

ENG 461—Senior Seminar: “Literature of the Wild West”

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Geronimo. Billy the Kid. Wyatt Earp. Calamity Jane. Sacagawea. Sitting Bull. Jesse James. Cherokee Bill. Pancho Villa. Wild Bill Hickock. Crazy Horse. Sam Houston. Santanta. Jeremiah Johnson. Chief Joseph. Annie Oakley. Buffalo Bill. Mourning Dove. Emiliano Zapata. George Armstrong Custer. Al Swearingen. Brigham Young. Chief Seattle. Pat Garrett. Cochise. Kit Carson. Bill Pickett. Quannah Parker. Teddy Roosevelt. Chew Ng Poon. Black Kettle. Buggy Segal. Sam Dreben. Cesar Chavez. Anna May Wong. Tupac Shakur. Their names and deeds have been greatly exaggerated, misrepresented, unrepresented, or exploited for the sake of national myth and legend. Some of these historical figures have themselves used the images of the West as a tool to forward their own agendas. This seminar explores their stories and the stories and legends of others who have opposed, defended and reinvented

Throughout the course, we will examine various representations of the West in fiction, nonfiction, film, and other forms of popular culture in order to understand the West's place in contemporary national discourses and in the American imagination.

