light of early modern revenge narratives, I explore how these two classic works of
experimental twentieth-century theatre function as retributive attacks upon one of western literature's foundational racial myths. In the conclusion, I respond to writer/director Rod Carley's late-twentieth-century adaptation, The Othello Project, which relocates Shakespeare's tragedy to the American South during the mid-1960s. Discussing the production's explicitly pedagogical aims, I turn finally to Shakespeare's continued dominance within mass education, examining several ways this power might be harnessed within the theatre in the service of a progressive racial politics.

Links:
The relationship of socioeconomic variables to syphilis rates in the state of Georgia

Author: Lambert, Rodriques A.

Abstract: Syphilis is an infectious disease that can lead to death if it goes untreated. Syphilis rates across the United States have increased since 2001. For this study I focus on the state of Georgia. Syphilis rates in Georgia increased from the year 2000 to 2009. The purpose of this study was to determine the extent to which socioeconomic status is associated with syphilis incidence rates. According to fundamental cause theory, socioeconomic status (SES) is important to consider for two reasons. SES involves access to
important resources that allow individuals to avoid diseases. This quantitative, ecologic study was designed to examine the extent to which employment status, poverty, and educational attainment were related to syphilis rates in Georgia. The data for this secondary analysis were extracted from the U.S. Census, the Georgia Online Analytical Statistical Information System (OASIS), the Georgia Department of Education, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor databases. The study represented a total population of 47,433,077 persons over five years within the state of Georgia. Results from the multiple regression showed that employment status, poverty status, and educational attainment were not significant predictors of syphilis rates in Georgia. The lack of significant findings for this study means that 18 public health districts may not be a large enough sample size to create the study environment to yield significant relationships. This research was significant in giving the state of Georgia insight as to how to apply socioeconomic factors to syphilis incidence. This study may be used to improve planning for syphilis interventions in the state of Georgia and find effective methods to prevent syphilis rates, thereby ending the disproportionate effects of syphilis.

Links:
Subject: Health sciences; Public health; Epidemiology

Classification: 0566: Health sciences; 0573: Public health; 0766: Epidemiology

Identifier / keyword: Health and environmental sciences, Ecological research design, Fundamental cause, Georgia, Quantitative, Socioeconomic, Syphilis
The temporal and spatial modeling of children's lead poisoning in Syracuse, New York

Author: Shao, Liyang
Abstract: This dissertation investigated the temporal trends and spatial patterns of children's lead poisoning in the early 1990s through the early 2010s in the city of Syracuse, NY. During the time period the continuous efforts on lead exposure reduction shifted from lead sources control to residential areas lead mitigation. This research used the 20-years surveillance data of children's blood lead levels (BLLs), and focused on selecting effective statistical modeling techniques to detect the temporal changes and spatial patterns. These methods included interrupted time series analysis, generalized linear mixed models, and geographically weighted generalized linear regression. The results of time series analysis showed that the children's BLLs reduced 50% from 8.77µg/dl to 3.94µg/dl in Syracuse, NY over the past two decades. After a decade of lead hazard control treatment program, the average children's BLLs reduced 2.1µg/dl, and the seasonal variation of the children's BLLs also decreased. Further, this research explored the statistical techniques to model the number of children's lead poisoning cases in each census block across the geographical areas of study and used the building year, town taxable value, and soil lead concentration as the predictors. The modeling results showed that the spatial negative binomial Hurdle model was the optimal model to deal with the overdispersion, excessive zeros, and spatially correlation in the spatial count data. The localized modeling method, geographical weighted logistic model, yielded an 11% improvement on predicting the true positives, and 4% improvement on the overall accuracy of model prediction. The
geographical weighted Poisson model showed that the spatially varying relationships outperformed the global relationships because it incorporated the spatial autocorrelation and heterogeneity in the spatial count data.

Links:

"To rise by Enterprize": Opportunism and Self-Interest in British Atlantic Literature, 1700-1854

Author: Filkow, Amie Bess


Abstract: This dissertation examines representations of self-interested colonial agency in British, American and Anglo-Caribbean literature written between 1700 and 1854. The eighteenth-century Atlantic world was one of unprecedented mobility and exchange, where the trade between Europe, Africa and the Americas created a global enterprise in sugar and slaves, and gave rise to new industries, identities and insecurities. By analyzing the entrepreneurial activities of illegitimate, denigrated or disenfranchised Atlantic figures—pirates, planters, slaves and free men of color—I argue that capitalist fantasies were widely invoked in the pursuit of freedom, and that this ambition enabled the self-making of the colonial other into both an economic producer and an agent of collective political resistance. Characterized by this duality, the Atlantic entrepreneur complicates and reworks the ideologies that cohere British national identity at a time of increasing imperial power. To demonstrate this, the three dissertation chapters consider different incarnations of the Atlantic
entrepreneur alongside the emergence of nation-building narratives of legitimacy, sensibility and progress. Chapter one reads Daniel Defoe's novels Colonel Jack and Captain Singleton, and John Gay's ballad opera Polly, and argues that pirates were not only entrepreneurial in their profit-seeking plundering, but also in the strategies they employed to challenge legitimate forms and create themselves as useful subjects. Chapter two uses sentimental novels by Sarah Robinson Scott and Henry Mackenzie, as well as Richard Cumberland's stage comedy The West Indian, to argue that the planter's profitable self-interest enabled his charitable benevolence, which in turn constructs him as an "Atlantic" man of feeling. Chapter three examines Olaudah Equiano's Interesting Narrative, Martin Delany's The Condition, Elevation, Emigration and Destiny of the Colored People of the United States, and Trinidadian writer Maxwell Philip's Emmanuel Appadocca; or, Blighted Life, A Tale of the Boucaneers, to reveal the opportunistic voice of a black Atlantic collective--an ambitious individualism that imagines racial emancipation. The dissertation seeks to demystify the liberal narratives of opportunism and self-made success by exploring how the violent, unstable and transformative Atlantic experiences of slavery, piracy, creolization and revolution inform economic individualism and enable the modern construction of the entrepreneurial "free" agent.

Links:
Subject: Caribbean literature; American literature; British and Irish literature
Infrastructure and Agency: Rural Electric Cooperatives and the Fight for Economic Democracy in the United States

Author: Spinak, Abby


Abstract: Flow do cooperative businesses influence economic and community development in practice? Recent calls for a "new economy" argue that co-ops and other kinds of distributed ownership should be capable of transforming neoliberal market relations into place-based, community-centered, and non-extractive modes of production and exchange. In direct contrast to these hopes about cooperatives, my dissertation on electric cooperatives in the United States shows that there can be little, if any, contradiction between community ownership and neoliberal market-based business practices. Therefore, the history of electric co-ops suggests that co-op advocates should exercise caution in their enthusiasm. My dissertation is a combined historical and qualitative study of a nation-wide network of electric cooperatives that have existed in the United States for nearly 80 years. Through historical research on the conception, funding, and implementation of these cooperatives, I explore how they were designed originally in service of rural industrial development and national growth as a solution to crisis during the precarious years of the Great Depression. Questioning how this orientation
restricted these co-ops' abilities to serve as community-focused institutions, I argue that the 1930s was a tipping point in American history when federal investment in rural electrification could have constructed a vast network of local democratic institutions, but didn't. However, in the interest of understanding how electric co-ops can yet be a transformative force for communities, I also conducted case studies of three co-ops where members recently pushed for changes in leadership and agenda. In my case study research, I examine how electric co-ops can in fact be a powerful venue for local democracy and community transformation; for this potential to be realized, though, co-op members must re-envision the co-op not as a single-issue business, but as a community institution in a broader political struggle. In studying these movements, my dissertation highlights the importance of focusing on the quality of democratic practice in co-ops, and ultimately asks whether and under what conditions the electric co-op model is capable of becoming a transformative economic influence. (Copies available exclusively from MIT Libraries, libraries.mit.edu/docs - docs@mit.edu)

Links:
Title: Infrastructure and Agency: Rural Electric Cooperatives and the Fight for Economic Democracy in the United States

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Dissertation/thesis number: 0829887
Abstract: Even though the name Karl Marx has survived in Shakespeare studies, more than two decades removed from the fall of the Berlin Wall and the Soviet Union, Marxist Shakespeare scholars tend to shy away from deep political polemics. Marxism, in general, has lost its political charge in academia as it has become canonized as a cultural and intellectual tradition. In "Recovering and Reconstructing Leftist Shakespeares," I aim to recover a neglected Marxist history and
reconstruct a Leftist political discourse in Shakespeare studies by retrieving the politics of Vladimir Lenin. To accomplish this, I turn to Shakespeare's history in the American proletarian movement of the 1920s and 1930s—a Leftist movement characterized by its support of Marxism-Leninism. By examining American proletarian literary theory, appropriations and adaptations of Shakespeare, and creative writing, I exhume this buried tradition and provide a corrective history of Shakespeare's cultural authority. I examine the relationships between art and propaganda and between proletarian culture and popular culture, and I advocate an active Leftist partisan approach to Shakespeare studies. A Leftist approach will take the intellectual Marxist tradition and re-politicize it by focusing on economic and political class relations that will complement gender, race, religious, and materialist theories. I argue that class is a social dynamic that is not mutually exclusive from any form of discrimination, and a shift to class-specific relationships with Shakespeare will ultimately complement progressive theoretical discourses.

Links:
Abstract: Racial integration and its outcomes have been critiqued for nearly 60 years. While the impact on teachers was vast, data on the impact on teachers outside of the American South is limited. The purpose of
this study was to explore the perspectives of 6 African American teachers who described experiences of racial integration and its progress in a rural Mid-Atlantic, predominantly White school district over 47 years. The theoretical framework was based on critical race theory. Experiences with racial integration, bias, and discrimination were compared between 2 cohorts of African American teachers in the same school district. Purposeful criteria sampling was used. Three veteran teachers who taught in any year between 1966-1971 and 3 contemporary teachers who taught in any year between 2008-2013 participated in this qualitative, phenomenological study. The data were collected in 3 interviews for each of the 6 participants and were analyzed by open coding for emergent themes. Results showed consistent perceptions by the participants in both cohorts. The themes revealed that teachers felt isolated, insulated, and highly visible or invisible. In addition, they sensed prejudicial treatment, challenged others’ perceptions, and ultimately, became social change agents in their schools. This study can be used to impact positive social change by informing professional development opportunities that target diversity issues, and by addressing and revising normative personnel practices within the school district to foster improved collegiality and more respectful relationships amongst all school and community stakeholders in public schools.

Links:
Subject: African American Studies; Education history; Teacher education

Classification: 0296: African American Studies; 0520: Education history; 0530: Teacher education
Abstract: Though often given little attention by historians, Abraham Lincoln's speeches on behalf of the Republican candidates in the 1859 Ohio state elections have the potential to transform the way we imagine both Lincoln as an orator, as well as his path to the Presidency. This study is a close textual analysis of the two primary speeches Lincoln gave in that campaign: the Columbus and Cincinnati texts. This analysis fills a vital gap missing in the way we understand Lincoln's political activities in the years leading up to his presidential nomination. Not only were these speeches a key component in his ascension into the ranks of national party leadership, they also tell us something profound about Lincoln as an orator and political strategist. Contrary to the popular depiction of Lincoln's rhetorical trajectory, these texts represent some of the most radical and explicit claims as to the existence of a slave power conspiracy and, more importantly, Stephen Douglas's active and knowing participation in that plot.

Links:
Abstract: Between 1973 and 1978, a dozen states containing over a third of the nation's population decriminalized or legalized the possession of marijuana. Through the work of groups like the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) and business groups catering to the growing field of
marijuana consumers, pot and its surrounding culture swept the United States, with head shops opening in local malls while movies and music celebrated the drug's use. In response to the increasing availability of marijuana, however, rates of adolescent marijuana use spiked. By 1979, 11 percent of high school seniors reported smoking pot daily. In response, a counterrevolution to marijuana's thriving "drug culture" formed among the nation's parents. The parent movement, founded by Marsha "Keith" Manatt Schuchard in the summer of 1976, rejected the common opinion that marijuana was harmless, and Schuchard emphasized that parents had a duty to take control of their children's environment and prevent their family from using drugs. Schuchard's platform, known as "parent power," was spread through meetings, media coverage, and educational forums and conferences, and thousands of desperate parents quickly joined the fold. By 1980, the movement had spread nationwide, with local parent groups in every state using education and consciousness-raising to further their message. By the time Ronald Reagan was elected to the presidency, the National Federation of Parents for Drug-Free Youth (NFP) had formed in nearby Silver Spring, Maryland. This national umbrella group engaged in political lobbying and organizing the over four thousand individual parent groups that had sprouted across the United States. It also aligned with Nancy Reagan when the first lady took on adolescent drug abuse prevention as her national platform. By 1983, members of the parent movement were involved in directing the course of federal anti-drug education, presenting at congressional
hearings, influencing national media campaigns, and determining how to use the millions of dollars in federal and private funding that the movement was regularly receiving. In the wake of these massive national anti-drug efforts, rates of adolescent marijuana use plummeted. Despite this success, however, the movement died off by the early 1990s. This dissertation is the first complete history of the parent movement, as well as an examination of its most long-lasting effects. It posits two primary arguments: that the parent movement was responsible for placing children at the center of the nation's war on drugs, and that its history complicates the overly-simplified narrative of "America’s right turn." It also exposes several of the hidden aspects of the movement's history, including the important contributions of non-white activists and the role that the parent movement, drug use and anti-drug prevention played in the nation's culture wars that took place during this time. Supported by interviews with parent activists as well as access to newsletters, correspondence and other materials, this dissertation shows how intimately connected the parent movement was to the social and political environment of its time, and how its contributions to the nation's war on drugs continue to have deep ramifications today.

Links:
Science, technology, and Swedish-American identity: An immigrant acculturation in Chicago, 1890-1935

Author: Tsuchida, Eiko

Abstract: This dissertation examines a process by which European immigrants to the United States responded to the American faith in science and technology, and participated in the making of the ideology. The dissertation explores this issue by using the specific case of Swedish-American organizations in Chicago, and their activities in the years around the turn of the nineteenth and twentieth century. In the course of the discussion, the dissertation examines how different sectors of the Swedish-American community responded to the emerging American ideology of technological utopia, so to speak, and participated in the making of discourse and symbols that supported the idea. My hypothesis is that, by participating in the construction of an American discourse regarding science and technology, each of the different sectors of the Swedish-American community was fulfilling its own agenda: for middle-class Swedish-Americans, familiar with romantic views on the origin and history of the Swedish "race," it was an act of confirmation that they were destined to become part of the American nation; for business and political leaders of the community, it was integration into the American industrial system and the securing of socially respectable positions in American society; for working-class and labor movement-oriented Swedes, it was an expectation that they would acquire a tool and an opportunity that would give them powers to become more salient agents of social change; and for the emerging class of engineers, it was a critical moment that would boost their professionalism and their status
within the hierarchy of occupations. Even though the agendas and efforts of these groups did not always work in concert, when taken as a whole, they were participating in—and possibly accelerating—the process of forming American national culture into a science- and technology-oriented one.

Links:
Hallucinatory empires: Troping knowledge in the early atlantic world

Author: Hutchins, Daniel de Paula Valentim


Abstract: This dissertation is a comparative study of travel narratives produced by Europeans about the Americas during the second half of the sixteenth century. It treats three texts: Michel de Montaigne's "Of Cannibals"; Jean de Léry's History of a Voyage to the Land of Brazil; and Thomas Harriot's A Brief and True Report of the Newfound Land of Virginia. The specific focus of this dissertation is on the conceptual categories of time and space and their relationship to the problem of producing knowledge. Hallucinatory Empires analyzes the recurrent tropes of modernity and globalization in these three texts not only for the ways they buttressed European claims of sovereignty and cultural and moral supremacy - but also as imaginative creations that served as a means of rereading and
questioning their own status as a priori knowledge. In addition to establishing this "tropic" dimension as an illuminating lens for viewing such imaginative exchanges, Hallucinatory Empires also points towards the alternative chronologies and genealogies that may emerge when we begin to consider "troping" as a viable mode for historiography itself. "Hallucination," in other words, is not only an observable feature of my historical and cultural source material, but forms a deliberate aspect of this work's critical practice. Accordingly, each chapter unfolds a dialogic encounter between a primary text from the colonial archive and a more contemporary work of critical theory, imaginative fiction or, in the case of the third chapter, revelation. These dialogic encounters represent a strategy for accessing - hallucinating - other modernities left out of the Western knowledge project.

Links:
Subject: Comparative literature; American studies; American literature

Classification: 0295: Comparative literature; 0323: American studies; 0591: American literature

Identifier / keyword: Language, literature and linguistics, Social sciences, Hallucinatory empires, Priori knowledge, Troping knowledge, Atlantic world

Title: Hallucinatory empires: Troping knowledge in the early atlantic world

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Advisor: Michael, John

Committee member: Tawil, Ezra, Haidu, Rachel, Slaughter, Thomas

University/institution: University of Rochester

Department: School of Arts and Sciences

University location: United States -- New York

Degree: Ph.D.

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Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3614969
Constructions of the muse: Blues tribute poems in twentieth and twenty-first-century American poetry

Author: Rutter, Emily Ruth

Abstract: Moving chronologically from the New Negro Renaissance into the contemporary era, my dissertation examines poetic representations of five blues artists: Gertrude "Ma" Rainey, Bessie Smith, Billie Holiday, Huddie Ledbetter (Leadbelly), and Robert Johnson. Despite extensive scholarship on the blues and these icons, blues tribute poems have remained un(der)studied. Filling in this critical gap, I draw
attention to the valuable sociocultural work that poets perform by continuously breathing new life into the blues in general and these artists in particular. At the same time, I contend that poets transform readers' understandings of blues men and women by investing them with mythic and symbolic qualities that correspond with their own (and often the era's) aesthetic and ideological concerns. Blues tribute poems, I argue, constitute a distinct and influential subgenre of American poetry—one that combines the mythic and the historical, the oral blues tradition and the written poetic one and invites readers to imagine, listen, and ultimately to internalize the images and narratives that poets advance. Although there have been numerous blues figures invoked as muses, I maintain that Rainey, Smith, Holiday, Leadbelly, and Johnson possess what Joseph Roach terms an "it" quality that makes them compelling to generations of poets, historians, and music fans alike. Poetry offers a medium through which artists during any era can put forward their own interpretations of what these icons symbolize. Since the poets in this study are typically invoking these artists posthumously, they are also able to utilize poetic license to a much greater extent than would have been possible if these men and women had still been alive and performing. Indeed, the poet-muse relationship is not a one-sided affair, for blues tribute poets both document and produce sociocultural histories. Ultimately then, my project demonstrates that twentieth- and twenty-first century poets not only engage popular culture and sociocultural history but
play significant and often unacknowledged roles in shaping readers' understandings of them.

