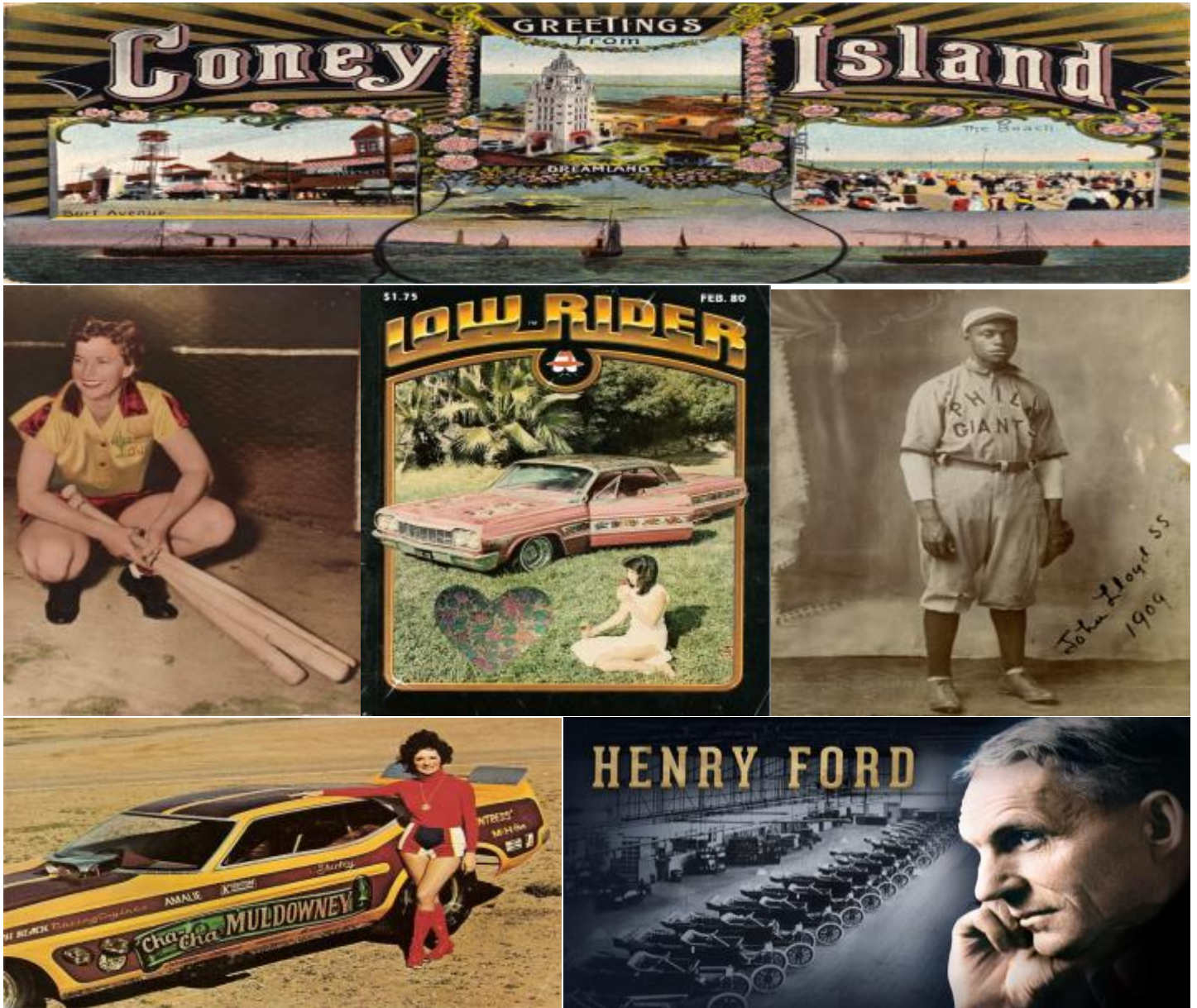


Introduction to American Studies - Fall 2017



AMST 2103 (H)(D) Introduction to American Studies w/ W. Jacob Cornwell (Short course, classwork begins in September) (MW 3:30-5:10)

This course examines the significance of 20th century American history through the lens of leisure culture. Using the concepts and theories in American Studies, we will examine how race, class, gender, orientation, religion, and socioeconomic conditions affect social constructs, identity, and nationalism. We also dissect how spectacle and exhibition shape how we partake in amusements, sports, and automobile culture. Coursework begins with the creation of Coney Island amusement parks in New York, segues into baseball culture from national and international perspectives, and concludes with the evolution of car culture from Henry Ford, to post-World War II hot rodding, and on to lowriding in California and the Southwest from the late 1960s to present day. Through an understanding of these cultures and subcultures, we see how, and to what extent, we assign purposes to each form of leisure. This class meets both Humanities (H) and Diversity (D) credit requirements. Although the class is lecture-based, class discussion is always encouraged and welcome.