

050:487

Seminar in American Studies

"America as a Celebrity Culture." This course will focus on how the United States has become obsessed with issues of celebrity and of how this may be dangerous to democracy as well as possibly being emblematic of a nation where fame, regardless of whence it is derived, has increasingly become the single goal of so many of our people. Is a Celebrity Culture a winner-take-all society, leaving the great majority of its citizens leading personal lives that Henry David Thoreau might have described as "lives of quiet desperation?"