Links:
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Title: Constructions of the muse: Blues tribute poems in twentieth and twenty-first-century American poetry

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Committee member: Glass, Kathy L., Engel, Laura, Kinnahan, Thomas P.

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American philanthropic studies: The Chicago school of civics and philanthropy (1903-1920)

Author: Seely, Dagmar


Abstract: Graham Taylor was a leader in the movement for schools of civics and philanthropy. As founder of the Chicago School of Civics and Philanthropy, Taylor served as President and Professor. The study focuses on the development of the study of philanthropy through following the pedagogy of Graham Taylor beginning with his early efforts during the late 1880's. In 1894 while head of the Department of Christian Sociology at the Chicago Theological Seminary, he founded the Chicago Commons settlement which provided early training in philanthropy. While a Professorial Lecturer in sociology at the University of Chicago, Taylor initiated training in philanthropic and social work in 1903 which became formalized the next year as the Institute of Social Science and the Arts. In 1906, the school operated under the Chicago Commons as the Chicago Institute for Social Science and established a Department of Social Research. The School of Civics and Philanthropy was established in 1908 for the
"instruction, training, investigation, and publication, the efficiency of civic, philanthropic, and social work, and the improvement of living and working conditions." The study is contextualized within a historical analysis and examination of the philanthropic, social and educational factors contributing to the development of the Chicago School of Civics and Philanthropy. The schools, their directors, instructors and staff developed the scholarship and literature in the philanthropic, voluntary and charitable field and produced studies, books, articles, and published journals and magazines, The dissertation relies significantly on their works.

Links:
Subject: Pedagogy; Curriculum development; Higher education

Classification: 0456: Pedagogy; 0727: Curriculum development; 0745: Higher education

Identifier / keyword: Education, Schools of philanthropy

Title: American philanthropic studies: The Chicago school of civics and philanthropy (1903-1920)

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Place of publication: Ann Arbor
Staging Modernism at the 1915 San Francisco World's Fair

Author: Applegate, Heidi


Abstract: Drawing upon theories concerning visuality, spectatorship, consumption, and the institutionalization of culture, this dissertation considers the ways that the art exhibition at the Panama Pacific International Exposition (PPIE) attempted to make modern art accessible and acceptable to a mass audience in America. The story of the exhibition in the Palace of Fine Arts demonstrates how the American artistic establishment incorporated modernism into the conservative idiom of a major international exposition by promoting a definition and understanding of "modern" art that was distinctly national, celebrated individual style over subject matter, and was even open to personal interpretation. Making use of lessons learned at the Armory Show, the PPIE Art Department provided visitors with clear instruction on how to experience the exhibition, how to contextualize it within the broader history of art, and how to subjectively engage with individual works. Through analysis of the exhibition’s design, the didactic
practices of the Art Department, and the commentary that ensued in the popular press, this project documents the PPIE as a significant institutional venue for the advancement of American art history, as well as the process and contradictions of creating a public for modern art. Chapter One provides an overview of the details of the exhibition's organization, its role within the larger structure of a vastly popular, commercial, and nationalistic enterprise, as well as a framework for defining modernism as it pertained to the PPIE. Chapter Two compares paintings in the art exhibition with other attractions that featured fine art as paid entertainment at the Fair, as a means of examining provincial and national anxieties about nudity, the Futurists, and the definition of high art. Chapter Three analyzes the fine art guidebooks and how they organized, controlled and encouraged certain kinds of viewing experiences of the art exhibition. Focusing on Sargent and Bellows as case studies in how Art Department officials attempted to create a genealogy for modern art, Chapter Four considers the relationship established between the more radical artists in the competition galleries and those canonized as major figures with galleries of their own. The conclusion discusses the lasting impact of the fair through sales and the establishment of a permanent museum for San Francisco.

Links:
Subject: American history; Art history

Classification: 0337: American history; 0377: Art history

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Communication and the arts, Art exhibition, Exposition, Palace of fine arts, Panama-Pacific, San Francisco, California

Title: Staging Modernism at the 1915 San Francisco World's Fair
A Permanent Dragnet?: Drug Arrests, Violent Crime, and Durable Disadvantage in the Urban US

Author: Friedson, Michael Seth

Abstract: This dissertation analyzes changes in the drug arrest rates of approximately two-hundred United States cities, the largest by population in 1990, from around 1980, prior to the advent of crack cocaine and the accompanying increase in drug arrest rates, until 2008, when violent crime levels had experienced
sustained and major declines in the urban US. Drug arrests are demonstrated to be an important research topic because of the contribution of drug law enforcement to record high US prison admission and incarceration rates, as well as possible disparate impacts of aggressive drug law enforcement upon poor and minority communities. The analysis focuses particularly on the changing relationship of drug arrest rates to urban violence levels and indicators of disadvantage. Also included in the dissertation are chapters analyzing the changing relationship of drug arrests to drug abuse as a public health problem, as indicated by drug-related emergency room hospitalization rates; the changing composition of drug arrest rates by race of arrestee, drug type, and seriousness (possession vs. distribution) of the offense; and changing patterns of drug usage with regard to the socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of users. Longitudinal multivariate statistical techniques, including multilevel mixed effects modeling, are used to determine the static and dynamic urban characteristics associated with trajectories of change in municipal drug arrest rates, subsequent to their mid-1990s peak period. Changes in municipal violent crime levels are also modeled, from their early-1990s peak period onward, for the purpose of comparison. The central substantive question framing the inquiry concerns better understanding the tendency of drug arrest rates to remain elevated near their peak levels, through the 1990s and 2000s, even as urban violence levels, with which drug arrest rates were once strongly associated, precipitously and sustainably declined. The dissertation
analyzes the unraveling of a previously tight nexus between municipal drug arrest rates, urban violence levels, indicators of drugs as a public health problem, and contemporaneous indicators of urban disadvantage, even as drug arrest rates have remained closely connected to—and indeed become a durable aspect of—long-term patterns of disadvantage in the urban US.

Links:
Subject: Criminology

Classification: 0627: Criminology

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Concentrated disadvantage, Crack cocaine, Drug abuse, Mass incarceration, War on drugs, Arrest rates

Title: A Permanent Dragnet?: Drug Arrests, Violent Crime, and Durable Disadvantage in the Urban US

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ISBN: 9781303805622

Author: Haehn, Timothy Jeffrey


Abstract: This dissertation proposes a fundamental reassessment of guilt in twentieth-century American literature. I claim that guilt ought to be understood not so much in relation to the Holocaust or the history of U.S. race relations as in relation to the state. In readings of Mary McCarthy, Richard Wright, J. D. Salinger, Arthur Miller, and Saul Bellow, as well as the early Superman comics and fiction and criticism that invoke Fyodor Dostoevsky's work, this project demonstrates how authors of fiction and popular culture mobilize feelings of responsibility and guilt to symbolize anxieties over the diminished role of the state as a vehicle for public relief. As the federal government jettisoned burdens that it had borne since the Depression, the writers in question depict various mechanisms employed by individuals to absorb state burdens and to compensate for the reduced availability of state-backed relief. With renewed emphasis on existential categories such as guilt, freedom, and
anxiety, I trace tensions at the core of mid-twentieth-century narratives that situate them squarely within the problematics of antistatism. The figure of the statesman emerges in the late thirties and early forties as the main inheritor of state burdens. Mary McCarthy's The Company She Keeps (1943), Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster's early Superman comics (1938-1942), and Richard Wright's "The Man Who Lived Underground" (1942) can be read, I suggest in Chapters One and Two, as extended ruminations on how statesmen conceive their function of rendering aid to others as increasingly oppressive in direct correlation with the curtailment of federal relief initiatives. Chapter Three pauses to consider a strain of writing that celebrated antistatist sentiments by invoking (and thereby misreading) Fyodor Dostoevsky as a proponent of the guilty conscience. The first attempt of its kind to chronicle Dostoevsky's influence on an array of prominent American intellectuals, this chapter utilizes my knowledge of Russian to expose a dimension of Dostoevsky's work that is far less antistatist than his readers have presumed. Chapters Four and Five look at Arthur Miller's Death of a Salesman and Saul Bellow's Seize the Day and conclude that the celebration of antistatism found in the previous chapter did not last for long. In excavating latent discontents from Miller's and Bellow's work, I reveal a critique of antistatism implicit in guilty musings from the fifties that has gone unnoticed due to abiding Cold War biases.

Links:
http://RT4RF9QN2Y.search.serialssolutions.com/?ctx_ve
Citizenship and The Voice: The Arrival of Late Biopolitics

Author: Galaraga, Tom


Abstract: Although the War on Terror has been defined by many scholars as indicative of modernity's own biopolitical tendencies, there still remains a question regarding the birth and arrival of this very governmental perspective: at least as far as a history of the United States is concerned. Citizenship and the Voice addresses this; and as a project, historicizes the birth of a uniquely American biopower and the impact that this mode of governmentality has had on the social body. In unearthing this particular history, what is uncovered is a shift in the logics of the State and an application of its own power--further indicating the arrival of a late mode of biopolitics. Returning to history of resistance--more specifically, the Federal Government's attempts to legally regulate this voice, this flow of discourse--regulations such as the Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798, and the Espionage and Sedition Acts of 1917 provide the evidence to demonstrate that the legal system has itself become a technology of control. This technology no longer serves justice, but instead, the biopolitical governmentality of the United States. While both of these laws marked an attempt of the State to secure the future existence of a particular way of American life, the penning of the Espionage Act--
I argue— ushered in a new wave of political rhetorics and common-sense approaches to the construction of power that deviate from the traditional conditions of biopower, as theorized by Michel Foucault. This evolution in the biopolitical governmentality of the United States can be attributed to a rise in telecommunications structures that emerged just a few decades before the outbreak of the First World War. These networks transformed the way that acts of espionage were conducted and began a new era of information warfare, transforming the public's own understanding of national security. In charting the evolution of biopower, this project reveals the cost of individual freedom in the United States. A price that individuals such as Bradley/Chelsea Manning, who challenged the image of the nation as a defender of life, have been forced to legally pay.

Links:
Subject: American studies; American history; Political science

Classification: 0323: American studies; 0337: American history; 0615: Political science

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Biopolitics, Biopower, Foucault, Governmentality, Law, Technology

Title: Citizenship and The Voice: The Arrival of Late Biopolitics

Number of pages: 197

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Degree date: 2013

School code: 0029
Masquerading from the periphery: Literary and visual representations of performative vampiric corporeality in the Anglo-American Gothic tradition, 1816 - 2013

Author: Gal, Ana-Gratiela

Abstract: What might one make of the contemporary vampire's tentative assimilation into the mainstream, as opposed to Dracula's antiquated vampirism? Does the vampire's corporeal permutation reflect progress and freedom from old prejudices or is it, ultimately, a beautifully pre-packaged illusion? These are questions that this dissertation attempts to answer by examining the figure of the vampire in written and visual texts of British and American writers from the nineteenth century to the present. In contrast to readings in the
dominant critical tradition that figure the vampiric body only as a reflection of its immediate historical and cultural context, my intention in this dissertation is two-fold: firstly, I argue for a correspondence among various texts and historical periods as well as articulate an interpretive "vampire" paradigm - collecting recurrent patterns - that better explicates the obsessive historical continuity of the vampire with its idiosyncrasies in Western culture; secondly, a paradigm emphasizing the continuity and not solely the mutability of the vampire allows us not only to generate a unified text about the kind of developments that have been taking place in the Anglo-American space since the nineteenth century, but also to collect the multifarious anxieties and trends specific to Western society during the past two centuries into a more coherent phenomenon. Extending Judith Butler's understanding of gender performativity to include all variables of identity, and replacing these variables and the binaries that they engender with the all-encompassing dichotomy center-periphery that characterizes Western discourses, I analyze how several authors have employed the performative in relation to vampires to make sense of the kind of negotiations that have transpired between the dominant ideology and marginal values in the Western space since the nineteenth century. By comparing the nineteenth-century hegemonic model to the late twentieth- and twenty-first-century responses to cultural and ethnic diversity, I argue that the vampire's adaptive performative body reveals not the evolution of the central ideological apparatus but the way in which
"otherness" is aestheticized, stylized, and sanitized today under the pressures of consumerism and a constant push for multiculturalism, as opposed to how it was "uglified" in the nineteenth century.

Links:
Subject: American literature; British and Irish literature; Film studies

Classification: 0591: American literature; 0593: British and Irish literature; 0900: Film studies

Identifier / keyword: Language, literature and linguistics, Communication and the arts, Vampire, Performativity, Center-periphery, Transatlantic

Title: Masquerading from the periphery: Literary and visual representations of performative vampiric corporeality in the Anglo-American Gothic tradition, 1816 - 2013

Number of pages: 199

Publication year: 2013

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School code: 1194

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Place of publication: Ann Arbor
Document 46 of 99

White paper, black ink: The black press of sao paulo and Chicago, 1900-1950

Author: Castro, Cristian

Abstract: This dissertation reevaluates the development of Black urban culture in Chicago and São Paulo during the first half of the twentieth-century through a transnational perspective. Focusing on the black press, or press published by both afro-descendants communities, this dissertation analyzes how African-Americans Chicagoans and Afro-Paulistas negotiated race and citizenship through the construction of a transnational imagined community of the black press. I argue that both afro-descendants communities were part of transnational community that redefined modernity in their own terms: black modernity, a particular understanding of modern subjectivity among people of African descent. Thus, Afro-Brazilians in São Paulo and African Americans in Chicago defined their racial and national identities through transnational dialogues. These dialogues emanated from the extant circuits of knowledge that
governed global-local cultural currents in the first half of the twentieth-century. I propose that by understanding and mapping these transnational connections through the study of the racial negotiation in these two cities, this dissertation can become a first step towards a better and more sophisticated understanding of post-slavery societies in the Americas.

Links:
Committee member: Langland, Victoria F., Walker, Clarence E.

University/institution: University of California, Davis

Department: History

University location: United States -- California

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

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Strange fruit: An examination and comparison of themes in the anti-lynching dramas of black and white women authors of the early twentieth-century (1916-1936)

Author: Paul, Anna Jo

Abstract: Ten lynching dramas are analyzed and compared in this dissertation. In all ten, written by African American and white women authors, between 1916-1936, a combination of eight themes are presented: supremacy, hypocrisy, complicity, resistance, futility of black life, faith, trauma and motherhood. The intent of the analysis of themes is to determine each dramatist's representation of the themes through action, stage directions or elements of characterization. Following the examination of the dramas, a comparison is made between the similarities or differences that are apparent between those written by African American women authors and those of white women authors. I have chosen to examine both African American and white women authors because at this time in history, white women had joined the ASWPL (Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching) in an interracial effort to affect change and the curtailment of lynching, a rampant social problem.
that was becoming extreme. This dissertation offers an over-view of the historical climate of the South from Emancipation to the end of Reconstruction 1863-1877. It includes a discussion on the genesis of lynching and the horrors of ritual sacrifice, along with the campaign against lynching that was influential in bringing attention to the phenomenon following Reconstruction and into the mid-twentieth century. The histories of Black Theatre and Realistic Literature are also discussed in relation to the anti-lynching writing campaign that was begun by Ida B. Wells in 1892 and continued through the efforts of Southern white women under the guidance of Jessie Daniel Ames. The ten anti-lynching plays analyzed and compared in this work demonstrate the issues that faced both races: for the white race it was "educating and warning" the African American race to "mind their place" in order to avoid punishment; for the African American race, lynching became a form of terrorism and exorcism. An estimated five thousand individuals died by the noose following the Civil War and into the mid-twentieth century. During that time, few perpetrators were convicted for their crimes, but hundreds of African American families lost loved ones because of racial prejudice. The anti-lynching dramas serve as an archival and historical picture of the phenomenon that became a national embarrassment, and demonstrate how lives were destroyed at "the hands of persons unknown" (Dray, Book Title). The plays analyzed in this dissertation include: African American Women Dramatists and their works: Aftermath by Mary Burrill (1919); Rachel by Angelina Weld Grimké (1916); Safe, (1929), A Sunday
Morning in the South (1925), both by Georgia Douglas Johnson; and Nails and Thorns by May Miller (1930)

White Women Dramatists and their works: Black Souls by Annie Nathan Meyer (1932); The Forfeit by Conic Crandall Howell (1925); Lawd, Does You Undahstan? By Ann Seymour Link (1936); The Noose by Tracy Mygatt (1929); and The Awakening by Mary White Ovington (1923).

Links:

Subject: African American Studies; Performing Arts; Theater History

Classification: 0296: African American Studies; 0641: Performing Arts; 0644: Theater History

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Communication and the arts, Gender studies, Anti lynching drama, Lynching in America, Black womens dramatists, Black theatre

Title: Strange fruit: An examination and comparison of themes in the anti-lynching dramas of black and white women authors of the early twentieth-century (1916-1936)

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Advisor: Allen, Annette

University/institution: University of Louisville

University location: United States -- Kentucky

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Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3579958

ProQuest document ID: 1520025071

Document URL:
From Colonies to Nation: Locating the Historical Legitimacy of the American Charter School Movement

Author: Goodridge, Shane Michael

Abstract: From colonies to nation, this work identifies and emphasizes the influence of interdependent communal relationships on the ascent of the charter school movement. These ideals were made manifest in colonial social covenants that were then compromised by the conformist republican mandate of the common school. These ideals were recovered incrementally as education was affected by broader historical forces, most notably the implementation of court-sanctioned racial apartheid during the Plessy era, the reaction to the underwhelming impact of Brown, and, beginning in the 1980s, the rise of legislation that prepared the way for charter schools. Moreover, this work challenges the assumption that charter schools have proven popular with American citizens due solely to promises of
superior academic results. Alternatively, this work suggests that charter schools have prospered because they have challenged the state monopoly in K-12 education, and have thus returned balance to the dynamic between the individual and the state. Finally, this work troubles the idea that charter schools are balkanizing American education, suggesting that the right of citizens to form charter schools, in an effort to sustain unique communities, justifies and is in fact endorsed by the American metanarrative. Research on American charter schools lacks a coherent historical framework. This work provides the charter school movement with an historical narrative that argues for the movement's legitimacy based on its consistency with the American Republic's founding philosophy.

