

Canadian Association of American Studies Conference 2006:
American Exceptionalism

<http://www.queensu.ca/conferences/caas>

**Queen's University
Kingston, Ontario
October 19-22, 2006**

**4 Points Sheraton
285 King St. E., Kingston, ON
(613) 544-4434**

Conference Schedule

Thursday October 19

Registration and Welcome Reception: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm (Old Stones Lounge)

Friday October 20

Registration continues: 10:00 am to 11:00 am (Old Stones Lounge)

Panel One: 11:00 am to 12:00 am (Room 303)

Exceptionalism and Religious Allegory

Chair: Sylvia Söderlind (Queen's)

Matthew Strohack (Queen's): "The City Under the Hill: Allegorical Tradition and H.P. Lovecraft's America"

Daniel Moore (Western): "'The Lost Master Key Has Been Found!': America and the Allegorical Prophecies of Herbert W. Armstrong and the Early Puritans"

Lunch Break: 12:00 am to 2:00 pm

Keynote address: 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm (Limestone B)

Chair: Sylvia Söderlind (Queen's)

Deborah Madsen (University of Geneva): "Witch-hunting: American Exceptionalism and Global Terrorism"

Coffee Break: 3:30 pm to 3.45 pm

Panel Two: 3:45 pm to 4:45 pm (Room 303)

Theorizing Exceptionalism

Chair: Anthony Stewart (Dalhousie)

Jason Haslam (Dalhousie): “Exceptional Minds: Collective Identities, Gated Communities, and Expansionist Utopias”

Emily Garcia (Grand Valley State): “‘The cause of America is in great measure the cause of all mankind’: American Universalism and Exceptionalism in the Early Nation”

Panel Three: 3:45 pm to 4:45 pm (Room 306)

Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century Exceptionalism

Chair: Bruce Tucker (Windsor)

Eric Goldman (Connecticut at Storrs): “What *Isn't* American about America in Early U.S. Literature: The Exceptional Case of Charles Brockden Brown’s *Edgar Huntly*”

Cheryl Elliot (Manitoba): “Risking an Exceptional Self in the Poetry of Phillis Wheatley”

Saturday October 21

Continental Breakfast for Participants: 8:00 am to 9:15 am (Old Stones Dining Room)

Registration continues: 8:30 am to 9:15 am

Panel Four: 9:15 am to 10:45 am (Room 303)

The Popular West: 19th-Century Narratives of Exclusion, Enfranchisement, and Empire

Chair: Christine Bold (Guelph)

Christine Bold (Guelph): “Exclusion Acts: Popular Westerns and the Atlantic Diaspora”

Victoria Lamont (Waterloo): “Eastward the Star of Woman’s Empire Makes its Way: How Wyoming Woman Suffrage History was Remembered and Forgotten”

Pablo Ramirez (Guelph): “Civility Travels: Roots and Routes in Ruiz de Burton’s *Squatter and the Don*”

Panel Five: 9:15 am to 10:45 am (Room 306)

Reconstruction and Liberalism

Chair: Jennifer Harris (Mount Allison)

Nelson Ouellet (Moncton): “Health Care, Liberalism, and the Politics of Reconstruction (1865-1877)”

Jonathan S. Feinberg (Pittsburgh): “The Failure of Liberalism and the Question of American Exceptionalism in Gramsci’s *Prison Notebooks*”

Coffee Break: 10:45 am to 11:00 am

Panel Six: 11:00 am to 12:30 pm (Room 303)

Cultural Icons

Chair: Kiley Kapuscinski (Queen’s)

Sara Humphreys (Waterloo): “‘We’re Coming after You’: Oprah’s Vigilante Sentimentalism”

Priscilla L. Walton (Carleton): “Martha: The Mogul and the Media”

Roxanne Harde (Alberta – Augustana): “‘Just an American Boy’: Steve Earle, the Death Penalty and American Exceptionalism”

Panel Seven: 11:00 am to 12:30 pm (Room 306)

