

Rational Amusements:

- I. Introduction
 - a. Popular Culture is not Low Culture
 - b. Newspapers essential for development of American culture
 - c. Methods
 - i. History of Science historiography
 1. Expeditions
 - a. James Cook (1728-1779), four:1768-1799
 - b. Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859), 1799-1804, *Kosmos* (5 volumes 1845-1862)
 - c. Corps of Discover, 1804-1806 (Meriwether Lewis (1774-1809); William Clark (1770-1838))
 - d. Charles Darwin (1809-1882), 1831-1836, *Voyage of the Beagle* (1839)
 2. American Natural History
 - a. History of geology
 - i. Big Bone Lick: Lewis and Clark and Paleontology
 - ii. Lewis sends bones to Thomas Jefferson 1803
 - iii. Jefferson sent Clark back in 1807
 3. Silliman's Journal
 - ii. Art History: Hudson River School
 1. Close readings of selected paintings while providing the work within context of artist, network, and audience
 - iii. Literary History: American Renaissance
 1. Close readings of selected works while providing context of author, networks, and audience
- II. Chapter 1: A hollow and inhabitable Earth (1818-1842)
 - a. Lyceums and Science Lectures in the United States
 - i. John Cleves Symmes, Jr Hollow Earth lectures 1818
 - ii. Jeremiah Reynolds modified "Symmes' Hole" theory and push for polar exploration
 - b. Hudson River School (est. 1825)
 - i. Thomas Cole (1801-1848)
 - ii. Realism American Landscape painters
 - c. The *United States Exploring Expedition (US Ex Ex)* 1838-1842
 - i. Exposed purpose
 - ii. Navy structure (British Style, Cook, Darwin)
 - iii. Artists and Scientists on board and their contributions to the mission
 - iv. Newspaper accounts of the voyage
 1. *New York Times* and other New York City papers
 2. *Enquirer* (Cincinnati, OH)
 3. *Times Picayune* (New Orleans, LA)
 - v. Outcomes and legacy
 1. Tons of physical artifacts

- a. Biological collections
- b. Ethnographic collections
- 2. Media coverage of Courts Martial
- 3. Charles Wilkes attempt at travelogue

III. Chapter 2: The American Experience (1830-1851)

- a. American Museums
 - i. Charles Wilson Peale (1741-1827)
 - 1. 1784 Art Museum
 - 2. 1794 moved to American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia
 - 3. 1801 sponsors first American scientific expedition (Mammoth fossils)
 - 4. Corps of Discovery and Long Expedition Material and Great Chain of Being
 - ii. Rembrandt Peale (1778-1860)
 - 1. Opened Peale Museum in Baltimore 1814
 - iii. Rubens Peale (1784-1865)
 - 1. Director of C.W. Peale's Philadelphia museum 1810-1821
 - 2. Opened a Peale Museum in New York in 1825
- b. Penny Press
 - i. *New York Sun* Moon Hoax
 - ii. *New York Herald*
 - iii. Court Reporting
 - iv. Charles Dickens reaction to "mechanics with papers"
- c. P.T. Barnum (1810-1891)
 - i. Joice Heth (1835)
 - ii. Fiji Mermaid (1842)
 - iii. Purchases Rubens Peale's museum (1843)
 - iv. Purchases Peale's original Philadelphia collection at auction (1850)
 - v. American Museum
- d. George Catlin (1796-1872)
 - i. Under Behest of William Clark in St Louis, travel and painting 1830-1836
 - ii. Indian Gallery American Tour (1838)
 - iii. Indian Gallery European Tour (1839)
 - iv. *Manners, Customs, and Condition of the North American Indians* (2 volumes 1841)
 - v. *Eight Years; Travel and Residence in Europe* (1848)
 - vi. "Lost Years" Central and South America (1852-1857)
- e. Literature
 - i. Early American Authors
 - 1. Washington Irving (1783-1859)
 - 2. James Fenimore Cooper (1784-1851)
 - 3. Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864)
 - 4. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)
 - ii. Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849)
 - 1. *The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym* (1838)

- a. Polar Exploration
 - b. Jules Verne (1828-1905) Influence
 - 2. *The Goldbug* (1843)
 - 3. *Haans Pfall* (Balloon Hoax) (1844)
 - 4. *Some Words with a Mummy* (1845)
 - 5. *Eldorado* (1849)
 - iii. Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862)
 - 1. *Walden* (1851)
 - a. Conclusion references “Symmes’ Hole” specifically
 - iv. Herman Melville (1819-1891)
 - 1. *Moby Dick* (1851)
 - a. Jeremiah Reynolds’ *Moche Dick* as source
 - v. Charles Lyell (1797-1875) in America
 - 1. Four visits between 1841 and 1853,
 - a. British perspective of American Culture and Science
- IV. Chapter 3: National Borders and Nation’s Attic (1848-1858)
 - a. Overland surveys, French model: Napoleon in Egypt (1798-1801)
 - i. United States/Mexico Border Survey (1848-1855)
 - 1. Ethnographic art and artifacts collected
 - 2. Report art and journals
 - 3. Newspaper reports(?)
 - ii. Pacific Railroad Surveys (1853-1855)
 - 1. Ethnographic art and artifacts collected
 - 2. Report art and journals
 - 3. Newspaper accounts of the surveys
 - a. *New York Times* and other New York City papers
 - b. *Enquirer* (Cincinnati, OH)
 - c. *Times Picayune* (New Orleans, LA)
 - iii. Outcomes and Legacy
 - 1. Physicality of the material collected force government collections to overflow shape Smithsonian Institute policy
 - b. Filling the Nation’s Attic
 - i. Patent Office Display of collections (1842-1858)
 - 1. *US Ex Ex* material (2/3 of the original display cases)
 - 2. US/Mexico Boundary Material
 - 3. Pacific Railroad Survey Material
 - ii. Smithsonian Institute
 - 1. Smithson’s bequest arrives in United States (1838)
 - 2. First Building (The Castle) construction begins 1838
 - 3. The Castle opens 1855 to house all of the government expedition collections
 - 4. Patent Office
- V. Conclusion: From the mountains of the Moon to the Mountains of Madness
 - a. Popular Culture is not low, flippant, or unimpactful culture

- b.** Public interest in America can influence the shape of American science
 - i.** Art and Literature (and modern media) influences that interest
- c.** Unexplored areas of the earth were described in the same terms as unexplored areas of the universe
 - i.** Moon Hoax vs Polar Exploration Fiction
 - 1.** Poe's *Arthur Gordon Pym*
 - 2.** Verne's *An Antarctic Mystery* (1897)
 - 3.** H.P. Lovecraft (1890-1937) short story *At Mountains of Madness* (1936)
- d.** Continued influence of Hollow Earth on modern Science Fiction
 - i.** An Earth that is still hollow
 - 1.** Jules Verne *Journey to the Center of the Earth* (1865)
 - 2.** Edgar Rice Burroughs (1874-1950) Pellucidar series, published from 1914-1963