

# **21L 011 The Film Experience**

**Prof. Thorburn**

## **Lecture 13**

### **The Western Movie**

#### **1. Movies as Consensus Narrative**

**The Western genre as a space of discourse**

#### **2. Historical/Cultural Background**

**1) The “real” west: 1860-1890**

**2) Popular culture before film**

**3) Intellectual culture: The Turner Thesis**

#### **3. The Western as Cultural Myth**

**Founding story**

**Dichotomies**

**The divided hero: savior and savage**