War, Imperialism and Dissent

Chair: Ryan Melsom (Queen’s)

Arthur Redding (York): “Damned If You Don’t: Exceptionalism, Inquisitorial Power, and the Staging of Dissent in Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible* and Today”

Anne Mamary (Monmouth): “Through the Looking Glass: Toward a Poetics of Peace”

Lunch Break: 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Panel Eight: 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm (Room 306)

African American Exceptionalism

Chair: Kevin McGuirk (Waterloo)

Nathaniel Cadle (North Carolina at Chapel Hill): “Woodrow Wilson, W.E.B. Du Bois, and America as ‘World-Salvation’”

Anthony Stewart (Dalhousie): “African American Exceptionalism Under Erasure”

Panel Nine: 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm (Room 303)

Immigration and Imperialism

Chair: Roxanne Harde (Alberta – Augustana)

Carl Bon Tempo (Waterloo): “‘Is That What We Understand To Be Americanism?’
Exceptionalism and Immigration in Modern United States History”

Brian Foster (Carleton): “Coming to Terms with Empire: American Anti-Imperialism
and the League of Nations Debate from 1918-1920”

James J. Allegro (William and Mary): “American Exceptionalism, Orientalism, &
Empire”

Coffee Break: 4:00 pm to 4:15 pm

Keynote address: 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm (Limestone B)

Chair: Jamey Carson (Queen’s)

Michael Yellow Bird (Kansas): “War Talk: Indigenous Peoples and the U.S. war against
Iraq”

**Banquet: 8:00 pm – AquaTerra by Clark Restaubistro
1 Johnson Street – Radisson Hotel
(corner of Johnson and Ontario)**

Sunday October 22

**Continental Breakfast for Participants: 8:00 am to 9:15 am (Old Stones Dining
Room)**

Panel Ten: 9:15 am to 10:45 am (Room 306)

Plotting Exceptionalism

Chair: Mark Streeter (Queen’s)

Christopher Lockett (Memorial): “Philip Roth’s (Un)Exceptional Males: Chasing the
Spectral Father in the Second Zuckerman Trilogy”

David H. Evans (Dalhousie): “Bombs and Garbage: Nature and the Plot of American
History in Don DeLillo’s *Underworld*”

Jennifer Harris (Mount Allison): “Making it through the Wilderness: Reading New York
in Paul Rudnick’s *Jeffrey*”

Panel Eleven: 9:15 am to 10:45 am (Room 303)

American Exceptionalism in Nineteenth-Century Periodicals

Chair: Lindsey Banco (Queen's)

Thomas M. Allen (Ottawa): "The Problem of Empire in the *Democratic Review*"

Michael H. Epp (Trent): "Brittle Histories: New York, *Harper's*, and Nasr'-ed-Din El Khojah"

Coffee Break: 10:45 am to 11:00 am

Panel Twelve: 11:00 am to 12:30 pm (Room 306)

Irving, Whitman, and Melville

Chair: Jamey Carson (Queen's)

Dean Casale (Kean): "Walt Whitman's 1855 *Preface to Leaves of Grass* and the Aesthetics of Empire"

Matthew Brophy (Binghamton): "Burlesquing America's Errand: Savage Satire in Irving's *History* and Melville's *The Confidence Man*"

Lope López de Miguel (Pittsburgh): "'Benito Cereno' and the Fate of History: On the Current Occasion of the American Exception"

Panel Thirteen: 11:00 am to 12:30 pm (Room 303)

From Objects to Animals: Allegories of Exception in American Poetry

Chair: Andrew Toews (Queen's)

Dana Medoro (Manitoba): "Zero at the Bone: Tracking Emily Dickinson's Animals"

Kevin McGuirk (Waterloo): "Exceptional Objects, from Walt Whitman forward"

David Cuthbert (Manitoba): "John Ashberry and the Duty of Exceptions"

Buffet Luncheon: 12:30 pm (Old Stones Dining Room)