

Department of English, Carleton University

ENGL 5609F

Fall 2012

*** Preliminary Course Outline / Subject to Change

Studies in American Literature- American Bohemians

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Course description:

The course will begin with a consideration of the idea of bohemia as it emerged in Paris in the 1800s following the turbulence of the Revolution and the Napoleonic wars. By mid-century, Parisian bohemia was famous as a haven both for artists and for eccentrics, a space where creativity was prized and transgression was permitted and even celebrated. The concept was widely exported and soon America had a burgeoning bohemian culture as well. Readings will include material from 19th century American bohemia, the Greenwich Village group that formed around the turn of the 20th century, the Beat Generation and others.