


American History Through Literature, 1870-1920

INTEGRATED STUDY

 *American History Through Literature, 1870-1920* provides a standard reference for American literature in its broadest cultural context. In doing so, this interdisciplinary work offers a comprehensive overview of American history through a literary lens. Breaking free of the typical treatment of history and literature as separate disciplines, this set recognizes that the study of literature and history are necessarily intertwined. Taking a “new historicist” approach to literary criticism, *American History Through Literature* endorses the notion that not only does history affect literature, but literature itself informs history.

MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES

Analyzing a wide range of classics in American literature as cultural and historical documents, this unique set cultivates critical skills in reading texts from various perspectives, including aesthetic, biographical, social, historical, racial and gendered. Designed for general readers and post-secondary researchers alike, *American History Through Literature, 1870-1920* presents literature not as a simple inventory of authors or titles, but rather as a historical and cultural field viewed from a wide array of contemporary perspectives. It encompasses discussions relating to ethnicity, religion, culture, major events, genres, academic disciplines, ideas in context, society, values, politics and publishing venues, as well as major works of fiction and nonfiction.

AMERICAN HISTORY THROUGH LITERATURE, 1870-1920 FEATURES:

- Scholarship from approximately 200 contributors representing departments of English, history, religion, and American Studies
- Sidebars offering timelines, additional historical context and annotated excerpts of related primary texts
- Appendix featuring a bibliography of primary 19th-century American literary texts that encourages further study
- Approximately 200 illustrations clarifying and enlivening the text
- Thoughtful cross-referencing that facilitates multidisciplinary understanding of the subject

IMPRESSIVE RANGE OF COVERAGE

With its integrated approach, *American History Through Literature, 1870-1920* offer is a unique overview of the period following the Civil War through the emergence of the United States as a world power at the end of World War I. Readers will find the major facts about the period, clear explanations of the main lines of scholarly interpretation, and guidance through recent scholarly controversies. Arranged in alphabetical order, the approximately 250 survey entries address subjects of interest to students of American literature, society, culture, and ideas. *American History Through Literature, 1820-1870* includes articles such as:

- "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn"
- Assimilation
- The Battle of Little Bighorn
- Children's Literature
- Chinese
- Civil War Memoirs
- Copyright
- Darwinism
- Education
- Illustrations and Cartoons
- Indians
- Labor
- Law Enforcement
- Little Big Horn
- Mass Marketing
- Music
- "My Antonia"
- Naturalism
- Photography
- Populism
- Poverty
- Realism

- Reform
- Science Fiction
- Scientific Materialism
- "Scribner's Magazine"
- Spanish-American War
- St. Louis World's Fair
- Success
- "Tarzan of the Apes"
- "The Theory of the Leisure Class"
- The Western
- Women and Economics
- Women's Suffrage

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