Links:
A secret history of volleyball

Author: Mobley, Alex M.

Abstract: A "secret history" considers the global authorship of volleyball beyond the standard history of a single inventor and obliterates assumptions of the inferior creativity of colonized, Asian, queer, and/or indigenous subjects. Volleyball is both ubiquitous and yet mostly relegated to mere footnotes in the histories of American team sport, a reflection of its status as an "insurgent" game hiding in plain sight. This dissertation examines the interfaces among colonizing evangelical sporting traditions of the Young Men's Christian Association, military doctrine, and indigenous creative
resistances that helped to drive volleyball’s evolution beyond purely masculinist narratives of team sport.

Links:
p;rft.jtitle=&amp;rft.atitle=&amp;rft.au=Mobley%2C+Alex+M.&amp;rft.aulast=Mobley&amp;rft.aufirst=Alex&amp;rft.date=2013-01-01&amp;rft.volume=&amp;rft.issue=&amp;rft.spage=&amp;rft.isbn=9781303802645&amp;rft.btitle=&amp;rft.title=A+secret+history+of+volleyball&amp;rft.issn=&amp;rft_id=info:doi/

Subject: American studies; Kinesiology; Gender studies
University/institution: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Department: Inst of Communications Rsch

University location: United States -- Illinois

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3614662

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Copyright: Copyright ProQuest, UMI Dissertations Publishing 2013

Database: ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Full Text

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Document 50 of 99
Abstract: This dissertation examines the period of pan-Indigenous activism in Canada and in the United States between 1950 and 1975. The rights era in both countries presented important challenges for both legislators and for minority groups. In a post-war context increasingly concerned with equality and global justice, minority groups were uniquely positioned to exact from the government perhaps greater concessions than ever before. For Indigenous groups, however, the potential of this period delivered only in part due to initiatives like the Great Society and the Just Society which, while claiming to offer justice for Indigenous people, threatened them as perhaps never before, by homogenizing Indigenous people and their demands with those of other minority groups. As such, I argue that the broader political and social context of the rights era served to inform, but not to dictate, the shape and content of the Indigenous rights movement. The relationship of Indigenous activism to other forms of activism during the rights era was both complicated and contentious, with Indigenous activists conceiving of their struggle in markedly different terms than other marginalized groups. Within this context, I examine the
formation of both mainstream and alternative organizations, as well as their responses to the challenges of radicalism, of youth culture and of gender. I argue that the failure of mainstream organizations to properly address the grassroots contributed to a crisis of legitimacy within an increasingly crowded organizational milieu. As both the documentary record and oral accounts demonstrate, what many have demarcated as a new period of "pan-Indian" unity, therefore, was also marked by important division and protest that has often been overlooked in laudatory accounts of the activism of the period. These internal critiques also serve to explain why the mid-1970s signaled an important change in organizational tactics in both countries, at least in the way they had been practiced previously. In addition, the proliferation of rights-seeking groups demonstrated an important echo pattern whereby both policy and protest was replicated and reinvented in a Canadian context slightly later than in an American one.

Links:
Subject: Canadian history; Native American studies

Classification: 0334: Canadian history; 0740: Native American studies

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, History, Aboriginal

Title: 'Rise up - make haste - our people need us!' : Pan-Indigenous Activism in Canada and the United States, 1950 to 1975
African identity in Christian epistemology: Remembering, restoring, and reclaiming ancestral ties in an African Methodist Episcopal Church

Author: Faulks, Michael E.

Abstract: This project, a historical African-centered biblical study model, aims to lead Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal church in the reexamination and embrace of its ancestral ties. Turner, positioned within an inter-racial suburban community of Marietta,
Georgia, aspires to become a multi-ethnic worshipping community; inadvertently, Turner has neglected its own heritage. Michael Faulks serves as Pastor of Christian Education. If Turner is presented with this African-centered Bible curriculum, then its members will embrace their history as sacred, birthing a genesis identity of self. The mix-method model comprises six-weekly, two-hour Bible sessions, which incorporates surveys, journaling and interviews to assess the responses.

Links:

Subject: African American Studies; Alternative Medicine; Religious education

Classification: 0296: African American Studies; 0496: Alternative Medicine; 0527: Religious education

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Health and environmental sciences, Education, Identity, Inferiority, Genesis, Assimilation, Diaspora, Liberation

Title: African identity in Christian epistemology: Remembering, restoring, and reclaiming ancestral ties in an African Methodist Episcopal Church

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Publication year: 2013

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School code: 0456
"This Wrong Being Done to My People": Street Gangs, Historical Agency, and Crime Politics in Postwar America

Author: Stubbendeck, Megan

Abstract: For over two hundred years, street gangs have existed in American cities, yet gang violence did not become a sustained national concern until after World War II. Beginning in 1945, the number of cities reporting gang violence expanded and the number of identified gang members grew exponentially. As a result, from the late 1950s through the early 1990s, gang violence became a sustained national crime issue. This dissertation uncovers how ideas about gangs changed during this period and who was responsible for these changes. It analyzes how different groups shaped the federal government’s response to gang violence and the political battles this process entailed. Generally, scholars focus on politicians and the news media as the primary architects of crime-related politics. This study, however, argues that although these actors helped
make gangs a political issue, police officers, minority leaders, and gang members played a central role as well. Each of these groups developed their own understandings of street gangs, which included perceptions about the types of activities gangs partook in, what caused gang-related crime, and the racial composition of American gangs. In turn, each group proposed unique solutions specific to their understandings of the "gang issue." Through these proposals--and working in conjunction with journalists, sociologists, social workers, and federal officials--these actors determined the crime-fighting solutions available to lawmakers. In doing so, they helped make crime a political battleground at the federal level and took part in constructing national crime policy. These efforts gave rise to two divergent forms of crime control--one liberal and one conservative--in the 1960s and early 1970s, followed by increasingly punitive policies in the 1980s and 1990s. By incorporating these oft-ignored actors, this study explains why lawmakers made the policy decisions that ultimately resulted in the modern carceral state.

Links:
Title: "This Wrong Being Done to My People": Street Gangs, Historical Agency, and Crime Politics in Postwar America

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Advisor: Hale, Grace Elizabeth

Committee member: Harold, Claudrena N., Balogh, Brian, Balfour, Lawrie

University/institution: University of Virginia

Department: History

University location: United States -- Virginia
Abstract: Beginning in the late 19th century, changing conceptions of relatedness between people and other animals -- and animals' assumed capacities for, or susceptibilities to, mental or emotional distress-- were influenced by debates over what it meant to be both human and sane in Britain and the United States. Through a historical, partly-ethnographic, investigation of animal insanity in various times and places in the Anglo-American world from the late 19th century through the early 21st, I argue that identifying animal madness, insanity, nervous disorders, anxiety disorders, phobias, depression, obsessive compulsivities, suicidal behaviors and more, has not only served as a way of affixing meaning to puzzling animal acts, but has been used to denote borders (or lack thereof) between certain groups of humans and certain groups of animals. As with other divisions, such as those hinging on race, gender, nationality or class, ideas surrounding which humans and which other animals could experience particular forms of insanity have been used to justify certain forms of treatment (or mistreatment), to rationalize needs for confinement or freedom, or to determine what sorts of people and other creatures were deserving of rights and to what degree. I suggest that the history of attempts to identify certain emotional phenomena such as melancholy and suicidal behavior in horses and monkeys, to, more recently, obsessive-compulsivity in parrots and PTSD in military dogs, demonstrates that other animals have acted as mirrors and proxies for disordered Anglo-American minds for more than a century. Drawing upon archival sources, published literature in the fields of ethology,
psychology, psychiatry, psychopharmacology, and the veterinary sciences, as well as environmental history, history of medicine and animal studies, combined with interviews and participant observation, I argue that attempts to locate insanity, mental illness, dysfunction and "normalcy" among nonhumans has had wide-ranging effects on diagnostic and therapeutic practices in humans and other animals alike in the United States and Britain. (Copies available exclusively from MIT Libraries, libraries.mit.edu/docs - docs@mit.edu)

Links:

Subject: Cultural anthropology; Science history; Behavioral Sciences

Classification: 0326: Cultural anthropology; 0585: Science history; 0602: Behavioral Sciences

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Psychology

Title: Animal Madness: A Natural History of Disorder

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

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Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

Advisor: Ritvo, Harriet

University/institution: Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Carry the fire: Intersections of apocalypse, primitivism, and masculinity in American literature, 1945-2000

Author: Barth, Dylan
Abstract: This dissertation examines American apocalyptic and post-apocalyptic texts from 1945-2000 in order to consider the varying ways that masculinity has been constructed in relation to the imagined primitive. The first chapter provides an overview of studies in apocalypse, primitivism, and masculinity to lay the foundation for the in-depth, critical analyses that follow. The second chapter provides an operational definition of American post-apocalyptic fiction as well as a survey of American post-apocalyptic fiction that includes George Stewart’s Earth Abides, Richard Matheson’s I Am Legend, Pat Frank’s Alas, Babylon, Robert Heinlein's Farnham's Freehold, Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle's Lucifer's Hammer, and David Brin's The Postman. The remaining chapters focus on analyses of apocalyptic texts, texts that gesture toward apocalypse without explicitly depicting a catastrophic event. The third chapter, therefore, examines Edward Abbey's Desert Solitaire, a non-fiction work of nature writing centered on the American Southwest in which Abbey constructs the image of the ecocentric male whose commitment to deep ecological thinking and a rugged, self-sufficient masculinity become reinforced through direct encounters with the primitive. The fourth chapter considers how William Gibson's cyberpunk novel Neuromancer reimagines the intersections of masculinity, primitivism, and apocalypse in the heterotopic sites of cyberspace and through the
formulation of the virtual male. The fifth and final chapter analyzes Chuck Palahniuk's Fight Club, which employs conventions of the post-apocalyptic genre to highlight the limitations of apocalyptic fantasy and the effects it has upon contemporary men who think encounters with the primitive could allow for more "authentic" approaches to masculinity. Overall, this project highlights several key tensions between white men and men of color, between moral and savage men, and between sheer physical force and strength of mind. The intersections of apocalypse and primitivism, therefore, constitute the figurative territory in which competing constructions of American manhood have been debated in the late twentieth-century.

Links:
The invention of the graphic novel: Underground comix and corporate aesthetics

Author: Gilmore, Shawn Patrick

Abstract: This dissertation explores what I term the invention of the graphic novel, or more specifically, the process by which stories told in comics (or graphic narratives) form became longer, more complex, concerned with deeper themes and symbolism, and formally more coherent, ultimately requiring a new publication format, which came to be known as the graphic novel. This format was invented in fits and starts throughout the twentieth century, and I argue throughout this dissertation that only by examining the
nuances of the publishing history of twentieth-century comics can we fully understand the process by which the graphic novel emerged. In particular, I show that previous studies of the history of comics tend to focus on one of two broad genealogies: 1) corporate, commercially-oriented, typically superhero-focused comic books, produced by teams of artists; 2) individually-produced, counter-cultural, typically autobiographical underground comix and their subsequent progeny. In this dissertation, I bring these two genealogies together, demonstrating that we can only truly understand the evolution of comics toward the graphic novel format by considering the movement of artists between these two camps and the works that they produced along the way. Ultimately, I show that comics became graphic novels by invoking notions of visual parataxis, holistic forms, and Modernist unity, which allowed for book-length comics that were much more than just collections of comic-book pages, but instead were a new publishing form. My dissertation traces a series of moments in the history of the graphic novel. In my introduction, I take up the current field of comic studies and establish the terms by which we distinguish the modern graphic novel from other book-length comics. In my first chapter, I examine the cross-pollination of Modernism and comics, arguing that they share an emphasis on unifying disparate elements, with an emphasis on the problem of visual or graphic narrative. In my second and third chapters, I take up the rise of the first comic-book auteur, Jack Kirby, who helped shape the early comic-book industry and show how Gil Kane and Richard Corben took his model to
create the first graphic novel to imagine itself as such in 1976. In chapters four and five, I examine the works of Art Spiegelman, Frank Miller, and Alan Moore, who all, in 1986-87, published works that established the graphic novel in the public consciousness as a viable sales format. Finally, in chapter six and my coda, I take up the works of Alison Bechdel, Chris Ware, and an argument by Eddie Campbell that allow us to consider the ramifications of the codification of the graphic novel.

Links:
p;rft.jtitle=&amp;rft.atitle=&amp;rft.au=Gilmore%2C+Shawn+Patrick&amp;rft.aufirst=Shawn&amp;rft.aullast=Gilmore&amp;rft.date=2013-01-01&amp;rft.volume=&amp;rft.issue=&amp;rft.spage=&amp;rft.isbn=9781303801938&amp;rft.btitle=&amp;rft.title=The+invention+of+the+graphic+novel%3A+Underground+comix+and+corporate+aesthetics&amp;rft.issn=&amp;rft_id=info:doi/

p;rft.jtitle=&amp;rft.atitle=&amp;rft.au=Gilmore%2C+Sh
Bringing them home: Native american students from lake and mendocino counties at sherman institute and their families and peoples, 1904 - 1948

Author: Thomas, Robin Catherine

Abstract: In this dissertation, I look at ways Pomo and other Native peoples in Lake and Mendocino Counties worked to reclaim their children from Sherman Institute and bring them back home. In the United States, the Native American boarding school system deliberately removed several generations of young people from their tribes and communities. This was not only an effort to assimilate the children themselves, attempting to remove from them their tribal identities and peoples - but it was also a direct cultural, economic and political
blow to their families and communities. By removing the young people, Sherman Institute expropriated the labor resources of Native communities necessary for their economic and physical survival - and caused untold grief and separation traumas for both the children and their families. Meanwhile Sherman Institute itself was built off of the labor of the Native American children and young people it claimed to serve. Families in Lake and Mendocino Counties employed numerous strategies in their efforts to reclaim their children, despite tremendous barriers of distance, language and poverty, as well as the ongoing resistance of Sherman administrators. These strategies included networking with one another and with former students, designating certain individuals as letter-writers and advocates, and continuing to try to maintain contact with their students over time. Students resisted assimilation in ways ranging from covert noncompliance, to outright flight. Ultimately most of the students who attended Sherman returned home to their families and peoples. However the ongoing damage caused by the boarding schools must still be addressed.

Links:
Subject: Native American studies

Classification: 0740: Native American studies

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Genocide, Historical trauma, Native american, Pomo, Sherman institute, Sovereignty
Title: Bringing them home: Native american students from lake and mendocino counties at sherman institute and their families and peoples, 1904 - 1948

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Advisor: Crum, Steven J.

Committee member: Bauer, William J., Reed, Annette L., Tsinhnahjinnie, Hulleah J.

University/institution: University of California, Davis

Department: Native American Studies

University location: United States -- California

Degree: Ph.D.
From little black dress to little blue vest: Film, fashion, and the shifting position of the American shopgirl

Author: Bernstein, Sara Tatyana
Abstract: This project examines the early 20th century fascination with the shopgirl, the paradigmatic consumer/spectator of mass culture, in order to expose and explain the conditions of the contemporary sales associate, a figure who tends to represent social invisibility despite retail being the largest employment sector in the U.S. Simultaneously, it explores historical and ideological relationships between film and fashion. The tenacious, flexible, interstitial position of the shopgirl (representing at once the store, the worker and the consumer) provides a unique lens through which to examine the shifting ideals and realities of low-wage, white-collar workers in the context of mass culture and globalized labor. I focus primarily on two moments in the shopgirl story: the period from about 1925 to 1940, when the figure and genre were most prevalent, and from about 1985 to the present, as retail came to dominate the U.S. labor market. These cross-historical representations encapsulate and open up new questions surrounding a central theme of my project: how changes in modes of production and distribution - of narratives, of representations, of fashion, the channels through which we appear to and see others - impact subjectivity. This project emphasizes the importance of denaturalizing what have come to be understood as "feminine" occupations and challenging the stratification of labor along the lines of gender, race, class and nation. Past studies have approached "the shopgirl" from the perspective of political economy and labor history, or as a literary or popular cultural figure. I articulate these perspectives, and go further, exposing the stakes of her representation. Through
representation, labor is given meaning, and possibilities for (collective, politicized) subjectivities can be imagined or foreclosed.

Links:
Subject: American studies; Gender studies; Film studies

Classification: 0323: American studies; 0733: Gender studies; 0900: Film studies

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Communication and the arts, Cultural studies, Fashion studies, Labor, Representation, Retail

Title: From little black dress to little blue vest: Film, fashion, and the shifting position of the american shopgirl

Number of pages: 232

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 0029

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303791635

Advisor: Kaiser, Susan B.
Judicial rhetoric and radical politics: Sexuality, race, and the fourteenth amendment

Author: Campbell, Peter O.


Abstract: "Judicial Rhetoric and Radical Politics: Sexuality, Race, and the Fourteenth Amendment" takes up U.S. judicial opinions as performances of sovereignty over the boundaries of legitimate subjectivity. The argumentative choices jurists make in producing judicial opinion delimit the grounds upon which persons and groups can claim existence as legal subjects in the United States. I combine doctrinal, rhetorical, and queer methods of legal analysis to examine how judicial arguments about due process and equal protection produce different possibilities for the articulation of queer of color identity in, through, and in response to judicial speech. The dissertation includes three case studies of opinions in state, federal and Supreme Court cases (including Lawrence v. Texas, Parents Involved in Community Schools vs. Seattle School District No. 1, & Perry v. Brown) that implicate U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy's development and application of a particular form of Fourteenth Amendment rhetoric that I argue has liberatory potential from the perspective of radical (anti-establishmentarian and statist) queer politics. I read this queer potential in Kennedy's substantive due
process and equal protection arguments about gay and lesbian civil rights as a component part of his broader rhetorical constitution of a newly legitimated and politically regressive post-racial queer subject position within the U.S. constitutional state. My queer rhetorical analysis of judicial speech contributes to the project of bridging post-structural philosophy with everyday material relations. By theorizing queer politics in terms of institutional legal rhetoric, I offer a method for evaluating judicial argumentative choice in terms of radical queer of color political goals.

