

01:050:303 A Decade in American Culture: 1920s

This course offers an intensive, interdisciplinary exploration of the cultural, political, and economic dynamics of life in the United States between the Great War and the Great Depression. Students will assess a variety of primary sources—including movies, novels, advertisements, music, radio programs, and contemporary journalism and essays produced at the time—to familiarize themselves with the major debates and developments of the period. In order to enrich and complicate our evaluation of these sources, we will also critically assess a number of secondary readings (the present-day views of scholars). This dual focus—on both a wide variety of primary material and on the use that scholars have made of such sources—is designed to raise students' sophistication about the craft and practice of doing American Studies.