Middletown A Study In Modern American Culture

The Cambridge Companion to Modern American CultureEncyclopedia of Contemporary American CultureModern American CultureThe Modern TemperMade in AmericaThe Culture of BruisingEncyclopedia of Contemporary American CultureAmerican Cultural StudiesSelf-Help and Popular Religion in Modern American CultureMiddletownRobert Johnson, Mythmaking, and Contemporary American CultureThe Loss of Common Sense in Modern American CultureAmericannessThe Latest Early American LiteratureThe Two Majorities and the Puzzle of Modern American PoliticsThe Cambridge Companion to Modern Latin American CultureReligious Perspectives on Business EthicsAmerican Thought and Culture in the 21st CenturyMiles Davis and American CultureTuxedo Junction C. W. E. Bigsby Robert Gregg Mick Gidley Lynn Dumenil Claude S. Fischer Gerald Lyn Early Robert Gregg Neil Campbell Roy M. Anker Robert S Lynd Patricia R. Schroeder Tom S. Pane Simon J. Bronner R. C. De Prospo Byron E. Shafer John King Thomas O'Brien Martin Halliwell Gerald Lyn Early Gerald Lyn Early

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publisher description

as a meeting point for world cultures the usa is characterized by its breadth and diversity acknowledging that diversity is the fundamental feature of american culture this volume is organized around a keen awareness of race gender class and space and with over 1 200 alphabetically arranged entries spanning the american century from the end of world war ii to the present day the encyclopedia provides a one stop source for insightful and stimulating coverage of all aspects of that culture entries range from short definitions to longer overview essays and with full cross referencing extensive indexing and a thematic contents list this volume provides an essential cultural context for both teachers and students of american studies as well as providing fascinating insights into american culture for the general reader the suggestions for further reading which follows most entries are also invaluable guides to more specialized sources

modern american culture is a multi contributor collection of essays which provides a clear lively and concise introduction to the richness and diversity of american culture especially but not exclusively during the twentieth century culture is here conceived in broad terms to include ideas social institutions environmental features behavioural patterns and forms of expression organized thematically the book can be divided into two parts the initial chapters largely present historical economic political and geographical aspects of american culture from a variety of different perspectives and include treatment of such central themes as race religion immigration and region the second half of the book is mainly concerned with generic issues such as the media popular music performance arts painting and poetry and poetics each chapter introduces the reader to the appropriate cultural critics and leads towards the fuller scale treatment of american cultural criticism itself which concludes the book the increasing popularity of american studies both as a degree area in its own right and as a major component of such other degrees as english and history means that this book will be warmly welcomed by undergraduate and postgraduate students it will prove essential to students following american studies courses and provides useful contextualization for those taking cultural and media studies it will also appeal to the general reader with an interest in american culture

an in depth perspective of the transformative decade that was the american jazz age from the end of world war i to the stock market crash dumenil has captured the fire of this volcanic time and weaves together scores of social and political threads into an insightful overview publishers weekly when most of us take a backward glance at the 1920s we may think of prohibition and the jazz age of movies stars and flappers of harold lloyd and mary pickford of lindbergh and hoover and of black friday october 29 1929 when the plunging stock market ushered in the great depression but the 1920s were much more lynn dumenil

brings a fresh interpretation to a dramatic important and misunderstood decade as her lively work makes clear changing values brought an end to the repressive victorian era urban liberalism emerged the federal bureaucracy was expanded pluralism became increasingly important to america s heterogeneous society and different religious ethnic and cultural groups encountered the homogenizing force of a powerful mass consumer culture the modern temper brings these many developments into sharp focus

our nation began with the simple phrase we the people but who were and are we who were we in 1776 in 1865 or 1968 and is there any continuity in character between the we of those years and the nearly 300 million people living in the radically different america of today with made in america claude s fischer draws on decades of historical psychological and social research to answer that question by tracking the evolution of american character and culture over three centuries he explodes myths such as that contemporary americans are more mobile and less religious than their ancestors or that they are more focused on money and consumption and reveals instead how greater security and wealth have only reinforced the independence egalitarianism and commitment to community that characterized our people from the earliest years skillfully drawing on personal stories of representative americans fischer shows that affluence and social progress have allowed more people to participate fully in cultural and political life thus broadening the category of american yet at the same time what it means to be an american has retained surprising continuity with much earlier notions of american character firmly in the vein of such classics as the lonely crowd and habits of the heart yet challenging many of their conclusions made in america takes readers beyond the simplicity of headlines and the actions of elites to show us the lives aspirations and emotions of ordinary americans from the settling of the colonies to the settling of the suburbs

early s subjects range far and wide essays in which he shares with us his considerable insights and expertise on such various subjects as multiculturalism and black history month baseball racist memorabilia performance magic and race malcolm x early jazz music and finally the raising of daughters in every essay the form strengthens the content and gracefully balances the elements of research and opinion early becomes by turns the critic skeptic autobiographer biographer storyteller cultural and literary scholar detached citizen and bemused parent he integrates these voices with the skill of an accomplished choirmaster

