

# Coming to Anytown USA

## Movies, Lonely Men and Mass Shootings, 1826-2022

### Fall 2023 Seminar (HUMC 394)



Mass shootings in the United States have frightened the public and baffled law enforcement on how to stop them. The phenomenon was rare in the nation's early years and has increased in frequency since the 1970s. True enough, gunning down scores of innocent people was common in the eighteenth and nineteenth century when American settlers made war on Indian settlements, but in modern times a gunman is not seeking the land or natural resources of Native peoples. Thus, this class will ask why mass shootings have become more common in the recent past and seek their origin in the way movies, history, and notions of masculinity intersect to produce fateful consequences.

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| <b>Dates:</b>      | Tuesdays at 2-3:50 p.m.<br>September 12 through October 24<br>Humanities Center   Saints Hall 200-F                                |
| <b>Instructor:</b> | Michael Gonzalez, PhD<br>Department of History<br>michaelg@sandiego.edu  |
| <b>Details:</b>    | One (1) unit of credit<br>Pass/fail only<br>No prerequisites or technical skills required.<br>Open to all upper division students. |