Links:

The ethics glass ceiling: A historical analysis of actions by the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics

Author: Gordon, Michael James


Abstract: The breaking of moral and ethical codes has been with humankind since history was first recorded. As such, the public wants to know that their elected officials are held accountable and cannot disregard enshrined legal rights without incurring broader personal and societal consequences. Within the hallowed halls of government, the "unrequested" House Committee on Ethics (HCE) provides the forum of accountability. In this qualitative, historical case study, HCE documents are analyzed and both the internal and external motivating factors behind the actions of the HCE members are examined. Computer assisted qualitative data analysis software, namely ATLAS.ti,
was used to look at the procedural efficiency (or lack thereof) of the HCE as a natural consequence of the committee members' implicit public policy actions. The qualitative study sample consisted of the entire population of official public HCE investigative reports from 1967-2012. The unit of analysis was an individual HCE investigative report. This dissertation finds that a partisan political agenda exists within the only impartial Committee in Congress. The majority of the ethical allegations raised against House Members involve financial disclosure while moral and/or character failures are less often reported. Furthermore, the dissertation finds a lack of moral courage both from House members as well as the Committee in that ethics on Capitol Hill is equated to following the letter, and not the spirit, of the law. Additionally, the dissertation finds that it is the media and the public who exert pressure on the House Committee to discipline the unethical behaviour of members since it demands accountability from its leaders. Failing to live up to the mandate it has been given leaves the HCE as an organization with little ethical will or moral courage. Due to the lack of prior research on this Committee, the approach to this dissertation is largely exploratory and explanatory; and hence is inductive.

Links:
Subject: Ethics; Political science

Classification: 0394: Ethics; 0615: Political science

Identifier / keyword: Philosophy, religion and theology, Social sciences, Ethics, House of representatives, Committee on ethics
Title: The ethics glass ceiling: A historical analysis of actions by the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics

Number of pages: 127

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 0506

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303778070

Advisor: Stream, Christopher

Committee member: Carlton, Patrick, Damore, David, Gray, Peter

University/institution: University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Department: Public Affairs

University location: United States -- Nevada

Degree: Ph.D.
From Carlisle to Bradford: The media stereotypes, football, and American Indians

Author: Larsen, Travis M.
Abstract: Racial stereotypes were a prominent issue in the media's coverage of American Indians throughout the twentieth century. In this study, it is football, both collegiate and professional, that the media used to base their racial attitudes. By using the examples of well-known American Indian football players such as Jim Thorpe, Wahoo McDaniel, Sonny Sixkiller, and Sam Bradford one can ascertain the evolution of racial stereotypes in the media's coverage, and how those individuals reacted to that exposure. American Indian football players throughout the years dealt with stereotypes that portrayed them as warriors, savages, and, sometimes, as control drunkards. For many of these players, they also had to contend with the shadow of the great Jim Thorpe, as many members of the media drew comparisons between all of these Native American football players in their stories.

Links:
School code: 0664

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303797101

Advisor: Moses, Lester G.

Committee member: Rohrs, Richard C., Smith, Michael M., Perkins, Stephen

University/institution: Oklahoma State University

Department: History

University location: United States -- Oklahoma

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3614425

ProQuest document ID: 1520789837
Cautiously capitalistic: Black economic agency at the Savings Bank of Baltimore, 1850--1900

Author: Allen, Marcus Anthony

Abstract: How much did racial oppression and other social barriers affect African-American wealth accumulation during antebellum and postbellum America? Were African Americans totally regulated to the economic dregs of society? This study uses banking records to chart and understand economic behaviors of African Americans in Baltimore before and after the Civil War. By extracting the debits and credits from the deposit ledgers of the Savings Bank of Baltimore--a white savings bank--of African Americans and
triangulating these ledgers with census and land records, and newspapers more details concerning their economic lives emerge. Although many could not read and write, black savers proactively patronized this savings bank, eventually learning to use the interest and extra dividends they earned to accomplish individual and community goals, such as purchasing property and funding benevolence organizations. The Bank’s method of disseminating interest and extra dividends rewarded black savers with large accounts that left their monies in the bank over long periods of time. Many black families came together, using a form of communal or collective capitalism, to make large deposits, benefiting from the policy. Although, other factors determined the success of savers utilizing this policy, such as occupation, self-discipline, and family structure, this policy allowed black people at different income levels to circumvent some of the socio-economic factors that limited wealth and security for individuals. African Americans, through their savings accounts accumulated more wealth than we associate with the antebellum and postbellum era.

Links:
Title: Cautiously capitalistic: Black economic agency at the Savings Bank of Baltimore, 1850--1900

Number of pages: 340

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 0755

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303777745

Advisor: Peskin, Lawrence

Committee member: Phillips, Glenn O., Ham, Debra N.

University/institution: Morgan State University

Department: History and Geography

University location: United States -- Maryland

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses
Objects of Daily Life: Materiality in North American Institutions for the Insane

Author: Bazar, Jennifer L.

Abstract: This dissertation examines the daily practices of asylums and state hospitals for the insane in Canada.
and the United States during the second half of the nineteenth century. Following a multi-sited approach, I focus on objects that once formed a part of the internal environments of these institutions in order to probe the ways different social influences impacted the application and development of treatment practices. Patient employment and recreation, the clothing of patients and employees, furniture, and fire protection are each considered. The analysis provides an expanded discussion of known connections - hygiene concerns, impact of industrialization and technological advancements, safety concerns, and shifting gender roles - and also introduces new influences including the Arts and Crafts, New Sanitarian, Rational Dress, and Muscular Christianity movements. The interrogation of these practices is informed by material, visual, and textual sources.

Links:
Subject: Economic history; Psychology

Classification: 0509: Economic history; 0621: Psychology

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Psychology

Title: Objects of Daily Life: Materiality in North American Institutions for the Insane

Number of pages: 322

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 0267
Abstract: One way a multinational corporation can further satisfy its primary objective, which is to maximize shareholder wealth, is to minimize the share of its income that is transferred through taxation to the various sovereign nations within which it does business. The profit maximizing firm attempts to maximize (minimize) taxable income in those jurisdictions where income tax burdens are the least (most) in such a way as to diminish the present value of its global total tax burden. While the US corporate income tax rate has remained relatively stable over the decades since most US income tax rates were last slashed as part of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, across the rest of the world, non-US corporate income tax rates have continued to fall. Even though the US statutory rate was among the lowest corporate income tax rates of any industrialized nation in 1988, by 2008, due to continuing rate decreases around the globe the
US rate had become one of the highest corporate income tax rates amongst the G-8. In April of 2012, the US statutory rate as applied to corporate income became the highest among all the Organization for Cooperation and Economic Development (OECD) countries. This study will examine the behavior of option intensive corporations during the late 1990's. Coinciding with the longest recorded economic expansion in the history of the United States and coupled with the so-called "internet bubble" during the second half of the decade, this period of rapid stock price appreciation was also a time when many highly profitable companies faced substantially lower current US tax liabilities due to the large tax deductions resulting from the employee exercise of increasing quantities of non-qualified stock options at substantial gains. Enormous tax losses reported by employee stock option granting firms were sufficient to eliminate not only current US corporate income tax liabilities but also several years of future tax liabilities for some firms. Previous research has documented an increasing proportion of US multinational corporate income recognized in foreign jurisdictions, thereby escaping the relatively high US corporate tax rates until the foreign profits are repatriated back into the US. Perhaps US corporate income tax rates are so high in comparison to equally suitable substitute foreign locations that many firms have relocated their income producing activities to lower taxed jurisdictions abroad. Or it may be that US multinational firms engage in various cross border income shifting techniques to avoid high US corporate income tax rates and reduce their overall global tax
burden. Profitable option intensive firms in the late 1990’s faced in effect lower US corporate income tax rates due to their extensive employee stock option deductions and resulting net operating loss carry-forwards. It is possible that these firms had more incentive to recognize income domestically than their non-option intensive corporate peers. Using a sample of the largest US firms comprising the NASDAQ-100 index on May 31, 2001, this study found evidence of higher US profitability among NASDAQ-100 multinational firms with the largest deductions resulting from the exercise of options by their employees during the 1997-2000 fiscal years suggesting that these firms where more likely to recognize or even generate income within US borders when facing effectively lower US corporate income tax rates. Such an observation has potential public policy implications and contributes to the literature on tax motivated income shifting behavior.

Links:
Subject: Accounting

Classification: 0272: Accounting

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Corporate tax rates, Employee stock options, Income shifting, International tax, Marginal tax rate, Tax

Title: Income shifting among option intensive firms in the 1990's

Number of pages: 103

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 0209
The effect of the Missouri Safe School Act of 1997 on alternative education students: A qualitative analysis

Author: Rhodes, Randall G.

Abstract: Because of a perceived increase in school related violence, a political reaction occurred in Missouri that led in 1997 to the Missouri Safe Schools Act. This new law significantly changed school disciplinary policy and allowed administrators to move large groups of students to alternative education programs, or expel them to the streets. The purpose of this qualitative study was to learn from students who attended at least one year in an alternative education program about their experiences. I interviewed 26
former students and another 14 former students entered into the conversation by posting their thoughts on a Facebook site for alumni of a specific alternative program. The 40 former students shared common stories that indicated their confusion, a misuse of power by the school district, and a lack of due process surrounding the events that led to their suspensions. At the same time, they shared many stories of relationships, kindesses, and empathy that they experienced from the alternative school teachers and administrators. Results point to the need for families to educate themselves (and sometimes resist) arbitrary decisions made by school personnel, and the importance of teacher and administrator selection for alternative school programs.

Links:
Subject: Education Policy; School administration; Secondary education

Classification: 0458: Education Policy; 0514: School administration; 0533: Secondary education

Identifier / keyword: Education, Alternative education, At-risk, Dropout, Safe schools, School to prison pipeline, Zero tolerance

Title: The effect of the Missouri Safe School Act of 1997 on alternative education students: A qualitative analysis

Number of pages: 209

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Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015
Place of publication: Ann Arbor
Country of publication: United States
ISBN: 9781303813689
Advisor: Hytten, Kathy
Committee member: McIntyre, John, Dilley, Patrick, Donahoo, Saron, Pensoneau-Conway, Sandy
University/institution: Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
Department: Educational Administration
University location: United States -- Illinois
Degree: Ph.D.
Source type: Dissertations & Theses
Language: English
Document type: Dissertation/Thesis
Players or Pawns?: Student-Athletes, Human Rights Activism, Nonviolent Protest and Cultures of Peace at the 1968 Summer Olympics

Author: Hrynkow, Christopher William

Abstract: The image of two US athletes with black glove-covered fists raised on the podium at the 1968 Mexico City Olympics is iconic. However, despite a number of academic studies, articles, books, lectures and films addressing this moment, the deeper story behind that student-athlete protest at Mexico 68 is little
known. It was far from being a merely spontaneous or violent action. In fact, the protest was part of a concerted and largely peaceful effort to highlight several systemic injustices of the late 1960s by a group named the Olympic Project for Human Rights. As will be demonstrated in this thesis, it follows that the deeper story of the student-athlete protests at Mexico 68 are ripe with significance from both: (1) a Peace Studies perspective, focussing on structural injustice, and (2) a Conflict Resolution Studies viewpoint, which upholds value in the constructive settling of disputes. Employing a Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS) lens, which keeps both sets of concerns in view, and undertaking descriptive and analytical approaches that bring the voice of the athletes to the fore as much as possible given the limitations of this study, allows for a discussion of remarkable student-athletes interacting not only within the competitive structure of their sport at the Olympics, but also amongst social, institutional, and political contexts. This approach becomes foundational for the conclusion that the athletes involved in protests at Mexico 68 were players (i.e., agents) and not pawns, in relation to complex socio-political forces, which sought to manipulate and oppress them. Moreover, this PACS approach allows for twelve concrete lessons flowing from the stories of the athletes to be delineated for their contemporary relevance in a world where far too many injustices remain. In short, the main protest is herein presented as an awe-inspiring moment, simultaneously as a compass and a key, which when integrated with a PACS perspective serves to guide us towards a fuller
understanding of the Olympic Project for Human Rights and its goals, unlocking what is revealed in this study to be a potentially important moment in the history of cultures of peace.

Links:

Athletes, Human Rights Activism, Nonviolent Protest and Cultures of Peace at the 1968 Summer Olympics

Subject: Physical anthropology; Black history; Ethnic studies; Recreation

Classification: 0327: Physical anthropology; 0328: Black history; 0631: Ethnic studies; 0814: Recreation

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Nonviolent activism, Olympic project for human rights, Cultures of peace, Social justice, Cross-cultural equity, Student-athletes, Possitive social change, Sport history, Us history, 1960s

Title: Players or Pawns?: Student-Athletes, Human Rights Activism, Nonviolent Protest and Cultures of Peace at the 1968 Summer Olympics

Number of pages: 407

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 0303

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor
Nostalgia and the postwar American social

Author: Mayne, Michael


Abstract: This project makes its argument by analyzing several different kinds of texts: novels, travel narratives, essays, films, and television commercials by Richard Wright, Patricia Highsmith, Douglas Sirk, Vladimir Nabokov, Philip K. Dick, and Hal Riney. I position these texts as exemplars of how rhetorics of nostalgia function in personal narratives and social discourse. Nostalgia conjures up a past moment of cohesion and authenticity that prefigures what a perfect future looks like. Ideological narratives of nostalgia always insist that a natural order once existed, and our longing for this past moment of unity and prosperity forestalls our critical investment in the reality of contemporary life, in the actual production of future versions of the social. The first chapter of this dissertation looks at three works by Richard Wright: The Outsider (1953), Wright's first novel written as an expatriate, Black Power: A Record of Reaction in a Land of Pathos (1954), reportage of his experiences and observations in a colony on the cusp of being reborn as Ghana, and Pagan Spain (1957), a travel narrative about his visits to Spain in the early 1950s. My discussion of
these texts argues that Wright uses The Outsider's protagonist, the emergence of a postcolonial nation, and postwar Spain to consider the relationship between political systems and individuals, how the past can be figured in national and personal consciousness, and the ways different social discourses portray freedom during the Cold War. The second chapter discusses Patricia Highsmith's second novel and examines themes of agency in individuals, material objects, and spaces. The Price of Salt (1952), with its radical suggestion that a romance between two women could have a happy ending, rejects the standards of popular fiction during this period, which stressed unhappy conclusions for unsanctioned relationships. Here, I shift my discussion of nostalgia and social discourse away from social orders and towards the narratives and agency of individuals, and I look at a character who refuses to coordinate her identity with practices informed by a habitus she decides does not resemble an authentic version of herself. I discuss how nostalgia's conjurations can be sourced materially in a dialogical process between people, places, and things. I argue that The Price of Salt conceives of the past as both a legacy that must be rejected in order to obtain individual agency and a strong influence on the way these characters articulate this new agency. My chapter on Vladimir Nabokov features his most famous novel, Lolita (1955), which was published after he moved to the United States. I consider Lolita's Humbert Humbert a character who exemplifies a life lived nostalgically. Humbert's nostalgia, like all others, conspires to confuse the reality of lived experience and
obscure an awareness of dialectical reason. This chapter discusses Sartre's Critique of Dialectal Reason, situates nostalgia as an anti-dialectical logic, and examines, like most sections of this project, how individual agency manifests itself in social discourse. Douglas Sirk, another expatriate in America, began his career as a director in Germany, but my fourth chapter considers a film he made in Hollywood after he moved to the United States. There's Always Tomorrow (1956) reiterates a popular 1950s trope of alienation in modern society by dramatizing the lives of two couples set adrift from the dreams and passions of their youth. Through nostalgic tropes, Tomorrow critiques the imperatives of a new social discourse and dramatizes classic 1950s themes of domesticity, technology, and suburban life. In my analysis of Tomorrow, I focus on the form and content of longing, perhaps nostalgia's most important component. I argue that the Marxian concept of aura reveals how desire only exists as a product of social relations, helps us theorize ways individuals invest in nostalgic comprehensions of the past to the point of rejecting recognitions of our dialectical relationship with the past, and explains the uncanny nature of nostalgia's spectral haunting. My last chapter begins with a review of the Cold War that emphasizes its main tropes of fear and security. I then look at Philip K. Dick's science fiction novel, Time Out of Joint (1959). Here, I focus on ways social discourse functions as structuring systems collectively invested in by individuals, and I argue for a dialectical conception of the agency of individuals. Finally, I consider a couple of short commercials by Hal Riney,
authored for Ronald Reagan’s reelection bid in 1984. I use these narratives to extend my argument about the relations between nostalgia, individuals, and social discourse during the Cold War, and I assert that a form of social discourse forged in the 1950s still resonated in American culture thirty years later.

Links:

Freaking America: Freaks in Intersections of Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century American Fiction

Author: Cull, Thomas Walter
Abstract: Freaking America characterizes the freak show as fundamental to nineteenth- and twentieth-century middle-class conceptions of selfhood and nationhood. Examining performative and narrative aspects of spectacularized bodies, this study argues that the literary freak figures intersections between problems of knowledge, legibility, and identity and discourses of race, class, sex, disability, and citizenship. Moreover, the freak's theatricality self-reflexively dramatizes literary representation, interrogating the conventions, stylistic qualities, and aesthetic debates that constitute literary movements including realism, sentimentalism, impressionism, and historiographic metafiction. Drawing on disability studies, race critical studies, queer theory, and gender studies, Freaking America enriches and renews these fields by deploying concepts of embodiment specific to freak show culture and literature. Exposing the freak as a compend of myriad shifting and imbricated discourses, this study does not so much intervene in any single field as it recasts the entire process of identity-construction by emphasizing the freakish body's capacity to illuminate a wide range of identity categories. Building on the bourgeoning field of freak studies, Freaking America uniquely figures the freak as the embodiment of its archaic definition: "sudden causeless change or turn." The freak ceaselessly turns away from or, "freaks out" attempts to understand or deploy it as a singular body of knowledge. Figuring
in/conspicuous legibility, the freak invites and subverts interpretation, drawing attention to the various discursive modes, critical apparatuses, staging strategies, and needful "I"s/eyes that are themselves constitutive of the freak. This dissertation categorizes the freak according to three historical and literary modes of freak show exhibition: revelation (seeing), sentimentality (feeling), and history (telling). Chapter One argues that Nella Larsen's Passing, is indebted to the epistemology of the Melvillean freak show. Chapter Two reads Katherine Dunn's Geek Love as a postsentimental parody of Harriet Beecher Stowe's construction of freakish children in Uncle Tom's Cabin. Chapter Three argues that Ishmael Reed's Yellow Back Radio Broke-Down and Cormac McCarthy's Blood Meridian employ the "wild man" to interrogate national myths of progress, American exceptionalism, and historiography. Freaking America concludes with Jeffrey Eugenides' Middlesex (2002), a novel that revisits, reworks, and combines key intersections of nineteenth- and twentieth-century figurations of the freak.

