

**A Brief Historiography of U.S. Hegemony in the Cuban Sugar Industry |**  
*Justin McCollum*

This historiographical essay maintains that the historical record of Cuba has been greatly shaped by the Cuban natural environment, specifically the island's propensity to support sugarcane. The paper will focus on the effects of the U.S. hegemony in the Cuban sugar industry; of particular interest will be the ability of the U.S. sugar hegemony to create an atmosphere that was particularly susceptible to the revolutionary movement led by Fidel Castro. The Cuban scholars analyzed in this paper highlight different historical phenomena and their relationships to Cuba's natural environment. Regardless of the specifics of the topic each scholar examines, it will become clear that Cuba's natural environment heavily influenced its history.

**Elaborating Images Through Text in The *Codex Telleriano-Remensis* |**  
*Christina Samons*

After the Spanish conquest of the Americas in the fifteenth century, wealthy Spaniards commissioned the creation of manuscripts called codices that documented indigenous ways of life in minute detail, relying on the handiwork of *mestizo* scribes who were able to negotiate between the pre-Conquest and post-Conquest worlds that they simultaneously inhabited. This paper specifically examines Folio 29v of the *Codex Telleriano-Remensis* to analyze how the Spanish attempted to legitimize their rule over "New Spain" by imposing textual elements onto the codices' indigenous images instead of violently stamping out indigenous artistic forms of representation.

**Twenty-First Century Reflections: A Theoretical Dialectic Of Daniel Boorstin's *The Image* |** *Michael D. Orth*

*The Image*; or, What Happened to the American Dream?, by Daniel Boorstin, is anomalous in the greater "Boorstonian" scholarly catalog. This book differs from his other works because it is not strictly a history,

but rather a social critique on the prevalence of images in American culture. Coupled with this is a case made for the disappearance of the commonly held notion of the American Dream. Released in 1962, *The Image* was met critically by a range of mixed reviews. Most critics opted to read Boorstin, rather than read into the theoretical framework he proposed. This essay interprets *The Image* as both a theoretical text and historical artifact. Although Boorstin's intent eluded many critics, he diagnosed the condition of the present as an irrepressible impulse; an impetus driven by history that was itself historically puzzling. Nearly fifty years later, this essay reflects on Boorstin's theoretical framework, entertains the critics, and tests his observations in a vein that recognizes the profundity of his social observations; even if Boorstin himself was unable to successfully diagnose the true origin of America's image culture.

**An Unexpected Audience: Manner Manuals in Renaissance Europe** |  
*Johnathan Leece*

This paper explains the immense popularity of *On Civility in Children*, by Desiderius Erasmus, during the Renaissance through the lens of Thorstein Veblen's theory of the leisure class. It explores the growth of the merchant class during this time as a possible reason why this treatise was the best-selling piece of literature during the sixteenth century. As merchants acquired more and more power they sought to emulate the ruling class, including developing "civilité," which would produce nothing of value for society as a whole and thus meets the requirements for Veblen's concept of conspicuous leisure. The nobility used the idea of civilité as a way to differentiate themselves from the other classes and manners manuals such as Erasmus's work were written to educate young noble boys in the practice of civilité. When the merchant class began to look for ways to show off their new status in society, these manuals provided the means to learn the ways of the ruling class.

**John Garang and Sudanism: A Peculiar and Resilient Nationalist Ideology**  
| *Matthew J. Delaney*

The people of Sudan have suffered immensely from ceaseless conflicts

since Sudan's independence in 1956. Sudan has struggled to establish its own identity and has been divided and crushed by sectarian nationalist motivations of Arabism, Christianization, Islamization, and Africanism. The dominant form of oppression in the 1980s was Nimeirism, which was an ideology embodied by the dictatorial and exploitative practices of President Jafaar Nimeiri. Dr. John Garang de Mabior, Commander-in-Chief of the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement (SPLA/M), offered a new nationalist ideology to redefine the Sudanese identity and to destroy Nimeirism in all of its forms. This ideology is called "Sudanism", and it promised peace through the union of all of Sudan's many ethnic groups and religions. The hope of Sudan rests on the resolution of its identity and the reconciliation of peoples from different cultures, ethnicities and religions within Sudan. This thesis gives an analysis of Garang's nationalist ideology according to James L. Gelvin's model of the development and nature of nationalisms. It sets the stage for understanding Sudan's current political and economic woes in the context of its unresolved identity.

### **Critics Scoffed but Women Bought: Coco Chanel's Comeback Fashions Reflect the Desires of the 1950s American Woman | *Christina George***

This paper delves into famous fashion designer, Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel, and her influence on American women in the 1950s. While a vast amount of historical work focuses on her fashions of the 1920s, I emphasize the importance of studying her 1950s fashions as well. While many fashion critics disliked her new designs, American women still flocked to them. By examining Chanel's 1950s fashions, we can gain a better understanding of the American woman's desires to rebel against the societal norms of the postwar era.