In this course we will examine the theories that form the foundation of American Studies, explore the intersections of Popular Culture Studies and American Studies, and learn how American cultural history has both shaped and been reshaped by emerging sonic and visual technologies, changing forms of economic symbolization, the spatial rhetoric of public commemoration, and much more. Encompassing nearly two centuries of popular cultural forms and texts, our semester-long investigation will be punctuated by an examination of how digital, global, and/or transnational cultures are reshaping American Studies scholarship in the twenty-first century.