Links:
Title: Freaking America: Freaks in Intersections of Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century American Fiction

Number of pages: 301

Publication year: 2013

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School code: 0267

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

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University/institution: York University (Canada)

University location: Canada

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: NS00177
Reconfiguring racial uplift: Church-sponsored African American rhetorical work in the early twentieth century

Author: Rouillon Calderon, Vanessa Isabel

Abstract: This dissertation contends that members of African American communities have asserted their citizenship early in the twentieth century in predominantly white locations via the display of their rhetorical work, which black audiences received with pride and support, but white ones have utterly ignored. I critically examine here the rhetorical work of a Midwestern African American congregation, Bethel AME
Church located in a then smaller urban locality, Champaign, IL, and in close proximity to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Specifically, I claim that members' uptake of racial uplift entailed a middle-class project—not an economic project, not one stemming from their finances, but a cultural one. Their fraught program of constructing middle-class subjectivities has comprised both distancing behaviors—rejection of lower class membership and resistance to racist portrayals—and cultural (read educational) aspirations and conscious performances of dignity. These seemingly opposing practices—cultural distance and cultural proximity—have therefore carried intra-racial struggles. I further argue that these church members (and others in similar locations), following long-standing traditions of self-reliance, conceived their activist work as a necessary response to the apathy they have encountered in their locales. After Bethel congregants relocated to Champaign from the South, at the turn of the century, they soon witnessed the founding of a university that privileged white men and a city environment seldom receptive, and even openly hostile, to their visibility. They did, however, engage the University of Illinois in productive ways by sponsoring educational initiatives off-campus when comparable campus offerings did not accommodate black students, not at least comfortably. In doing so, they demonstrated too an understanding (and endurance) of inter-racial struggles, and of what Jacqueline Jones Royster (2000) has called situated ethos—a sense of racial place, tensions, and duties (pp. 64-65). Using archival findings from university, public, and private black repositories in
town, and oral histories that I collected from senior Bethel members, I demonstrate how, through self-sponsored rhetoric, Bethel became a critical activist site for its congregants and, more importantly, for the African American university students who during the interwar years availed themselves of this church's services--educational, rhetorical and material. When African Americans were granted their rights to citizenship they had to struggle the most against a national, deeply-felt, and governmentally-sanctioned racism. They did, however, imagine, finance, and offer their own educational venues; they did so with a clear sense of self-determination. Bethel was one such instance. In studying this community, my dissertation accounts for local narratives of uplift through activism. The result is what I have called reconfiguring racial uplift, local race work conducted by lesser-known black individuals and black communities. Bethel members have not become figures of national recognition, and their work, and that of their most visible rhetors, when made public, was only discussed in local periodicals. Nevertheless, they have interpreted the national project and crafted their own version of the "talented," dignified, and cultured African American. We must therefore study these responses to limited citizenship and racism locally because of their contributions to the development of black citizenship. Bethel congregants understood their racial duties as that of a black middle-class uplift ideology by focusing on the moral and cultural aspects of advancement, performing aesthetically, and associating themselves with a university culture. Bethel's literary training of black
students through such activities as debates and parliamentary work, my point of entry into this community, signaled a larger community investment in rhetorical instruction, historical recoveries, activism, and archival maintenance. Bethel has established the literary, educational, and archival as the core practices my dissertation elucidates.

Links:

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303802942

Advisor: Prendergast, Catherine J., Mortensen, Peter L.

Committee member: Deck, Alice, Kirsch, Gesa

University/institution: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Department: English

University location: United States -- Illinois

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3614693

ProQuest document ID: 1518142366

Document URL:
Abstract: Black Power/Black Death interrogates the intersection of corpses and corporeality as an under-theorized performative site for thinking through revolutionary politics, the black body, and fugitive qualities of radical cultural productions. Offering a counter-history to understandings of state repression and death as solely destructive in the making of 1960s and 70s black radical politics, this project analyzes how radical black political practitioners rhetorically, materially, and visually imagined death as a generative means towards political liberation in response to state performances of U.S. antiblack violence during the Black Power era. My methodological approach brings together performance theories of the body, black studies debates between Afropessimism and Black
Optimism, and art historical analyses on aesthetics approaches to political resistance. Using this methodology, I analyze three Black Panther murders between 1968 and 1971 as they catalogue the generative potential of black radical death in the service of anti-capitalist and antiracist revolutionary struggle. This dissertation curates several archival findings in order to suggest that the photography, documentary film, journalistic print media, and political posters during these brief years reflect an understanding of how black radical death was not only inevitable because of the severity of state repression, but also a constructive strategy within black revolutionary praxis.

Links:

Subject: Black studies; Art history; Ethnic studies

Classification: 0325: Black studies; 0377: Art history; 0631: Ethnic studies

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Communication and the arts, Afropessimism/black optimism, Critical race theory, Performance studies, Social movement histories, Studies in visual culture, Theories of revolution

Title: Black power/black death: The visual culture of death and dying in black radical politics

Number of pages: 233

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013
Digital Film Art and the Persistence of the Classical Hollywood Style

Author: Smith, Kevin Douglas

Abstract: Abstract not available.

Links:
Subject: Art Criticism; Multimedia Communications; Film studies

Classification: 0365: Art Criticism; 0558: Multimedia Communications; 0900: Film studies

Identifier / keyword: Communication and the arts, Digital visual effects, Narrative, Classical hollywood cinema, Machinima, Digital revolution, Cinema of attractions, Perceptual realism
Title: Digital Film Art and the Persistence of the Classical Hollywood Style

Number of pages: 149

Publication year: 2013

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School code: 0799

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303840005

Advisor: Wexman, Virginia Wright

Committee member: Wexman, Virginia

University/institution: University of Illinois at Chicago

Department: English

University location: United States -- Illinois

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses
Boy builders and pink princesses: Gender, toys, and inequality over the twentieth century

Author: Sweet, Elizabeth Valerie

Abstract: Children's toys are cultural products which embody and transmit ideological messages about
gender. While gender inequality has diminished over the past century, gender stereotypes have become an increasingly important feature in the design and marketing of toys. This dissertation offers a historical context within which to situate this paradox, addressing several key questions: How did the presentation of gender in toy advertisements and the gender-based marketing of toys vary over the 20th century? Why did gendered toys become especially prevalent in certain eras? And finally, how are gendered toys related to larger social structures of gender inequality and cultural belief systems? In Part I of the dissertation, I offer an in-depth content analysis of toy advertisements in a sample of five Sears Catalogs from key time-points over the 20th century to analyze changes in the extent of gender-based marketing and the depiction of gender in toys over time. Results show that the extent and mechanisms of gender-marketing, the portrayal of gendered roles, and the prevalence of gender stereotypes in toys have been fluid over time. In 1905, gender played a minor role in toy advertisements but by 1925 and 1945, approximately one half of toy ads were gendered and many reflected traditional gender stereotypes. In the 1970s, gender-neutral toys and ads that challenged gender stereotypes became more common, but by the close of the century the gendering of toys had reverted to levels similar to the mid-century and new mechanisms of signaling gender had emerged. In the second part of this dissertation, I use historical demographic data, secondary data sources, and public opinion polls to assess possible explanations for these variations. These analyses suggest that gender
ideology played a central role in both the processes that sustained gender inequality and in the gender definition and stereotyping of toys over the 20th century. In certain eras, marketers strategically employed particular gender stereotypes to transform consumer behavior and to encourage sales. In doing so, they added to--and perpetuated--evolving cultural narratives about gender that justified and sustained the unequal distribution of resources. This work contributes to sociological and historical research on children's consumer culture by offering a long-range, empirically-derived description of the role of gender in 20th century toys, adding a necessary historical context within which to situate what we see in toys today. This dissertation also adds to the body of research on gender inequality by bringing to light an important, yet often neglected, site where cultural beliefs about gender are transmitted to children. With gender-differentiated toys, the preferences, attributes, and expectations of children are narrowly circumscribed and this lays the groundwork for gender inequality processes over the life-course.

Links:
Educating the globe: Foreign students and cultural exchange at Tuskegee Institute, 1898-1935

Author: McClure, Brian

Abstract: This dissertation offers a comprehensive and comparative analysis of foreign students at Tuskegee Institute between 1892 and 1935. During this time, aspiring young people from the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia coalesced on the rural Alabama campus, creating a unique cultural space. It became a space not only for
intellectual exchange, but also for cultural pride, political solidarity, and global exchange. Although much has been written about the school's founder, Booker T. Washington, very little has been written about the role his school played in forging and sustaining a global community. This dissertation charts the cultural, historical, and contextual significance of Tuskegee's foreign students as they traveled overseas to the tumultuous Jim Crow South. The rise of political intimidation and physical violence against African Americans during the early part of the twentieth century coincided with the emergence of European colonialism and American imperialism abroad. As people of African descent disproportionately found themselves under oppressive social, economic, and political conditions, Tuskegee Institute emerged as a cultural and intellectual safe haven for both American born and foreign students. Foreign scholars and activists such as Jose Marti, Juan Gomez, J. A. Aggrey, Pambini Mzimba, and Marcus Garvey used Tuskegee as a symbol of Black Nationalism, political solidarity, borrowing their methods to uplift darker peoples of the world. The cultural and intellectual exchange that took place at Tuskegee set in motion a long history of African American, African, and Asian interaction. This study traces the evolution of Washington and Tuskegee as they used education to combat racial, political, and economic disenfranchisement forging a global community in the process. A critical survey of the diverse experiences of students from Puerto Rico, Cuba, the Anglophone Caribbean, Liberia, South Africa, Japan, China, and India as they appeared on the small
rural campus in Tuskegee, Alabama sheds light into the process of the creation of a global community. This study examines how foreign students resisted cultural assimilation, struggled with migration, experienced American racism, and embraced national sensibilities, all while receiving an education. Furthermore, examining the experience of foreign students at Tuskegee reveals another important contribution of America’s Black colleges and universities. At such institutions, the Atlantic world (and Asia) interacted with and influenced the South, America, and the larger world. Examining the experience of foreign students at Tuskegee adds more complexity to understanding race as a social construction, political leadership, movement of African dispersed people to the American South, and Black education at the turn of the twentieth century. This dissertation reconsiders Booker T. Washington and his institution as pioneers in global education. Washington's emphasis on self-help, economic determination, political solidarity, and race pride provided the framework for more radical forms of pan-Africanism and Black Nationalism, which emerged shortly after his death in 1915.

Links:
Subject: African American Studies; Black history; American history; Education history

Classification: 0296: African American Studies; 0328: Black history; 0337: American history; 0520: Education history

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Education, Jim Crow South, Washington, Booker T., Tuskegee Institute, Caribbean, Africa, and Asia students, Rural Alabama, Global education, Cultural space, Foreign students
Counterpoint and linearity as manifested in the music of George Gershwin

Author: Adams, Jacob Alexander
Abstract: The music of George Gershwin has remained ensconced in concert programs ever since the premiere of Rhapsody in Blue in 1924. His music possesses everything that popular music has, namely memorable, catchy tunes and a clear-cut sense of direction. Although a tonal composer, many of his harmonies are complex sonorities that elude any attempt at a functional analysis. Many of his works possess a wide array of themes that are often superimposed and combined in sophisticated and subtle ways. While many of his works may initially appear as nearly formless, there are in fact many techniques of thematic unity and development at work. The unifying element in Gershwin's music is counterpoint and an ever-present sense of linearity, duality, and opposition. Harmonic sequences are often not generated by conventional, pre-determined progressions, but rather by the linear motion of each individual note, as though it were its own independent voice. Instead of setting tunes against standard accompaniments, Gershwin often layers a distinctive countermelody above or below the primary melody, in addition to imbuing the accompanying patterns with a sense of line in themselves. Instead of employing root-position chords obsessively, as was common in popular music of the day, Gershwin creates coloristic chord successions derived primarily from stepwise (linear) motion. Although Gershwin's music has not undergone nearly as much scholarly analysis as that of the older masters, a substantial literature nonetheless exists, notably the writings of Stephen Gilbert and Allen Forte. Stephen Gilbert in particular has written several illuminating works dealing with
counterpoint in Gershwin's music. It is my primary goal in this paper to uncover specific contrapuntal, linear, and sequential patterns that Gershwin employed, as discovering these structural elements in imperative in truly understanding Gershwin's compositional process. These elements also give further evidence that counterpoint and linearity remain at the heart of his musical thinking and procedures, whether they are generating harmonic progressions, layering multiple melodic lines, developing thematic material, or creating smooth, linear chord progressions.

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A historical comparative analysis of executions in the United States from 1608 to 2009

Author: Abili, Emily Jean

Abstract: The death penalty has been a contested issue throughout American history. The United States has been executing offenders since Jamestown became a colony in 1608 (Allen & Clubb, 2008). Since that time, many issues have been raised about the death penalty including whether or not it is moral, discriminatory, or a deterrent. This study examines the history of executions, including lynchings, in the United States from 1608 to 2009 using a variety of sociological theories on law and society. Some of the research questions that guide this project are: * What is the nature of change in the relative prevalence of legal executions in geographic regions within the United States from 1608 to 2009? * Does the incorporation of lynching data change patterns and relationships found
in the legal execution data? * What are the major social, political, legal, and economic factors associated with the relative prevalence of executions throughout specific regions in the United States from 1608 to 2009? * Are particular factors more or less important at specific times and places in explaining the relative prevalence of executions or type of offenders executed? * What existing theories of law and society best support the pattern of change and stability in the relative number and rate of executions in geographic regions in the United States over its entire historical periods, and in particular eras (e.g. Early America, The Long Nineteenth Century, and The Twentieth Century and After)? The current study uses a comparative case method to conduct a qualitative and quantitative inquiry into the social conditions associated with patterns of stability and change in executions over time. Patterns of stability and change are explored throughout American history and specific regions in the country. The data used in this study comes from multiple sources. Lynching data was obtained from the work of multiple researchers who have studied lynchings in various regional areas around the country. Execution data comes from a file called the Espy file, which contains execution data from 1608 to 2002. Data on executions from 2003 to 2009 was obtained from the Death Penalty Information Center, which compiles and maintains records on U.S. executions. This study explores the use of functionalist and conflict theories of law and society as potential explanations for patterns of change and stability in executions over time and particular geographical regions in American history.
Durkheim's and Erickson's contributions to functionalist theory are discussed, and the work of conflict theorists Marx, Chambliss, and Black are also included. Best's theoretical arguments about social constructionism are also examined in this historical study of executions. Taken together, these theories provide a framework to explore patterns in the empirical distribution of executions overall and in particular time periods and regions throughout American history. The structure of this dissertation is divided and organized into nine chapters. An introductory chapter (chapter one) is followed by a discussion in chapter two of the study methods, data sources, and operationalization of historical periods and geographical regions. Chapter three contains a discussion of the relevant theories of law and society that may be used to explain the patterns of executions over time, and chapter four contains a description of the data. Chapters five through seven address the death penalty at various points in American history. Chapter five covers Early America (1580-1815), and chapter six discusses The Long Nineteenth Century (1789-1920). Chapter seven includes The Twentieth Century and After (1920-2009). In each of these chapters, social, economic, legal, and political factors are discussed along with a description of the pattern of capital punishment. Chapter eight includes a theoretical integration that evaluates which theories best explain execution patterns in individual eras and overall throughout American history. The final chapter (chapter nine) provides conclusions and implications of this study for current capital punishment policy.
Subject: Criminology
Propagating monsters: Conjoined twins in popular culture

Author: Kerns, Susan Santha
Abstract: This study analyzes representations of conjoined twins in the United States to illustrate how historical images are in conversation with biographies, medical documents, sideshows, and contemporary film and television shows about conjoined twins, both fictional and nonfictional. The recycling of established tropes and the privileging of science over humanity results in limited understandings of the fluidity of conjoined twin identity. Separation and individuality are favored, relegating conjoined twins to "disabled" people that need fixing. Studying biographical artifacts of Millie-Christine McKoy's and Daisy and Violet Hilton's careers illuminates the interrelationship between biographies, images, and rights. Although born into slavery, Millie-Christine overcame social challenges and were afforded rights beyond what most people of African descent had during the 1800s. Daisy and Violet, however, were born decades later yet were owned for over twenty years and never fully wrested themselves from their tabloid images. The motion pictures they made, Tod Browning's Freaks and Chained for Life, however, started creating narrative space for conjoined twins in film, and both allow for female conjoined twin sexuality, something no film has done since. Freaks visually and narratively accommodates those with unusual bodies, while Chained for Life lays the groundwork for later films that privilege separation. Building on this history, this study analyzes conjoined
twins in fiction and nonfiction film and television, specifically fictional two-headed "monsters"—one body with two heads—and full-bodied conjoined twins who remain connected. These narratives insist upon separation if conjoined twins desire romance, or play out a good twin/bad twin pattern, and they favor easily assimilated bodies. Conjoined twins in nonfictional television shows generally become spectacle or specimen via the highlighting of scientific discovery, separation, and independence, while medical knowledge is favored at the expense of conjoined twins. However, several programs about Lori and George Schappell or Abigail and Brittany Hensel endeavor to disrupt medical narratives, overturn stereotypes, and widen perspectives. These offer a first step toward broadening the identity spectrum to account for fluctuating identities and notions of individuality, which could help redefine conjoined twins outside of singleton terms.

