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The first cultural studies Reader to focus exclusively on America

A collection in one volume of some of the best essays written on American Cultural Studies in the last four decades

Is unique in looking at the differences between 'American Studies' and 'Cultural Studies' as disciplines

Includes extensive new editorial material by the volume editors

The editors are well-known authors in their own right in the fields of cultural, media, and film studies

American Cultural Studies: A Reader shows how the burgeoning field of Cultural Studies has been taken up and developed in the United States. The book is a panorama of great writing and powerful ideas illustrating a particularly American response to questions of power and identity in the politics of culture.

More than forty selections from key figures in the 'New Journalism', cultural theory, the social sciences, humanities, and visual arts are gathered together in seven sections, each one introduced by helpful contextualising notes. The book also includes illustrations that serve to extend the themes of each section in visual terms.

An introductory chapter explains the editorial selection and offers a new account of Cultural Studies and American Studies in relation to American culture. The Epilogue then goes on to suggest new ways of doing Cultural Studies, and of thinking about America in particular, via the Internet.