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exploring the central themes in modern american cultural studies and discussing how these themes can be interpreted american cultural studies offers a wide ranging overview of different aspects of american cultural life such as religion gender and sexuality regionalism and ethnicity and immigration the fourth edition has been revised throughout to take into account the developments of the last four years updates and revisions include discussion of barack obama s time in the white house consideration of hemispheric american studies and the increasing debates about globalisation and the international role of the usa long form television and american studies up to date case studies such as girls the wire and orange is the new black more material on detroit the mexican border same sex relationships and islam in america updated further reading lists and new follow up work illustrated throughout containing follow up questions and further reading at the end of each chapter and accompanied by a companion website routledge com cw campbell providing further study resources american cultural studies is a core text and an accessible guide to the interdisciplinary study of american culture

the second of two volumes on the relationship between popular religion and the self help tradition in american culture this book continues chronologically and spans from romanticism and the gilded age through norman vincent peale and robert schuller

2025 reprint of the 1929 edition exact facsimile of the original edition and not reproduced with optical recognition software a classic influential study of the average american town here is the heart of america in this famous study of day by day living in a representative small american city you may find a complete picture of our culture making a home getting a living training the young spending leisure carrying on government religion all these divisions of our complex round of life are examined in detail middletown a study in modern american culture published in 1929 by sociologists robert s lynd and helen merrell lynd is a groundbreaking sociological study that examines life in a typical american small town set in middletown a pseudonym for muncie indiana the book explores how industrialization technology and societal changes have impacted family life work

education religion and leisure in the 1920s by analyzing a broad spectrum of daily activities the lynds provide an in depth portrait of american middle class life capturing the cultural shifts and tensions of the time middletown remains a classic offering valuable insights into the roots of american culture and modern social dynamics chapters include nature of the investigation the city selected the historical setting the dominance of getting a living who earn middletown s living what middletown does to get its living the long arm of the job why do they work so hard the houses in which middletown lives marriage child rearing food clothing and housework who go to school the things children learn those who train the young school life traditional ways of spending leisure inventions re making leisure the organization of leisure dominant religious beliefs where and when religious rites are carried on leaders and participants in religious rites religious observances the machinery of government keeping healthy caring for the unable getting information things making and unmaking group solidarity

suddenly robert johnson is everywhere though the mississippi bluesman died young and recorded only twenty nine songs the legacy legend and lore surrounding him continue to grow focusing on these developments patricia r schroeder's robert johnson mythmaking and contemporary american culture breaks new ground in johnson scholarship going beyond simple or speculative biography to explore him in his larger role as a contemporary cultural icon part literary analysis part cultural criticism and part biographical study robert johnson mythmaking and contemporary american culture shows the robert johnson of today to be less a two dimensional character fixed by the few known facts of his life than a dynamic and contested set of ideas represented in novels in plays and even on a postage stamp he provides inspiration for highbrow cultural artifacts such as poems as well as hollywood movies and t shirts schroeder s detailed and scholarly analysis directly engages key images and stories about johnson such as the faustian crossroads exchange of his soul for guitar virtuosity navigating the many competing interpretations that swirl around him to reveal the cultural purposes these stories and their tellers serve unprecedented in both range and depth schroeder's work is a fascinating examination of the relationships among johnson's life its subsequent portrayals and the cultural forces that drove these representations with penetrating insights into both johnson and the society that perpetuates him robert johnson mythmaking and contemporary american culture is essential reading for cultural critics and blues fans alike

the loss of common sense in modern american culture by tom s pane is a thought provoking exploration of how historical common sense as exemplified by the beliefs and philosophies of america s founding fathers contrasts with contemporary behaviors and choices in american society drawing parallels between the new era of enlightenment idealism in the writings of the founders and the current state of affairs pane delves into the challenges and consequences of departing from the historical use of reason wisdom and morality as social and political guidelines the book invites readers to reflect on the evolution of common sense and its impact on shaping our collective identity and future through a collection of essays

americanness inquiries into the thought and culture of the united states analyzes several core themes that connect americans because of and despite their pronounced diversity the book investigates shared ideas and ideals such as individualism mobility materialism and future orientation that drive an overarching american worldview simon j bronner begins with ideas of space and time as they formed and changed through the history of the united states before moving to the emergence of modern american culture he examines reasons america is characterized as having a victory culture that extends to the american legal military and business complexes this victory culture is further analyzed by looking at the country's relationship with the game of football a sport that thrives in america but has not caught on in other countries finally the volume probes american consumerism driven by a desire for individual prosperity in a supposedly egalitarian society using interdisciplinary approaches drawn from psychology sociology ethnology and history bronner seeks explanations for people invoking and evoking ideas that they perceive as american this book would be an invaluable addition to courses on american history sociology cultural studies and american studies

