

Journal of American Studies

The Editors of the *Journal of American Studies* want to operate an open policy, and we welcome suggestions for future special issues. As the leading European journal in the field, the *Journal of American Studies* needs to take active account of new departures in the established disciplines, the rapid growth of new disciplinary areas and, in particular, the radical increase in interdisciplinary activity. While not wanting to be prescriptive or limit debate, we would be especially interested in proposals or projects relating to the following:

- the United States in the context of postcolonial studies;
- women and gender in America;
- class and labour in American history;
- American politics and society in relation to the “new Europe” and/or the Pacific Rim;
- cultural studies and popular culture;
- American “difference” and differences within the United States;
- ethnic studies and the growth of cultural pluralism;
- American music.

If you have any suggestions about, or plans for possible contributions to, any of these or other American Studies projects, please do let us know. We welcome ideas not only about special issues, but also about state-of-the-art essays, the notes and comments section or other possibilities in terms of expanded coverage and/or new sections. Obvious areas for development and growth include:

- more reviews of relevant CD-ROM material and other, potentially useful information technology;
- expanded coverage of exhibitions and special events in American Studies;
- development of sections enabling debate over particular – and particularly controversial – topics.

We are also keen to recruit new reviewers of books, and assessors of articles submitted for publication, in any area of American Studies. If you would like to act in either or both of these capacities, please send us your name, address, telephone number (office and/or home) and e-mail address, together with a list of your particular fields of interest.

Finally, we are looking towards a series of special issues for the year 2000. Here, too, we welcome suggestions; and, again, these can be tentative ideas, detailed proposals or something in between. At the moment, our plan is to arrange special, expanded issues on the local subject of growth and change in American Studies over the previous fifty years and, on a larger scale, the end of “the American Century.”

Please send any ideas or suggestions you have to either the Editor, Professor Richard Gray, Department of Literature, University of Essex, Colchester CO7 9JS (e-mail: grayr@essex.ac.uk) or the Associate Editor, Dr S. Jay Kleinberg, Brunel University College, 300 St Margaret's Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 1PT (e-mail: Jay.Kleinberg@Brunel.ac.uk).