Links:
Subject: American studies; Social structure; Mass communications; Film studies

Classification: 0323: American studies; 0700: Social structure; 0708: Mass communications; 0900: Film studies

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Communication and the arts, Circus, Conjoined twins, Freaks, Siamese twins, Sideshow, Twins

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"Talking it over" with Hillary: Domestic and global advocacy, 1995-2000

Author: Lehn, Melody Joy

Abstract: In July of 1995, first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's first "Talking It Over" column premiered in newspapers across the country and the globe. Creators Syndicate in Los Angeles, which produced and circulated this weekly syndicated column, has archived
two hundred and ninety-one columns on their website. Dropped and suspended by many publications throughout its duration, "Talking It Over" was a controversial journalistic endeavor for its author, who was simultaneously accused of writing in a fashion that was "too political" and "not political enough."

Consequently, the existing scholarly appraisals of "Talking It Over" depict this column as being either incidental or a rhetorical failure in Hillary Rodham Clinton's first ladyship. Departing from this view, I seek to address in this dissertation the question of how Hillary Rodham Clinton used her newspaper column as a rhetorical resource for political advocacy from 1995 to 2000. To answer this question, I suggest that "Talking It Over" can be read fruitfully as an autobiographical text which made use of three complimentary rhetorical strategies: personal stories, narratives, and descriptions. Though "Talking It Over" is not an autobiography, I argue that it functions as an autobiographical text due to the various features and strategies employed in the column. I conclude that writing a weekly opinion column is both a record of political advocacy and a form of political advocacy in itself.

Links:
y+Joy&amp;rft.aulast=Lehn&amp;rft.aufirst=Melody&amp;rft.date=2013-01-01&amp;rft.volume=&amp;rft.issue=&amp;rft.spage=&amp;rft.isbn=9781303825903&amp;rft.btitle=&amp;rft.title=%22Talking+it+over%22+with+Hillary%3A+Domestic+and+global+advocacy%2C+1995-2000&amp;rft.issn=&amp;rft_id=info:doi/


Subject: Womens studies; Communication; Rhetoric

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Identifier / keyword: Language, literature and linguistics, Social sciences, Communication and the arts, Clinton, Hillary Rodham, Talking It Over, First lady, Rhetoric and advocacy, Political advocacy
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Advisor: de Velasco, Antonio

Committee member: Sarkela, Sandra, Stewart, Craig, Sherman, Janann

University/institution: The University of Memphis

Department: Communication

University location: United States -- Tennessee

Degree: Ph.D.
Motorcars and magic highways: The automobile and communication in twentieth-century American literature and film

Author: Vredenburg, Jason
Abstract: Motorcars and Magic Highways examines the nexus between transportation and communication in the development of the automobile across the twentieth century. While early responses to the automobile emphasized its democratizing and liberating potential, the gradual integration of the automobile with communications technologies and networks over the twentieth century helped to organize and regulate automobile use in ways that would advance state and corporate interests. Where the telegraph had separated transportation and communication in the nineteenth century, the automobile's development reintegrates these functions through developments like the two-way radio, car phones, and community wireless networks. As I demonstrate through a cultural study of literature and film, these new communications technologies contributed to the standardization and regulation of American auto-mobility. Throughout this process, however, authors and filmmakers continued to turn to the automobile as a vehicle of social critique and resistance. Chapter one, "Off the Rails: Potentials of Automobile in Edith Wharton, Theodore Dreiser, and Sinclair Lewis," establishes the transformative potential that early users saw in the automobile. I argue that Wharton's A Motor-Flight Through France (1908), for instance, offers the motorcar as a means of helping the leisure traveler develop a better sense of history and cultivating an aesthetic sensibility superior to that of the railroad passenger. Compared to the railway—a social force that standardized space and time and regulated mobility through fixed routes and schedules—all three writers believe the automobile makes the
traveler more independent and provides a closer communion with the natural world. Chapter two contrasts the linear, rational thinkers who characterize literary detectives from Sherlock Holmes through the Golden Age of Detective fiction with the hardboiled heroes of Dashiell Hammett and his disciples. I argue that while the former align with a society organized around rail travel and the telegraph, the hardboiled detective novel reflects the public's shifting relationship with police and state power as a result of the rise of the automobile's new power to communicate through the two-way radio. Hardboiled detectives have an adverse relationship with often corrupt police departments who serve economic elites rather than the public interest. The success of these detectives depends not on mastery of arcane knowledge, but on physical strength and a mastery of geographic space, in contrast to the close confines of the English country house or the locked room. Finally, while the linear thinking and rational deduction of earlier detectives are aligned with the railway, hardboiled detective methods, which rely on gut instincts and agile, inductive reasoning capable of following disparate threads that appear and disappear suddenly, reflect the speed and independent mobility of the automobile. Chapter three continues the analysis of the communicative automobile and the unstable urban space it creates by examining film noir. I argue that the automobile is a significant yet relatively unexamined element in film noir: the editing, shot composition, and special effects used in automobile scenes in such films as Double Indemnity (1944) evoke an unstable urban landscape
that the automobile transforms: constantly shifting, difficult to navigate, devoid of landmarks, and concealing threats and snares from seemingly every direction. At the same time, films noir also reveal that many of the potential advantages perceived in the early stages of the automobile now lie unfulfilled. Double Indemnity picks up the comparison of automobile and the railway that characterized Wharton's, Dreiser's, and Lewis's texts, but the flexibility and freedom identified in those early texts have now devolved into impulsiveness and criminality. While the early automobile offered escape from the structural control and surveillance of the railway, films such as The Killers (1946) and Out of the Past (1947) reveal that the transportation infrastructure growing up around the automobile has rendered such escape unlikely. Chapter four explores the public desire to communicate from the automobile to the outside world. The car radio made it possible for the state and corporations to broadcast to the automobile, but government regulations largely restricting the two-way radio to police departments and emergency services made it impossible to speak back. I demonstrate the anxiety of this violation of the autonomy of the automobile through close readings of Ralph Ellison, Hunter S. Thompson, and Allen Ginsberg. Furthermore, I argue that artists responded to this imbalance by incorporating electronic communications equipment and the automobile into their compositional process. Examining the production histories and offering close readings of Tom Wolfe, Thompson, and Ginsberg, I demonstrate that such writers combined communication technology and the automobile to
create new artistic forms, such as New Journalism, and to compose critiques of American militarism and consumer culture. Chapter five, "Solitary Bartlebies: Resistance to the Superhighway in Kerouac and Didion" examines Jack Kerouac's On the Road (1957) and Joan Didion's Play It as It Lays (1971) in the context of the rise of the superhighway and the birth of the Interstate Highway System. Through a history of the superhighway, I demonstrate that the prevailing ethic was one of maximizing individual and national productivity. Like Melville's Bartleby, whose refrain "I would prefer not to" confounds his employer, Kerouac's and Didion's protagonists refuse submission, expressing their resistance through the automobile. Kerouac's Sal Paradise rejects the superhighway and its productivity ethic, instead hitching across the nation's back roads in an effort to establish new forms of community. Maria Wyeth in Play It as It Lays, on the other hand, subverts the superhighway ethic by ritually circulating through the Los Angeles highway system aimlessly without destination. The final chapter, "Decline and Collapse on the Magic Highway," examines the development of and the artistic response to the intelligent traffic systems and fully communicative automobiles that characterize driving in the twenty-first century. Late twentieth-century writers have associated this new stage of the automobile with decline and collapse. Don Delillo's Cosmopolis details the full and final convergence of communications technology and the automobile, along with its dangers and possibilities, featuring a fund manager who crashes the global economy from the backseat of his limousine while driving across New
York City. In many ways, this final integration of communication and transportation closes off many of the possibilities early motorists saw in the automobile, strengthening the neo-conservative state by enabling direct and indirect control of individual mobility and strengthening corporations by intensifying the relationship between mobility and commercial consumption.

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The National Association of Negro Musicians scholarship contest 1994 and 1999: A preparation guide for the clarinet category

Author: Westmoreland, Michael Harold

Abstract: The National Association of Negro Musicians held its first meeting in Washington, D. C. during a music festival that took place at Dunbar High School from May 1-3, 1919. The first annual convention, whose purpose was the preservation, encouragement and advocacy of all genres of music by African-Americans, was held July 29-31, 1919, in Chicago, Illinois. During this meeting a scholarship contest was established and its first winner was Marian Anderson. My primary purpose of this research project is to introduce
clarinetists to some of the contributions made by African-American composers to the clarinet literature by using the scholarship contest pieces. In addition to a short biography for each composer discussed in this treatise, a discussion of the composer's work will explain some of the performance issues such as avant-garde techniques, range, manuscript legibility, compositional techniques and other issues that the performer will face while learning the music. I also want to create a teaching curriculum consisting of established clarinet literature that will aid in the preparation of these works for the scholarship contest and allow the clarinetist to compare works between the established literature and works from African-American Composers.

Links:
Subject: African American Studies; Black studies; Music

Classification: 0296: African American Studies; 0325: Black studies; 0413: Music

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Communication and the arts, National Association of Negro Musicians, Music by African-Americans, Scholarship contest, Clarinetists, African-American composers, Performance issues, Clarinet literature

Title: The National Association of Negro Musicians scholarship contest 1994 and 1999: A preparation guide for the clarinet category

Number of pages: 119
Implementing election reform in the context of American federalism: The case of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002

Author: Stoilov, Vassia

Abstract: The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 marked the first time in U.S. history when federal funds were allocated for the administration of elections. This legislation put forth several minimum standards to be implemented across the states and was one of the rare
federal interventions in election administration, which the state and local level governments had been traditionally responsible for managing. HAVA had a different reception across the states, which were responsible for developing HAVA implementation plans. Some states were able to meet the deadlines mandated by HAVA, while others found themselves in noncompliance in 2006--the final deadline for becoming HAVA-compliant. This variation in implementation prompted the research conducted by this dissertation. This dissertation thus looked into what factors account for the variation in the implementation of HAVA election reforms across the states? This research question was analyzed through the theoretical lenses of intergovernmental relations and federalism as well as policy implementation using the following research methods: literature review, case studies (of Maryland and New York), and a multivariate regression analysis conducted for all 50 states. I hypothesize that states with: 1) stronger power vis-à-vis localities, 2) nonpartisan election administration, 3) unified party control of the legislature, 4) government ideologies at the middle of the liberal-conservative continuum, and 5) lower median household levels are more likely to have higher levels of HAVA implementation. The results of the multivariate analysis revealed that partisanship was a statistically significant variable explaining the implementation of Section 101. This finding confirmed the hypothesized relationship that nonpartisan election administration is likely to be associated with higher levels of HAVA implementation. Also, the results reveal that state election administration control is a
statistically significant variable, but not in the expected direction, suggesting that less state control, i.e. devolution to lower tiers of government, is more propitious for the implementation of Section 102. Additionally, state government ideology was also found to be a statistically significant variable, with scores closer to the most conservative value along the liberal-conservative continuum leading to higher levels of implementation of Section 251.

Links:

Subject: Public administration

Classification: 0617: Public administration

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Election reform, Federalism, Help America Vote Act, Implementation, Maryland, New York

Title: Implementing election reform in the context of American federalism: The case of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002

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Place of publication: Ann Arbor
Abstract: This thesis is a study of class struggle and class formation in Grays Harbor, Washington, between the 1890s and 1933. Grays Harbor was the most prolific lumberproducing and lumber-shipping region in the world during the first three decades of the twentieth century. It was also a center of unionism and radicalism, a place where trade unionists, socialists, and revolutionary syndicalists formed large and lasting institutions. Despite the size and strength of local worker's organizations, divisions of race, ethnicity, gender, and ideology limited their effectiveness and opened them up to the employer attacks. Employers used strikebreakers, violence, labor spies, police, the courts, and blacklists to combat the trade union campaigns of the 1900s and the mass strikes led by
revolutionary organizations during the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s. By 1912 the largest and most dynamic workers’ organization on the Harbor was the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). The IWW led mass strikes in the region in 1912, 1917, and 1923. IWW halls in Grays Harbor also functioned as centers of culture and community, particularly for Finnish Americans, the largest ethnic group within the Grays Harbor IWW. Contrary to most of the historiography on the Pacific Northwest, the lumber industry, and the IWW, this study shows that the Grays Harbor IWW was a mass movement with a large base of support in the community. This community support was a major reason why the IWW was able to fend off the attacks of employers and the state during the 1910s and 1920s, and maintain a large membership into the 1930s. A quantitative analysis of IWW members during the 1920s and 1930s reveals that it was composed of large numbers of skilled workers, members of the middle class, married men, single and married women, and children. As late as the 1930s the Wobblies still counted over six hundred members and supporters in Grays Harbor, hosted elaborate cultural festivities, and lent support to the numerous lumber strikes that occurred during this period. This thesis concludes with an examination of the IWW and Communist Party as the groups struggled for members and influence during the 1930s. Keywords: Industrial Workers of the World; Grays Harbor; unions; employers; Finnish Americans; Communist Party.
Subject: American history; Forestry; Economics
Wilaat Hooxhl Nisga'ahl [Galdoo'o] [Yans]: Gik’uuhl-gi, Guun-sa ganhl Angoo gam Using Plants the Nisga’a Way: Past, Present and Future Use

Author: Burton, Carla Mary Anne
Abstract: This dissertation was undertaken in collaboration with the Nisga'a First Nation of northwestern British Columbia to document their traditional plant knowledge. This information was gathered through collaborative audio recorded open-ended discussion with 21 Nisga'a elders, supplemented with material from the published literature and archival sources. Background information with respect to the Nisga'a culture, language, geography, plant classification and resource management is documented in the past and as exercised today. Nisga'a names or uses of 110 plant species are described. Of these, 72 species were documented as having been used for food, 52 for medicinal purposes; 12 for spiritual purposes and 70 for technological purposes. The role of plants in traditional Nisga'a culture is further explored through comparisons of plant distribution, plant names and pre-contact trade between the Nisga'a and their immediate neighbours, the Gitxsan, Tsimshian, Haida, Tahltan and Tlingit First Nations. Maps are presented which highlight the distribution of seven plant species traditionally important in these cultures: Shepherdia canadensis (soapberry), Vaccinium membranaceum (black huckleberry), Oplopanax horridus (devil's club), Corylus cornuta (beaked hazelnut), Malus fusca (Pacific crabapple), Veratrum viride (false hellebore), and Taxus brevifolia (western yew). Currently, one of the plants most important to the Nisga'a is wa'ums or devil's club (Oplopanax horridus). Devil's club stems were measured
in clearcuts of different iv ages to examine how quickly this important spiritual and medicinal species recovers after logging. Results suggest that although devil's club does persist after clearcut logging, stems of a suitable size are rarely found in cutblocks less than 10 years old and that time since logging only partially accounts for the persistence or recovery of this species. The dissertation concludes with a discussion of historical Nisga’a plant knowledge. The gender of those who have held and transmitted traditional knowledge and the gender of present knowledge holders is tabulated and discussed. Results suggest that although both men and women hold and pass on traditional knowledge, women were and still are more commonly involved in its transmission to the next generation. Current plant uses are highlighted and prospects for the sustainable use of plants for personal and commercial purposes are discussed.

Links:
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01&amp;rft.volume=&amp;rft.issue=&amp;rft.spage=&amp;rft.isbn=9780499283313&amp;rft.btitle=&amp;rft.title=Wilaat+Hooxhl+Nisga%27ahl++%3A+Gik%27uuhl-gi%2C+Guun-
"With no outcome in mind": Improvisation and improvisational poetics in 20th century North American poetry

Author: Wilcke, Jonathon

Abstract: Using an interdisciplinary methodology drawn from musicology, poetics, cultural theory and the
branch of musical improvisation known as "free improvisation," this dissertation defines and categorizes improvisation and improvisational practices in 20th Century North American poetry and poetics. Beginning with the contention that improvisation is an under-articulated concept in the field of Contemporary Poetics, the dissertation proceeds to categorically define the most iconic and successful improvisational strategies in North American poetry. Under the rubric of "idiomatic poetic improvisation," I examine the improvisational strategies in the work of Jack Kerouac, Kenneth Rexroth, Kenneth Patchen, Amiri Baraka and Nathaniel Mackey. Under "non-idiomatic improvisation," I discuss the following writers: David Antin, Lyn Hejinian, Steve Benson, William Carlos Williams and Andrew Levy. Steve McCaffery, Jackson Mac Low and the Four Horsemen's approach to performed poetic improvisation also falls under this second category. I also discuss scoring strategies used by performing poetic improvisers.

Links:
Subject: Canadian literature; Literature; American literature

Classification: 0352: Canadian literature; 0401: Literature; 0591: American literature

Identifier / keyword: Language, literature and linguistics, Musicology, Free improvisation, Non-idiomatic improvisation

Title: "With no outcome in mind": Improvisation and improvisational poetics in 20th century North American poetry
The Concert Hall as a Medium of Musical Culture: The Technical Mediation of Listening in the 19th Century

Author: Cressman, Darryl Mark

Abstract: Taking the relationship between musical culture, media history, and the philosophy of technology as its starting point, this dissertation situates the concert hall as a musical technology designed to mediate attentive listening. Recognizing that the technical mediation of listening to music is rarely considered by media historians prior to the invention of recorded music, this dissertation draws together elements of the cultural history of eighteenth and nineteenth-century Western musical culture, musical aesthetics, social history, architectural acoustics, and
the history of musical venues to explore how listening to music was technically mediated in the nineteenth century. Using Amsterdam's Concertgebouw (opened in 1888) as a case study, I trace the process by which abstract ideas of romantic music aesthetics shaped the design and meaning of Amsterdam's concert hall. This requires examining how the ideal of attentive listening was articulated in early nineteenth-century Dutch music criticism. Next, I examine how the Amsterdam bourgeoisie acted upon these ideas and how their patronage led to the funding and organization of the Concertgebouw. Finally, I examine how the design of the Concertgebouw embodied the ideal of attentive listening and the conventions of bourgeois patronage that had inspired its construction.

