### Speakers’ Series 2009-10

**September 22, 2009**  
**To celebrate the 40th anniversary of Woodstock:**  
**DAVID CLAYTON-THOMAS**  
Former Lead Singer, Blood, Sweat & Tears  
“The Reflections on the American Music Scene in the 1960’s and 70’s”  
3:30pm, SSC 3036

**October 7, 2009**  
**FRANK SCHUMACHER**  
Department of History, UWO  
“Small Worlds: Visions of Globalization and Empire at the St. Louis World’s Fair, 1904”  
1:30pm, SSC 9420

**November 26, 2009**  
**ROSEMARY GARTNER**  
Centre of Criminology, U of T  
“The Fascination with Female Crime: Are Women Becoming More Like Men?”  
4:30pm, 3M 3250

**January 19, 2010**  
**THE MORRISON LECTURE**  
**HAROLD HOLZER**  
Civil War and Lincoln Scholar  
Time & Location TBA

**February 24, 2010**  
**EMILY ABRAMS ANSARI**  
Don Wright Faculty of Music, UWO  
“A Cold War Composer-Diplomat in the Civil Rights Era: The Case of Ulysses Kay”  
2:30pm, SSC 9420

**March 9, 2010**  
**ANDREW KEEN**  
Entrepreneur and Author  
“Digital Vertigo: Inequality, Anxiety and Loneliness in the Social Media Age”  
4:30pm, KB 203

### In the News

**MA in American Studies: Proposal in Progress**  
The proposal for the new MA in American Studies at Western is well underway! Fifteen faculty members from across campus will serve as the core faculty of the proposed graduate program. Pending approval by the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at UWO and OCGS, the MA Program is scheduled to begin **September 2010**. Regular updates on the status of the MA proposal will be available on the CAS website: [http://cas.ssc.uwo.ca/In_the_News.html](http://cas.ssc.uwo.ca/In_the_News.html).

**CAS Presents New Publication Series**  
The Centre for American Studies celebrated the first issue of its new quarterly publication series, *Critical Issues of Our Time* this summer. The inaugural issue featured an article on the historic 2008 Presidential Election. “Barack Obama’s Moderate Moment” was contributed by our 2009 Morrison Lecture guest speaker: **Gil Troy**, Professor of History, McGill University. Upcoming issues will include articles by **Lori Cox Han**, Department of Political Science, Chapman University, and **Randall Balmer**, Department of Religion, Barnard College, Columbia University.

### Upcoming Event: CAAS Annual Conference

**States of Emergency: Crisis, Panic and the Nation**  
**An Interdisciplinary Conference**  
**November 13–15, 2009**  
Hilton Hotel, London, Ontario

**Keynote Speakers:**  
**RUSS CASTRONOVO**  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
**WILLIAM NOVAK**  
University of Michigan

Conference program and registration information will soon be available on the conference web page: [http://cas.ssc.uwo.ca/CAASConference.html](http://cas.ssc.uwo.ca/CAASConference.html).  
Sponsored by the Canadian Association of American Studies and the Centre for American Studies, University of Western Ontario.  
**Program Director: Bryce Traister**
Teaching Awards
The CAS is pleased to announce that Professor Peter Ferguson (Department of Political Science, and Co-Instructor of American Studies 1020: An Introduction to American Studies) has been recognized with two prestigious teaching awards in 2009. Professor Ferguson was one of four Western faculty members to be awarded the 2008-9 USC teaching award. He was also the recipient of a Teaching Award from the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance. Congratulations on these great achievements!

Rob MacDougall Invited to the University of Utah
CAS Associate Director Professor Rob MacDougall will be spending the fall 2009 term at the University of Utah as the Simmons Professor in Media History. We wish Rob and his family all the best and hope they have a great time in Utah!

New Book

Welcome to our new instructors!
Andrew Ross
(American Studies 2230F)
Anna Zuschlag
(American Studies 2231G)
S. Liam Van Beek
(American Studies 1020: winter term)

American Studies Scholarship & Gold Medal Winner 2008-9: Meghan Oliver
The Centre for American Studies is delighted to recognize Meghan Oliver as the recipient of the Morrison Scholarship in American Studies for 2009. Meghan was also awarded the Gold medal at spring convocation for the Honors Specialization in American Cultural Studies. She will be moving to the United Kingdom in September to pursue a Master of Science degree in European Political Economy at the London School of Economics. During her fourth year Meghan took a research trip to New York City to work on her thesis, with the assistance of a CAS research and travel grant. We would like to offer Meghan our warmest congratulations on her outstanding achievements during her years in the American Studies BA program and wish her continued success in the future.

