

JNST OOOG

Eyes of the World: Exploring the Impact of the Grateful Dead

Mondays/Wednesdays 2:30PM-3:50PM

Prof. Fred Rabinowitz

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*“Wake up to find out that you are the eyes of the world,
the heart has its beaches, its homeland and thoughts of its own.
Wake now, discover that you are the song that the mornin' brings,
But the heart has its seasons, its evenins and songs of its own.”*

Robert Hunter and Jerry Garcia, 1973

Recreational drug use, anti-war protest, free love, and the undermining and reforming of traditional social values and roles found a comfortable home on tour with the band The Grateful Dead. Ignited by the band's 1960's psychedelic embrace and musical experimentation in the San Francisco bay area, California hippie culture was epitomized by the “Dead Heads.” From deciphering song lyrics to studying the effect of music on the brain to understanding the underground revolution of American youth, this seminar has the potential to be a springboard for in-depth analysis of the pulse of American culture and various aspects of psychology. This multi-disciplinary seminar will explore the many “ripples” of influence the Grateful Dead has had as a band, through its members, its music, the artwork it inspired, and its live shows. Students who choose to be in the seminar are expected to actively contribute as discussion leaders and participants and produce an in-depth research project on an aspect of the seminar's theme.