Links:
Subject: Music; Mass communications

Classification: 0413: Music; 0708: Mass communications

Identifier / keyword: Communication and the arts, Concert halls, Musical culture, Media history, Amsterdam

Title: The Concert Hall as a Medium of Musical Culture: The Technical Mediation of Listening in the 19th Century

Number of pages: 225

Publication year: 2012

Degree date: 2012
Abstract: This thesis makes a theoretical and methodological contribution to the study of film and (audio)visual media by developing conceptual tools to examine how images operate as material assemblages with expressive potentials. The study formulates how theoretical perspectives from Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari can be put to work in an empirically grounded study of the production of images and their potentials for affecting viewers in specific social, cultural and political locations. The study furthermore contributes to studies of film violence by mapping the shifting roles and performances of images of blood in American cinema from the 1950s through the 1960s. During this era, blood went from predominantly being used as a
signifier, providing audiences with information regarding a film's characters and plot development, to taking on other, and more sensational, roles. These new blood images not only inform the audience about characters and plot-lines, but rather do something to the audience, evoking visceral responses and performing affective intensities. In order to examine what these images do, this thesis formulates the images of blood as assemblages to examine how blood operates in terms of affect in films such as Blood Feast (1963), Bonnie and Clyde (1967), and The Wild Bunch (1969). The study shows how these and other films bring about very different affective potentials that intersect with social, cultural, and political dynamics. To conceptualize images of blood as assemblages that perform and express affective intensities, connecting with social and discursive formations, the thesis combines the actor-network approach of Bruno Latour with the philosophy of Deleuze and Guattari. These blood assemblages are themselves transformative and transient material constellations, performed through multitudes of relational factors. The study elaborates a methodology that traces how images are historically constituted and operate in concrete material, economical, cultural and social settings. As such, this dissertation makes a unique theoretical and methodological contribution by focusing on the constitution and performance of affective potentials of images, as well as on how these potentials are actualized in encounters with audiences. In this regard, the study presents concepts and methodological approaches of wider relevance to media and
communication and cultural studies. Keywords: Actor-network theory; affect theory; American motion picture history; blood imagery; cultural studies; Deleuze, Gilles; film studies; media violence; visual culture.

Links:

Subject: Film studies

Classification: 0900: Film studies

Identifier / keyword: Communication and the arts, Affect theory, Blood imagery, Cultural studies, Media violence, Visual culture


Number of pages: 297

Publication year: 2012

Degree date: 2012

School code: 0791

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9780499232090

Advisor: McAllister, Kirsten

University/institution: Simon Fraser University (Canada)

University location: Canada
Abstract: In the three chapters of this dissertation, I examine the effects of changes in income on health measures for three different populations. Each of the three populations live in countries with developing economies: Whites in the post-bellum U.S.; black ex-slaves and freedmen upon Emancipation in the U.S., and individuals living in Indian households at the end of the 20th century. In the first and second chapters, I look at the effect of unearned income on morbidity and mortality, while in the third, I investigate how spatial and temporal differences in energy requirements affected food consumption at the end of the 20th century in India. Taken together, the three chapters focus on the effects of income on individual health measures. In the first essay, I investigate how increases in individual income contributed to improvements in adult health during the late 19th and early 20th century. To disentangle the effect of income as opposed to medical advancements or public health interventions, I use exogenous variation in income from the first wide-scale entitlement program in the United States: the Union Army pensions. Documenting that Republican Congressional candidates boosted veterans pensions in order to secure votes, I exploit exogenous increases in income stemming from Republican corruption to estimate income effects on morbidity and mortality. The effects of income on disease onset are large - an extra $1 of monthly pension income, a 9% average real income increase, lowered the probability of infectious disease onset by 38%. In addition, I find that an extra $1 of monthly income lowers the crude
death rate by .008. I find the largest income effects for infectious illnesses, smaller effects for respiratory and digestive illnesses, and no effect for the onset of most endocrine diseases. Results from this chapter help shape our understanding of the U.S. mortality transition and inform today's debates on the health benefits of cash transfers to adults in regions with wide SES gradients in health, as was the case in the U.S. a century ago. In the second chapter co-authored with Trevon Logan, we investigate the effect of increases in Union Army pension income on the mortality rates of black veterans who served for the side of the North in the Civil War. It is not possible to use the same source of exogenous variation in pension income as in the first chapter since the 2 majority of black veterans live in the South and thus are unable to vote. Therefore, they are not a constituency of interest to Republican Congressional candidates. To circumvent endogeneity bias, we use propose a new instrument for pension income and an econometric framework to determine black-white differences in the effect of pension income on health. In addition, we investigate the determinants of differential pension rates among black veterans and present new results. In the third chapter co-authored with Nicholas Li, we explore the effect of declining energy requirements on the demand for calories in India. Despite the large growth in real expenditure and positive calorie-expenditure elasticities, calories consumed per person in India declined between 1983 and 2005. Similarly, rural households are found to be poorer than urban households but consume more calories on average. We test the energy requirements
hypothesis of Deaton and Dreze (2009) as an explanation for these missing calories by using time-use data to impute household energy requirements. To show the differential effects of energy requirements and other factors on food quality and expenditures, we use a simple model to provide intuition and motivate our empirical approach. We find that variations in household characteristics such as size, age, education and occupation predict highly correlated fluctuations in caloric intake and requirements. Labor-saving durables also play an important role in caloric intake. Quantitatively, energy requirements can explain most of the missing calories between urban and rural areas. Over time, differing energy requirements explain approximately one-half of the changes in food quality but only a modest share of the total missing calories, which implies that other factors are important. Our results shed light on the importance of considering variations in energy requirements when formulating welfare and poverty measures.

Links:
Document 86 of 99

The United States South and literary studies during the Cold War

Author: Dominy, Jordan J.

Abstract: This dissertation argues that Southern literature as an academic discipline begins as a direct result of the political, social, and cultural contexts of the United States' newfound hegemony in the late 1940s and early 1950s. It considers how southern writers' concerns for political issues--local and global--occur in their writing as concerns for traditional values and morals. These writers also frequently addressed poverty and racism, two weighty flaws of American
society. These authors' literary expressions match the terminology of intellectuals, who were framing the tenets of American democracy as a system of values. These authors' southern settings and themes allow their work serve a paradoxical purpose. At once these works compartmentalize America's social ills to a single region of the country while universalizing the notion of racism and poverty as moral problems best dealt with by intellectuals, not political problems under the purview of governments, national or otherwise. To argue this account of southern literature's development as a formal, institutionalized study, this project addresses through close reading and contextualization a variety of literary texts--periodicals, essays, novels, and short stories--from the 1940s to the early 1970s. Rather than focusing on how these texts are portrayals of the US South, I explore how these authors' representations of political anxieties related to communism, totalitarianism, racism, and poverty reflect their political sympathies and how their work is compatible with or challenges late modernist aesthetics. The consequences can be either canonicity or obscurity. This project's consideration of both literary texts and literary criticism serves to connect the functions of ideology with the ways intellectuals have thought about literature. Understanding southern literature through this context is significant because it clarifies the political function of literature in the mid-twentieth century United States; it also reveals that the southern canon began as the American literary canon, suggesting the US South as a cultural unit has little
meaning as connected to geography and is a product of the Cold War.

Links:

Subject: American history; American literature
Classification: 0337: American history; 0591: American literature

Identifier / keyword: Language, literature and linguistics, Social sciences, South, Cold War, Literary studies, Twentieth century, Southern literature, Institutional history of literature

Title: The United States South and literary studies during the Cold War

Number of pages: 224

Publication year: 2011

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School code: 0070

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303818875

Advisor: Hegeman, Susan

University/institution: University of Florida

University location: United States -- Florida
At the Crossroads of Empire: The United States, the Middle East, and the Politics of Knowledge, 1902-2002

Author: Khalil, Osamah Feisal
Abstract: This dissertation examines how U.S. foreign policy shaped the origins and expansion of Middle East studies and expertise. For over sixty years the United States has considered the area called the "Middle East" to be vital to its national security interests, and governmental and academic institutions have been essential pillars in support of this policy. America's involvement in the Middle East has matched its rise as a global superpower and I argue that U.S. foreign policy significantly influenced the production and professionalization of knowledge about the region. I demonstrate that passage of the National Defense Education Act (NDEA) of 1958 ultimately led to the growth and diversification of the field. Moreover, my dissertation contends that an unintended consequence of this expansion was strained relations between academia and the government, which contributed to and was compounded by decreased federal funding for area studies. By the late and post-Cold War periods, I assert that these factors led to a perceived decline in the field while private think tanks garnered increased attention and influence. Drawing on research completed at national, university, and foundation archives, I explain how key governmental and non-governmental institutions collaborated to promote Middle East studies and expertise. I examine early American attempts to produce contemporary regional expertise through different wartime agencies and programs during the First and Second World Wars. In particular, I focus on
the Inquiry, a group of scholars created to help
President Woodrow Wilson prepare for the Versailles
Peace Conference, as well as the Office of Strategic
Services and the Army Specialized Training Program. I
assert that the example of these initial efforts and their
alumni helped establish the institutional precursors for
the development of area studies. During and after the
Cold War, I analyze how the Department of State and
the Central Intelligence Agency coordinated with the
Middle East studies programs at Princeton and Harvard
and supported the American Universities of Beirut and
Cairo. I also discuss the coordination of private
foundations and academic societies with governmental
agencies as well as their funding and support of area
studies programs before and after the NDEA. This
includes the activities of the Rockefeller and Ford
Foundations, the Social Science Research Council, and
the American Council of Learned Societies. I conclude
that different regimes of knowledge production and
cultures of expertise related to the Middle East have
emerged over the past century. While these regimes
have often intersected and competed for supremacy, I
contend that U.S. foreign policy interests and goals
have had a predominant influence on the contested
ways knowledge is produced, communicated, and
consumed. I demonstrate that the terminology and
associated geographical representations inherent in
U.S. foreign policy discourse has been adopted and
promulgated by academic scholarship on the Middle
East. Thus, revealing that even when Washington's
policies are contested by area experts its interests
have already been subsumed into existing discourse on
the region. While university-based Middle East studies were successful in expanding and enhancing the U.S.'s knowledge about the region and producing potential candidates for government service, I assert that the foreign policy and intelligence establishments developed their own processes for collecting and analyzing information and trends which benefited from but were independent of academic scholarship on the Middle East. Furthermore, I argue that think tanks emerged at the expense of university-based Middle East studies programs by actively pursuing research agendas in support of U.S. foreign policy objectives in the region.

Links:
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Subject: Middle Eastern history; American history; Middle Eastern Studies

Classification: 0333: Middle Eastern history; 0337: American history; 0555: Middle Eastern Studies

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, National Defense Education Act, Cold War, Foreign policy, Knowledge production, Regional studies programs, Middle East

Title: At the Crossroads of Empire: The United States, the Middle East, and the Politics of Knowledge, 1902-2002

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Publication year: 2011

Degree date: 2011
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Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303829451

Advisor: Doumani, Beshara B.

Committee member: Yaqub, Salim, Sargent, Daniel, Nader, Laura

University/institution: University of California, Berkeley

Department: History

University location: United States -- California

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3616135
Abstract: Between 1900 and 1930, a wide variety of authors, journalists, parenting experts, boyworkers, and social scientists expressed interest in fostering closer father-child relationships in the United States. As the interest in fatherhood grew through the late-1910s and 1920s, authors promoting greater paternal involvement also reinterpreted what it meant to be a good father, focusing more on play and camaraderie and less on discipline and education. This dissertation argues that
the changing ideal of fatherhood was the result of conscious efforts to convince men to take a more active role in parenting, to revitalize fatherhood by distinguishing the fun, youthful, modern father from the stodgy, Victorian patriarchs of the previous generation. The modern father even had a new name: "Dad."

Interest in fostering greater paternal participation in child-rearing grew in part out of a fear of the "feminization" of boys and particularly emphasized the benefits of fathers' involvement with sons, but efforts to engage fathers more fully with their children were even more focused on the imagined benefits for men. Authors fretted over the skyrocketing divorce rate and the erosion of the shared economic function of the family and sought to tie the father more tightly to the middle-class home. The changing ideals of fatherhood reflect a more child-centered, democratic middle-class family and a new valuation of youthfulness. This dissertation explores a variety of efforts to connect fathers more fully with their children and to make fatherhood seem modern and fun. Such concerns can be seen in efforts to design homes to appeal more to masculine sensibilities, in efforts to increase father participation in child-focused organizations, in more inclusive advice literature, and in the growth of popular humor about fatherhood. In addition to these developments, fathers began seeking parenting groups and books of their own, and the 1910s and 1920s saw the growth of fathers' clubs, fathering classes, father-child organizations and events, and books on childrearing written specifically for and by fathers. Rather than joining their wives in parenting groups, these men reached out to other
fathers in an acknowledgement of what some called a "fraternity of fatherhood."

Links:

Subject: American studies; American history

Classification: 0323: American studies; 0337: American history

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Children, Family, Fathers, Masculinity, Parenting, Middle class

Title: Creating Dad: The Remaking of Middle-Class Fatherhood in the United States from 1900-1930

Number of pages: 227

Publication year: 2011

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School code: 0028

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303829413

Advisor: Fass, Paula S.

Committee member: Henkin, David M., Mason, Mary Ann

University/institution: University of California, Berkeley
Framing "Bong Hits 4 Jesus": A content analysis of local newspapers' coverage of the Supreme Court's
decision in Morse v. Frederick and its effect on American school districts' student speech policies

Author: Kennedy, Karla D.


Abstract: This study examines the effect Supreme Court decisions in student speech cases may have on student expression in schools by focusing on the recent Supreme Court student speech case Morse v. Frederick (2007) also known as "Bong Hits 4 Jesus." This controversial case brought student speech back into the public arena, because it was the first student speech case the Court had granted certiorari in 25 years. In order to measure the trickle-down effect of the decision, the researcher conducted three analyses. First, newspaper articles written about Bong Hits were analyzed utilizing issue salience identified in framing theory. The frames identified were loaded characterizations of students and their claims, conflicting institutional attitudes, inadequate attention to detail, superficial legal context, and providing supplemental information. Next, school districts' student speech and student publications policies were used as a surrogate for public opinion because school board members are citizens of the communities they represent. The district policies were content analyzed for comprehensive value in several categories. Finally, student media advisers in Miami-Dade County Public Schools were surveyed to ascertain the effects of the
Morse decision in their schools and classrooms in the categories of purpose and control and censorship. First Amendment theory, practicing democracy in schools, and the Supreme Courts. student speech doctrine are foundational elements of this research. Results indicate that although the case was controversial, the media framed the case to be more about illegal drug usage than the defense of student free speech and the terms democracy and free speech were mentioned in less than 10% of the articles analyzed. Three of the school districts' student speech policies reference the Supreme Court's decision in Morse. The media advisers surveyed did not keep up with the case and felt it had no effect on free speech in their school.

Links:
http://RT4RF9QN2Y.search.serialssolutions.com/?ctx_ver=Z39.88-2004&amp;ctx_enc=info:ofi/enc:UTF-8&amp;rfr_id=info:sid/ProQuest+Dissertations+%26+Theses+Full+Text&amp;rft_val_fmt=info:ofi/fmt:kev:mtx:dissertation&amp;rft.genre=dissertations+%26+theses&amp;rft.jtitle=&amp;rft.atitle=&amp;rft.au=Kennedy%2C+Karla+D.&amp;rft.aufirst=Karla&amp;rft.aulast=Kennedy&amp;rft.date=2011-01-01&amp;rft.volume=&amp;rft.issue=&amp;rft.spage=&amp;rft.epage=&amp;rft.isbn=9781303821998&amp;rft.genre=unknown&amp;rft.title=Framing+%22Bong+Hits+4+Jesus%22+A+content+analysis+of+local+newspapers%27+coverage+of+the+Supreme+Court%27s+decision+in+Morse+v.+Frederick+and+its+effect+on+American+school+districts%27+student+speech+policies&amp;rft.issn=&amp;rft_id=info:doi/
Subject: Journalism; Law; Education Policy; Mass communications

Classification: 0391: Journalism; 0398: Law; 0458: Education Policy; 0708: Mass communications

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Communication and the arts, Education, Supreme Court, Newspaper coverage, Student speech, Free speech, First Amendment

Title: Framing "Bong Hits 4 Jesus": A content analysis of local newspapers' coverage of the Supreme Court's decision in Morse v. Frederick and its effect on American school districts' student speech policies
Number of pages: 162
Publication year: 2011
Degree date: 2011
School code: 0070
Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015
Place of publication: Ann Arbor
Country of publication: United States
ISBN: 9781303821998
Advisor: Armstrong, Cory
University/institution: University of Florida
University location: United States -- Florida
Degree: Ph.D.
Source type: Dissertations & Theses
Language: English
Document type: Dissertation/Thesis
Dissertation/thesis number: 3586559
Abstract: This dissertation analyzes the various scientific, political and cultural narratives about and the official public health responses to the recent 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic. The historical planning emphasis on avian influenza, or 'bird flu,' unintentionally created a large amount of uncertainty about how to respond to the threat from a milder, less severe, strain of influenza. I suggest that the specter of a future deadly global pandemic of avian influenza spurred a
fascination or myopia in global health policy
reminiscent of the mythical danger of listening to the
Greek Sirens' song. Throughout this dissertation, I
attempt to make sense out of the various and still-
emerging accounts of the "swine flu" or 2009 H1N1
outbreak. Thus, I define 'pathography' here as the
combined historical, biological, social, political,
economic and cultural narratives of the 2009 pandemic.
The first section explores the historical and biological
origins of influenza. Chapter one examines influenza
research and early attempts to sequence the H1N1
virus. I use the genetic structure of the virus to suggest
that public health agencies are related through a 'viral
kinship.' Chapter two details the material processes
involved in the sequencing and discovery of influenza
viruses. In it, I argue that what virology laboratories
construct through these material processes of DNA
sequencing is not - reductio ad absurdum - the virus
itself, or even simply 'knowledge' about a virus, but
rather a complex network of scientists, laboratories,
farms, public health institutions and other 'actors'
involved in the circulation of influenza samples and
genetic information about influenza viruses. Chapter
Three explores Hong Kong's history as an international
'lab' for disease research, its local identity crisis as a
former colony and current position as a Chinese city,
and its unique role within global scientific and public
health networks. The H1N1 virus is not simply a symbol
of the complex global forces that shaped its emergence
and its spread, the microscopic 2009 H1N1 virus
embodies those macroscopic forces. Using the terms of
molecular biology itself, I would like to suggest here
that influenza viruses are not born sui generis out of larger economic, political or social processes, but are both created from and used to create the worlds in which they inhabit. The second section of the dissertation deals with this macro-level of analysis, or the political and cultural ramifications of influenza pandemics. Chapter four examines the seemingly new paradigm shift within global public health from the use of a scientific "certainty" to a biological and situational "uncertainty" as one of the foundations of response to infectious disease outbreaks. Chapter five analyzes the production, collection and sharing of epidemiological information during a pandemic. Scientific facts about the virus and the pandemic were freely circulated and agreed upon, but their cultural and political interpretations needed to be continuously negotiated. I argue that not only are cultural politics alive and well, but that they played a vital role in the global response to the influenza outbreak. Finally, I argue that to understand the pandemic as more than just a biological, social, political or historical event, one must look at all these narratives at once. The influenza virus is not thus merely a symbol of our times or for an increasingly globalized world; instead, I argue that it has partially constructed - and continues to shape - the contours of our world.