American Studies Students Attend Toronto Workshop
In April, nine third and fourth-year American Studies students were invited to attend a workshop in Toronto hosted by the Richard Ivey Business School’s Lawrence Centre for National Policy and Management. The theme of the workshop was “Redefining the Canada-United States Partnership in the Obama Era.” The event was attended by a number of high-profile members of business and government.

New Selected Topics Courses in American Studies 2009-10
American Studies 2230F: Sport in America
(Wednesdays, 1:30-4:30pm)
American Studies 2231G: Being Bad in America: Morality, Deviance and Dissent in the United States (Wednesdays, 1:30-4:30pm)
(Priority for both courses to students enrolled in the American Studies program.)

Also: New English Course
English 2092G: The Poetics of Barack Obama
(May be counted towards the American Studies degree with special permission.)

American Studies BA Program Update
Now entering its fifth year, the undergraduate program in American Studies continues to enjoy steady growth. Enrollment numbers in American Studies 1020 reached over 100 for the first time in 2008-9. In addition, enrollment in the degree modules continues to increase as there are now approximately 35 students pursuing an American Studies degree. There has been particular interest in the Canadian-American Relations Honors Specialization in 2009. We are pleased to be offering two exciting new selected topics courses (American Studies 2230F & 2231G) to our curriculum this year and there are plans for these two courses to be offered as Distance Studies courses in the near future.

Important Dates:
Web Registration Closes: August 8, 2009
Classes Begin: September 10, 2009
Extended Web Registration Closes: September 15, 2009
Paper Add-Drop Period: September 16-18, 2009
New Look for NeoAmericanist Journal

This coming year, the student-run journal NeoAmericanist, will be undergoing a redesign. There are plans to move the publication to a “Web 2.0” format which will allow for a more interactive experience. Readers will be able to comment on articles, and print “thematic question” pages which will serve as possible teaching aides and conversation starters. The redesign will feature more thematic material by moving toward a format that highlights the international issues that matter to students studying the United States. In order to do this, the editorial board plans to open the floor to students and ask for “section proposals” that will develop themes or areas of study.

The editorial staff is also considering the use of advertisements in the journal and is currently determining the costs of this endeavor. Recently, the publication has entered talks, and has been formally offered membership in EBSCO Resources Open Access Directory. A partnership with EBSCO will mean that all of NeoAmericanist’s articles will be searchable and packaged in a way that makes them available across the world through some of the most respected libraries institutions in the world. The CAS is grateful to NeoAmericanist Editor-in-Chief Brian Foster for providing this summary of the journal’s redesign plans.

NeoAmericanist journal website: www.neoamericanist.org

Student Interviewer Joins NeoAmericanist Team

In January 2009 King’s University College student Mark Filipowich joined the NeoAmericanist team as student interviewer. Mark’s role as interviewer is to attend CAS guest lectures and summarize the speaker’s studied opinion on a topic of general interest based on their lecture and the ensuing interview. The NeoAmericanist hopes to feature some of Mark’s interviews in upcoming issues. Mark is a fourth-year student of English and Psychology at King’s University College. In the past he has written for The Interrobang at Fanshawe College and he is a current contributor to The Gazette.

He recently joined the editorial board for The Bridge; a newspaper based out of the Social Justice and Peace Program at King’s.

Interested in Getting Involved with NeoAmericanist?

The journal’s editorial team is often looking for graduate students with an interest in American Studies who may be interested in joining their team. Positions available include peer-reviewers and marketing and promotional staff. If you would like to get involved, contact Editor-in-Chief Brian Foster: neoamericanist@uwo.ca.

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“Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fiber of a free people. 
A nation does not have to be cruel to be tough.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt, 32nd U.S. President (1933-45) 1882-1945

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We hope everyone had a great summer. 
See you in September!