the latest early american literature according to readers for the university of delaware press is a collection of polemics and manifestoes in it r c de prospo bids to follow in the footsteps of the two rare early americanist dissenters whom philip f gura once distinguished as prophets without honor in the field william spengemann and michael colacurcio the book contends that a supposedly retired nationalist modernist telos continues to reign in most of the latest scholarship and even more influentially in all of the current literary histories and anthologies no matter how expansive in gender ethnic racial and hemispheric inclusiveness they profess to be old teloi in particular that old american exceptionalist one can be cunning updating and expanding upon essays written over the past thirty years de prospo proposes not only negatively to critique how the latest scholarly receptions of early american literature differ insignificantly from the earlier ones but positively to propose how a transnationalist concession that as a neocolonial culture america s lags behind that of europe might advance post modern historiography by radically repositioning the past as no longer the present s diachronic predecessor but to quote lyotard s semiotics its synchronic differend

closer to earth de prospo tries at the same time to remain mindful of the pedagogical imperative that ultimately to save the texts of early american literature will require making them legible to average non specialist never to become specialist undergraduate general education students to facilitate this he introduces in the concluding section of the latest early american literature what will probably be taken as its most radical intervention the redefinition of edgar allan poe as an early american writer

where did the era of divided government come from what sustains split partisan control of the institutions of american national government year after year why can it shift so easily from democratic or republican presidencies coupled with republican or democratic congresses how can the vast array of issues and personalities that have surfaced in american politics over the last forty years fit so neatly within indeed reinforce the sustaining political pattern of our time these big guestions constitute the puzzle of modern american politics the old answer a majority and a minority party plus dominant and recessive public issues will not work in the era of divided government byron shafer a political scientist who is regarded as one of the most comprehensive and original thinkers on american politics provides a convincing new answer that has three major elements these elements in combination not divided government as a catch phrase are the real story of politics in our time the first element is comprised of two great sets of public preferences that manifest themselves at the ballot box as two majorities the old cluster of economic and welfare issues has not so much been displaced as simply joined by a second cluster of cultural and national concerns the second element can be seen in the behavior of political parties and party activists whose own preferences don t match those of the general public that public remains reliably left of the active republican party on economic and welfare issues and reliably right of the active democratic party on cultural and national concerns the third crucial element is found in an institutional arrangement the distinctively american matrix of governmental institutions which converts those first two elements into a framework for policymaking year in and year out in the first half of the book shafer examines how dominant features of the reagan first bush clinton and second bush administrations reflect the interplay of these three elements recent policy conflicts and institutional combatants in shafer s analysis illuminate this new pattern of american politics in the second half he ranges across time and nations to put these modern elements and their composite pattern into a much larger historical and institutional framework in this light modern american politics appears not so much as new and different but as a distinctive recombination of familiar elements of a political style a political process and a political conflict that has been running for a much much longer time

the term latin america refers to the portuguese and spanish speaking states created in the early 1820s following the wars of independence states that differed enormously in geographical and demographical scale ethnic composition and economic resources yet shared distinct historical and cultural traits specially commissioned essays by leading experts explore the unity and diversity of the region s cultural expressions these essays analyse history and politics from the nineteenth century to the present day and consider the heritage of pre columbian and colonial latin america there is a particular focus on narrative as well as on poetry art and architecture music cinema theatre and broader issues of popular culture a final chapter looks at the strong and rapidly expanding influence of latino a culture in the united states a chronology and guides to further reading are included making this volume an invaluable introduction to the rich and varied culture of modern latin america

in the first anthology of its kind thomas o brien and scott paeth have gathered unique pieces from across religious perspectives to illustrate the growing influence and contribution of religion to the field of business ethics tackling such wide ranging subjects as jewish environmental ethics zen in the workplace and christian social ethics this text is a valuable addition to business ethics courses

will the twenty first century be the next american century will american power and ideas dominate the globe in the coming years or is the prestige of the united states likely to crumble beneath the pressure of new international challenges this ground breaking book explores the changing patterns of american thought and culture at the dawn of the new millennium when the world s richest nation has never been more powerful or more controversial it brings together some of the most eminent north american and european thinkers to investigate the crucial issues and challenges facing the united states during the early years of our new century from the subterranean political shifts beneath the electoral landscape to the latest biomedical advances from the literary response to 9 11 to the rise of reality television this book explores the political social and cultural contours of contemporary american life but it also places the united states within a global narrative of commerce cultural exchange i

his music provoked discussion of art versus commerce the relationship of artist to audience and the definition of jazz itself whether the topic is race fashion or gender relations the cultural debate about davis s life remains a confluence

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