Links:
Subject: Forensic anthropology; Pathology; Public health

Classification: 0339: Forensic anthropology; 0571: Pathology; 0573: Public health

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Health and environmental sciences, Global public health, H1N1, Influenza pandemic, Bird flu, Greek sirens song
"Into the woods": Intertextuality in children's and young adult fantasy texts

Author: Keebaugh, Cari Jo
Abstract: This dissertation explores intertextuality in children's and young adult texts from 1805 to the present. I employ the term "crossover intertext" to describe those texts which incorporate pre-existing characters into a new narrative. Crossover intertextuality both promotes and subverts the discourses from which it borrows and in which it resides. This dichotomous function renders it a potent tool, but also one that is double-edged and, at times, unpredictable. I explore these texts' influence on the canon, how they alter expectations of cultural literacy, how they critique contemporary culture, and how they teach children to understand the way narratives work on the most fundamental level. The study spans crossover intertexts from their inception in Victorian children's culture up to the most recent video game releases, including such texts as Jane G. Austin's Moonfolk, Ada Flor Alma’s Enchanted Forest picture book series, Michael Buckley's Sisters Grimm young adult series, as well as Disney’s much-anticipated Wii game Epic Mickey. My project recasts the current conversation about intertextuality in children's and young adult literature by examining a much broader range and spectrum of source materials than any study thus far and by demonstrating that intertexts--and crossover intertexts, more specifically--function more effectively and subversively than has previously been suggested. Venturing into an intertext evokes all manner of questions regarding cultural literacy, (cultural) memory, commentary on structure and genre, and, above all, questions regarding the nature of narrative itself in all forms and guises. In this
dissertation, I hope to offer some answers to these provocative matters by guiding the reader through the metaphorical and ideological woods of crossover intertextuality in children's and young adult fantasy.

Links:

The Cherokee Kid: Will Rogers and the Tribal Genealogies of American Indian Celebrity

Author: Ware, Amy Melissa


Abstract: This dissertation is the first historical-cultural exploration of the ways tribal customs made their way into mainstream America. Throughout his career, Cherokee entertainer and political pundit Will Rogers (1879-1935) drew on Cherokee traditions to ameliorate Americans’ anxieties over the increase of mass media, the rise of urbanism, and the threatened loss of individuality that came with these changes. This study complicates overly-simplistic assumptions that popular culture uniformly misrepresented and victimized Native peoples during the Progressive Era and Interwar Years. By analyzing the early twentieth century through the work of one of its most influential American Indian participants, this project broadens notions of both American popular-political cultures and American Indian identities. Although Rogers and other publicly-known Natives like him did not always fit into the public's perception of "the Indian," they did fit into their tribe's artistic and cultural traditions. In this way, Rogers's overlooked work--his live performances on vaudeville and radio, his syndicated journalistic commentary, and his astounding film career--challenges
scholarly understandings of the representation and misrepresentation of Native Americans. This study does not merely illuminate the intimate connections between Will Rogers and the Cherokee Nation. It further elucidates the ways American and specific American Indian tribal histories interact with one another. Scholars so often focus on the colonization and usurpation of Indian nations that we overlook the many times indigenous individuals and nations impact the United States in both positive and negative ways. This dissertation, in short, shows that scholars must reconsider essentialized notions of Indianness, turning instead to specific tribal histories and the ways these traditions intermingle with others to affect the whole.

Links:

Subject: American studies; Native American studies

Classification: 0323: American studies; 0740: Native American studies

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Cherokee nation, Film, Journalism, Radio, Vaudeville, Rogers, will

Title: The Cherokee Kid: Will Rogers and the Tribal Genealogies of American Indian Celebrity

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Place of publication: Ann Arbor

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Advisor: Hoelscher, Steven

Committee member: Champagne, Duane, Cox, James H., Davis, Janet M., Strong, Pauline Turner, Thompson, Shirley

University/institution: The University of Texas at Austin

Department: American Studies

University location: United States -- Texas

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3615179

ProQuest document ID: 1523717796
Tweening the girl: The crystallization of the tween market 1980-1996

Author: Coulter, Natalie

Abstract: While it was the phenomenal commercial success of the girl band, the Spice Girls, in the mid-1990s that legitimized the tween girl as a viable and lucrative market segment; it was really during the 1980s - precisely the moment she should have been ignored - that the tween persona crystallized as a specific, segmented marketing niche carved out of the transitory and transformational spaces between childhood and adolescence. She is an image of a transitional girlhood that is sold to both the mediated marketplace and to girls themselves. The tween as a
category represents the targeting of a new consumer subjectivity, particularly the upaging of the child, the downaging of the teen, but also the reclamation of girlhood as a site of consumer autonomy and power. The tween girl I argue is a commercial persona which exists in the marketplace as an historical site of identity work. She is the personification of a market segment that crystallizes as the segment is defined, honed and traded within the dynamic interchanges of the mediated marketplace (advertising, marketing, merchandising, retail and the media). The tween is also a key cultural resource through which girls reaching their maturity come to negotiate their lives as transitional consumers. This thesis is a historical case study of the crystallization of the tween persona in the synergistic circuitries of the mediated marketplace that uses a historical discourse analysis of industry trade publications and retrospective interviews with suburban tweens as the primary modes of analysis. While most works on the tween focus on the 1990s, this thesis uncovers how the crystallization of the tween is firmly rooted in the context of the twentieth century as the marketplace solidified the child and the teen consumers, and the 1980s which were a period of dramatic changes in the landscape of media culture and social upheaval for the middle class as more mothers joined the workforce, dramatically shifting girls' roles in their families and their access to family resources. Meanwhile, challenged by the presence of girls in the marketplace, feminism was forced to recalibrate its relationship to both the girl and consumer culture, opening new opportunities for plurality. In unravelling
the historical discourses about the tween and its links to feminism, this thesis adds to the field of Girls' Studies by addressing how a category of girlhood was organized and produced by the mediated marketplace and how girls engaged with this persona in the context of 1980's suburbia. Keywords: Tween, Girl's Culture, Market Segments, Feminism, Consumer Culture, Advertising, Marketing, Marketing History. Subject Terms: Girls Studies, Teenage Girls, Girls in Popular Culture, Child Consumers, Teenage Consumers, Children -- History, Adolescence -- History, Advertising -- Social Aspects.

Links:

Subject: Cultural anthropology; Marketing; Womens studies

Classification: 0326: Cultural anthropology; 0338: Marketing; 0453: Womens studies

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Girl¿s Culture, Market Segments, Feminism, Consumer Culture, Marketing History, Teenage Consumers, Adolescence

Title: Tweening the girl: The crystallization of the tween market 1980-1996

Number of pages: 229

Publication year: 2009

Degree date: 2009

School code: 0791

Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015
Reproducing and representing reproductive politics in contemporary North American texts

Author: Latimer, Heather


Abstract: My dissertation examines representations of reproductive politics in North American fictional texts since the early 1980s. I comparatively analyze texts by authors Toni Morrison, Kathy Acker, Shelley Jackson, Margaret Atwood, Nancy Huston, and Larissa Lai, and by film director Alfonso Cuarón, in order to argue that the anxiety surrounding reproductive politics, and especially the abortion debate, has increased since Roe v. Wade both inside and outside the US. I claim that the ideologies of individual "choices" and "rights," which publicly frame reproductive politics, have been inadequate in making sense of the topic's complexities, and that these fictional texts offer representations of abortion and other reproductive technologies, such as cloning, outside the confines of this discourse. They
therefore present a chance to explore how these politics function culturally and creatively, as they tell stories about reproductive technologies and politics in a variety of ways different from traditional debates about whether or not certain reproductive acts are right or wrong, and in a manner that is often critical of the terms of the debates themselves. The texts help reveal the important connections between narrative and reproduction and highlight fiction's ability to imagine alternate realities. At the same time, they reveal fiction's ability to engage with the cultural and creative theories structuring the world in which it is produced, and I also argue that the texts engage with both political history and with feminist cultural and psychoanalytic theories in a way that productively complicates popular understandings of reproductive politics. Ultimately, I argue that the fictional texts help us see that reproductive technologies, and their associated politics, are deeply connected to cultural ideas about maternity, family, citizenship, race, technology, and, more recently, ideas about terror and terrorism--anxieties that cannot be contained under the rubrics of individual "rights" and "choices."

Links:
Title: Reproducing and representing reproductive politics in contemporary North American texts

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Dissertation/thesis number: NS23265
The Contribution of Technology to the Teaching of Music Listening: Historical Perspectives and Contemporary Developments

Author: Hoplaros, Georgios Pandelis

Abstract: The purpose of the current study is to examine the contribution of technology to the teaching of music listening, to present a comprehensive account of the pertinent educational materials that have been developed in the past to assist teachers during the music listening activity, and to introduce a software application to make it easier for teachers to create
music listening guides. The role of technology in the teaching of music listening can be examined in four major historical periods, each roughly corresponding to a quarter of the twentieth century. During the early 1900’s, the invention of the first devices that could reproduce sound - the player piano and the phonograph - allowed music teachers to include music listening activities in classroom music instruction. The largest companies in the player piano and phonograph industry formed educational departments that produced a plethora of educational materials that helped to spread the music appreciation movement throughout the country. The advent of the radio, followed by the television, constitutes the second historical period to be examined. Both inventions contributed to the establishment of music listening as an integral part of classroom instruction by broadcasting educational programs on a national scale, mostly in the form of youth concerts. Broadcasting companies also issued teacher guides and student workbooks to be used along with the programs. The third period in question concerns the second half of the past century, when several improvements in audio equipment made the production of extensive recorded listening libraries possible. At the same time, the development of new devices enabled the production of educational audiovisual materials, such as films, filmstrips, slides, and transparencies. The accessibility of personal computers marks the fourth and final historical period to be discussed. The new technology allowed the development of educational software for music listening. Most listening materials developed by
publishers to accompany the new technologies dictate both the music literature and the musical concepts to be introduced to students. The author has programmed a pertinent computer application to help teachers create their own listening material - specifically, animated versions of listening maps. A description of the computer application and its capabilities are presented in the final chapter of the study.

Links:

Subject: Music; Music education; Educational technology

Classification: 0413: Music; 0522: Music education; 0710: Educational technology

Identifier / keyword: Communication and the arts, Education, Animated listening maps, Listening guides, Listening maps, Music appreciation, Music listening, Visual aids

Title: The Contribution of Technology to the Teaching of Music Listening: Historical Perspectives and Contemporary Developments

Number of pages: 260

Publication year: 2008

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Source: DAI-A 75/07(E), Jan 2015
Abstract: From its distinction during the 1920s as the hub of black culture and commerce in America to its later reputation as the unmitigated manifestation of inner city decay, Harlem evokes an urban palimpsest, a lived geographic space onto which collective desires and fears are written and overwritten. Because of the symbolic place Harlem occupies in the national imaginary, my dissertation focuses on this central public site. Jay-Walking in the City: Violence Against Women, Urban Space, and Pedestrian Acts of Resistance advocates an investigation of textual
histories of abusive domestic experiences in this neighborhood in order to underline the importance of public spheres in redressing trauma. As part of the larger archive of Harlem literature, the novels I investigate in this dissertation offer counter-narratives to those circulating in post-war America concerning the safety of this neighborhood's streets and the character of its residents. Ann Petry's The Street (1946), Gloria Naylor’s The Women of Brewster Place (1980), Audre Lorde's Zami: A New Spelling of My Name (1982), and Sapphire's Push (1996) all contain episodes of domestic or sexual violence against women perpetrated in the Harlem households where the protagonists of these novels live. This dissertation focuses on the moments when Harlemites whom these women encounter in the public sphere intervene in the violent conditions of these primary characters' lives. These interpositional episodes within each novel challenge the pervasive cultural dichotomy that extols the American home as a stronghold of social and national security and lambastes the inner city as a volatile space of danger and fear.

Links:
"From below and to the left": Re-imagining the Chicano movement through the circulation of third world struggles, 1970-1979

Author: Gomez, Alan Eladio

Abstract: Activists, artists, journalists, and intellectuals in the United States, from the 1950s to the present,
have supported national liberation movements in Latin America, Africa, and Asia, arguing that anti-colonial struggles abroad were related to human and civil rights struggles in the United States. This dissertation builds on these foundations by tracing multi-racial and transnational connections among people and organizations in the United States, and between the United States and Latin America during the 1970s. Uncovering these connections that linked the Third World "within" to the Third World "without" across the Americas reconfigures the narrative of what happened to social movements in the 1970s, and helps us re-imagine the Chicano movement through the lens of an anti-colonial politics. This project bridges the local, national, and international terrains of political struggle by tracing the lives of activists and organizations in the United States and Latin America who defined their politics in relation to the Third World. It interrogates four inter-related themes: the prison rebellions in the United States, third world political activity in major U.S. urban centers, guerrilla theatre on both sides of the U.S.-Mexican (and by extension Latin American) international border, and social movement connections between Texas and Mexico. My primary focus is on localized strategies for grassroots mobilizations rooted in working class cultural practices, multi-ethnic solidarities, and transnational political formations that were comprised of Chicano, Black, Asian, Puerto Rican, Mexican, American Indian, and white activists and artists. I also emphasize the local elements involved in the political alliances, coalitions, and solidarity efforts across geopolitical borders and different political
perspectives. Overall, this project explores connections across, underneath, and outside the political, economic and cultural construction of the nation state, and the hemispheric construction of the Americas with the United States as the primary political, economic and cultural power. These intertwined perspectives simultaneously step back to interrogate the larger international connections while focusing in on local manifestations of national issues refracted through a hemispheric lens. It is in the 1970s - a decade characterized by a shift in the policies of the crisis-ridden political economy of the Keynesian welfare state in response to these very struggles - that we should locate the early elements of what is currently referred to the anti-globalization movements.

Links:
Subject: Latin American history; American history

Classification: 0336: Latin American history; 0337: American history

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Borderlands, Chicana/o studies, Incarceration studies, Social movements, Theatre against empire, U.s. third world politics and revolution

Title: "From below and to the left": Re-imagining the Chicano movement through the circulation of third world struggles, 1970-1979

Number of pages: 655

Publication year: 2006
Abstract: The history and challenges regarding segregation, desegregation, and resegregation remain tangible and threatening to public schools today. Public support has shifted away from the gains made during the 1960s-80s through civil rights action and litigation and public policies now reflect a more laissez faire position toward racial and cultural interaction. The political movement of "dismantling desegregation" has been well documented by researchers (Steinberg, 1995; Orfield, 1996; Eaton & Orfield, 1996; Caldas & Bankston,
1998; Orfield & Yun, 1999; Peoples, 2001; Zhou, 2003; Eckes, 2004). But what can be added to the existing body of work is a greater understanding of the voices of those most directly effected by the current trends to resegregate. This study addresses the following questions: How do members of marginalized African American communities understand resegregation and how it will affect their children in public schools? In particular, how do African American parents respond to the educational shifts impacting their children? For the purposes of this qualitative case study, African American parents with school age children are the primary informants. Each participant volunteer responses to a series of interviews relating to educational issues concerning desegregation and resegregation, school quality, student and faculty ethnicity, and racism. Through the use of interviews arranged into four case studies and other data sources (school district records, state statistics, and newspaper articles), a clearer understanding of a marginalized community in a segregated, desegregated, and resegregated African American community is presented. The study offers an analysis of statistical data and a brief summary of case study themes. Six comprehensive findings are examined in the last chapter. Two implications conclude the study.

Links:
Title: From desegregation to resegregation: A case study of African American parent understandings

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Advisor: Salinas, Cynthia

University/institution: The University of Texas at Austin

Department: Education

University location: United States -- Texas

Degree: Ph.D.
The Crossroads of Race: Racial Passing, Profiling, and Legal Mobility in Twentieth-Century African American Literature and Culture

Author: Dunbar, Eve Exandria

Abstract: This dissertation analyzes a set of literary, legal, journalistic, and cinematic discourses produced between 1896 and the dawn of the twenty-first century to argue that racial passing and racial profiling have historically been competing yet mutually constitutive practices: the person who "passes" avoids and lives in fear of profiling; likewise, technologies of profiling develop in response to strategies of racial dissimulation or disguise. Each dissertation chapter does the work of establishing the direct connection between these two practices, and argues that they are bound together by law. The project begins with an analysis of the 1896 Supreme Court case of Plessy v. Ferguson, which establishes a foundational intersection of passing and profiling. Each subsequent chapter is developed around its historical relationship to other landmark United States Supreme Court cases. This historical-legal framework, then, allows analysis of the role that passing has played in the production of African American literature and culture, but it also establishes the activity’s importance to American culture. Throughout, it is argued that racial passing narratives must be understood alongside the practice of racial profiling to appreciate how the literary genre continues to evolve and be redeployed for political purposes. The project attempts to make sense of the vexed relationship between racial passing and racial profiling. Moreover, "The Crossroads of Race" establishes a lexicon for navigating African American literary production and concerns, as well as an archive which acknowledges the broad implications African American
literature has for American culture. Through bringing together different sets of texts and different tools, African American and American literature and culture can be fleshed out and put into conversation in more meaningful and productive ways.

Links: