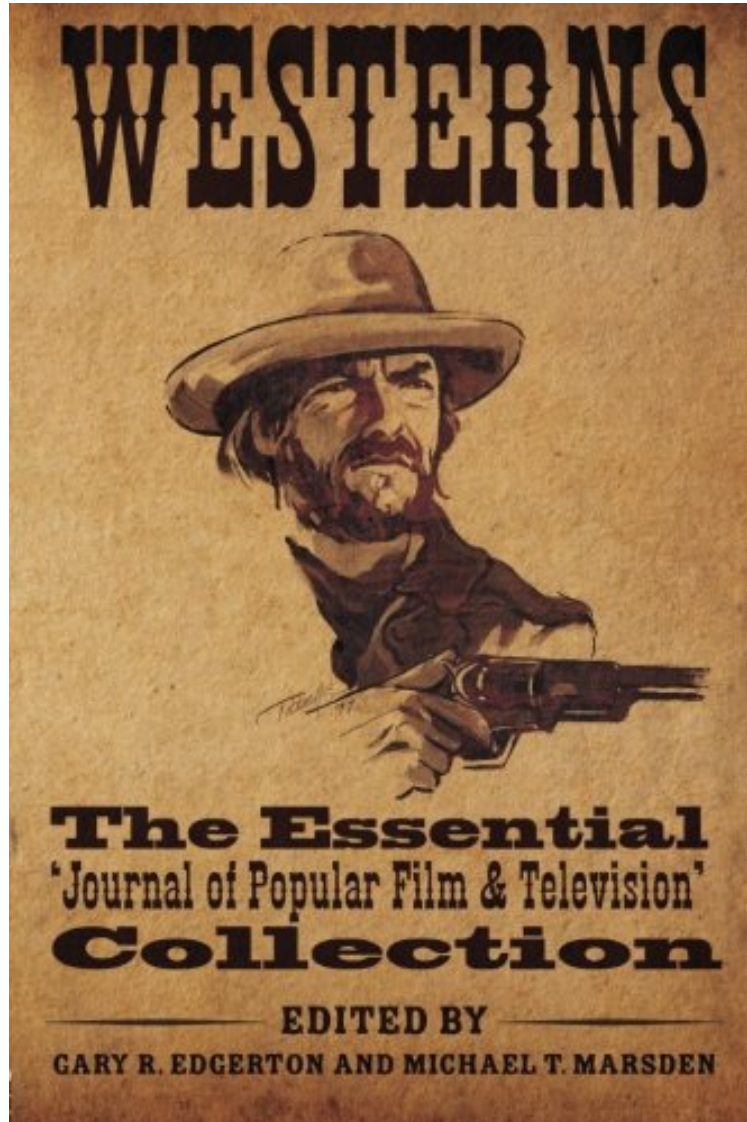


## Westerns: The Essential 'Journal of Popular Film and Television' Collection

*From Gary R Edgerton*

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From Gary R Edgerton : Westerns: The Essential 'Journal of Popular Film and Television' Collection before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Westerns: The Essential 'Journal of Popular Film and Television' Collection:

For nearly two centuries, Americans have embraced the Western like no other artistic genre. Creators and consumers alike have utilized this story form in literature, painting, film, radio and television to explore questions of national identity and purpose. *Westerns: The Essential Collection* comprises the *Journal of Popular Film and Television's* rich and longstanding legacy of scholarship on Westerns with a new special issue devoted exclusively to the genre. This collection examines and analyzes the evolution and significance of the screen Western from its earliest beginnings to its current global reach and relevance in the 21st century. *Westerns: The Essential Collection* addresses the rise, fall and durability of the genre, and examines its preoccupation with multicultural matters in its organizational structure. Containing eighteen essays published between 1972 and 2011, this seminal work is divided into six sections covering Silent Westerns, Classic Westerns, Race and Westerns, Gender and Westerns, Revisionist Westerns and Westerns in Global Context. A wide range of international contributors offer original critical perspectives on the intricate relationship between American culture and Western films and television series. *Westerns: The Essential Collection* places the genre squarely within the broader aesthetic, socio-historical, cultural and political dimensions of life in the United States as well as internationally, where the Western has been reinvigorated and reinvented many times. This groundbreaking anthology illustrates how Western films and television series have been used to define the present and discover the future by looking backwards at America's imagined past.

For many years, the *Journal of Popular Film Television* has published some of the most interesting and original western scholarship. This collection brings together some of the best of these articles and they range over the entire history of film and TV westerns as well as some of the most central critical themes such as race, gender, and the recurrent tendency to reinvent the significance of the western myth. This anthology should be valuable not only for scholars of the subject but for anyone interested in the rich and complex history of westerns in the media. - John Cawelti, Emeritus Professor of English, University of Kentucky, USA Western films have now been produced for over 110 years and in the last 40 years the *Journal of Popular Film Television* has been one of the key scholarly forums for documenting and evaluating the genre's unique contribution to American arts and life. From silent to sound, from analogue to digital, from series westerns to prestige productions, all points are covered in this marvellous and illuminating collection from some of the foremost scholars working in the field. - Peter Stanfield, Reader in Film Studies, University of Kent, UK, author of *Horse Opera* (2004) and *Maximum Movies Pulp Fictions* (2011) About the Author Gary R. Edgerton is Eminent Scholar, Professor and Chair of the Communication and Theatre Arts Department at Old Dominion University, USA. He has published nine books, more than 75 book chapters, journal articles, and encyclopedia entries on a wide assortment of media and culture topics, and has served as co-editor of the *Journal of Popular Film and Television* since 1998. Michael T. Marsden is Professor of English, American Studies and Media Studies and Dean of the College and Academic Vice President Emeritus at St. Norbert College, USA. He is also Professor Emeritus of Popular Culture at Bowling Green State University, USA. One of the founding faculty members of the Department of Popular Culture at Bowling Green State University, he has co-edited ten volumes, written scores of scholarly articles on a wide range of topics within Popular Culture Studies and American Culture Studies, and was one of the founding editors of the *Journal of Popular Film and Television* almost four decades ago.