

21L 011 The Film Experience
Prof. David Thorburn
Lecture 8

- 1) Consensus Narrative:**
Traditional, dominant and emergent voices

- 2) Screwball heroine:**
Barbara Stanwyck in *Ball of Fire* (1942)

- 3) Frank Capra (1897-1991) and Howard Hawks**
(1896-1977)

- 4) *It Happened One Night* (1934)**
Context: the Depression
The American Male
Romance across social class
“A marriage of true minds”

- 5) *His Girl Friday* (1940)**
Theater into film
Counter-plot: against genre
Hawks’ central scene: badgering companionship
Hawks’ complexity: laughter and cynicism