

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- www.unine.ch/lettres

Sém. Ang. II/TC : American Cult Classics and Masculinity (2AN2124)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Pilier principal M A - littératures	Séminaire: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier secondaire M A - littératures	Séminaire: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Automne

Equipe enseignante

Patrick Vincentt

Contenu

Drawing on recent work in Masculinities studies, an interdisciplinary field of research concerned with the social construction of what it means to "be a man", this seminar will focus on a series of American novels published between 1949 and 1971 that not only fictionalize manhood, but have also acquired a "cult following" in one form or another, and have been or continue to be the object of censorship. Corresponding with the Baby Boom and unbridled economic development, but also with two wars and various civil rights' movements, these novels often express the post-war generation's alienation, restlessness, and quest for experience, which led in several of these works to a counter-cultural embrace of drugs and sex. Looking back at this period through the prism of fourth-generation feminism, we will see how the male protagonists' performance of "manhood," often translating into a will to style, also concealed deep insecurities. An underlying question will be whether these novels still deserve to be read and taught.

Forme de l'évaluation

One in-class oral presentation (20%) and one essay (10-12 pages, 80%)

Modalités de rattrapage

The essay can be rewritten once if failed.

Documentation

J.D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye*
Jack Kerouac, *On the Road*
James Salter, *A Sport and a Pastime*
Philip Roth, *Portnoy's Complaint*
Charles Bukowski, *Post Office*

Books available at Payot--Neuchâtel. All other texts will be placed on Moodle.

Forme de l'enseignement

seminar