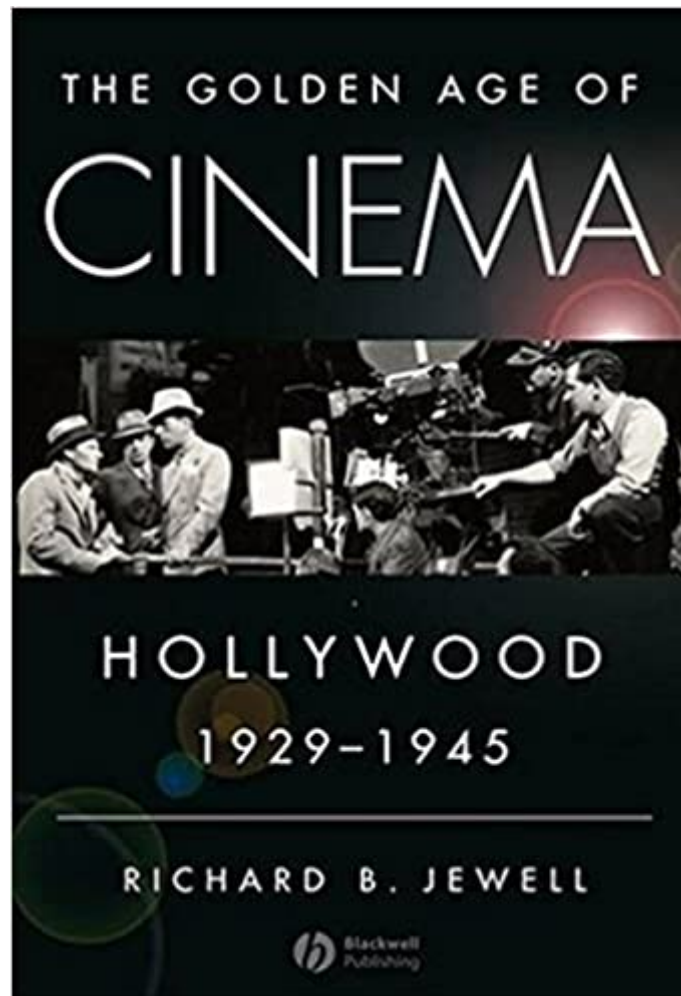




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# The Golden Age Of Cinema: Hollywood, 1929-1945



## Synopsis

This comprehensive book illuminates the most fertile and exciting period in American film, a time when the studio system was at its peak and movies played a critical role in elevating the spirits of the public. Richard B. Jewell offers a highly readable yet deeply informed account of the economics, technology, censorship, style, genres, stars and history of Hollywood during its "classical" era. A major introductory textbook covering what is arguably the most fertile and exciting period in film, 1929-1945 Analyzes many of the seminal films from the period, from *The Wizard of Oz* to *Grand Hotel* to *Gone with the Wind*, considering the impact they had then and still have today Tackles the shaping forces of the period: the business practices of the industry, technological developments, censorship restraints, narrative strategies, evolution of genres, and the stars and the star system Explores the major social, political, economic, and cultural events that helped to shape contemporary commercial cinema, as well as other leisure activities that influenced Hollywood production, including radio, vaudeville, theatre and fiction Written in a jargon-free, lively style, and features a number of illustrations throughout the text

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Rick Jewell has been teaching a course on classical Hollywood moviemaking at USC for some years but has never found a textbook that suited his needs. As a result he has written one, and it's excellent. Jewell has taken on the daunting task of surveying the social history of the period, the business side of Hollywood, changes and advancement in technology, censorship, narrative and style, genres, and the star system. Whew! I can't imagine a better introduction to this

subject matter. The book is scrupulously well organized and uses specific examples whenever possible instead of dealing in generalities." Leonard Maltin's *Movie Crazy* ([www.leonardmaltin.com](http://www.leonardmaltin.com))  
• Some believe that American film peaked between the Stock Market Crash and the end of World War II. Richard B. Jewell's *The Golden Age of Cinema* sharply delineates how the film industry worked during the period, casting light on the movies as business, technology, social document, and popular art. • Charles J. Maland, University of Tennessee

This comprehensive book illuminates the most fertile and exciting period in American film, a time when the studio system was at its peak and movies played a critical role in elevating the spirits of the public. Richard B. Jewell offers a highly readable yet deeply informed account of the economics, technology, censorship, style, genres, stars and history of Hollywood during its "classical" era.

I have read this book, and I consider it to be a nice orderly presentation of the different facets and stages that the film industry went through during the Golden Age. It presents us with plenty of movie examples to make the point, not just trend-bucking movies that defined or stretched the era, but also plenty of examples of period-piece movies which faithfully cover the essence of the era. This book is split up into several different topics, including but not limited to censorship, genres, stars, and the studio system. This would make a decent Golden Age introductory text for the film student.

Very comprehensive view of the motion picture industry, innovations, practices, technical developments, and relationships between labor, stars and businesses. Very interesting to see how much the industry has changed over the years.

One of the best books on the subject !

A fascinating account of Hollywood during a significant part of its development. This was a time when the major movie studios firmed up their hold on the film industry and the distribution of pictures. Important personalities and movie moguls are identified and examined carefully to provide an understanding of the influence and power they exerted. The book also discusses the critical new technical developments in film that included sound and color. This is a well researched and written book on a fascinating time in the history of American film making, and the role Hollywood played during the Depression, post Depression and World War II.

There are many other books with lots of information about this period of Hollywood. But the most important thing have this, is that in its first 50 pages gives us a historical tour of the times that we describe in the filmic look. Immediately a quick journey through the golden age and the development and consolidation of the studies, then a description of the development of the technology, followed by the era of censorship and finally, a summary of the different genres. He makes a special description of the film of John Ford's Stagecoach as an example of narrative technique. All very condensed but fairly complete.

I LOVE the period discussed 1929-1945 in American cinema and am not averse to reading an in-depth analysis of the different elements that went into making this 'The Golden Age of Cinema' but this book is painful to read. It is a 'textbook' in the worst sense of the word. Do not spend the \$35. for this book if you are expecting an entertaining account of Hollywood films made during this era. You won't get it. What you will get is an in depth textbook reading of the intricacies of distribution and the history of labor developments. In Hollywood. I'm sorry, I love film as much as anyone but this book is a bore. And maybe someone could explain to me why this book is priced at \$35.? It is a small paperback with almost no photographs, nothing to justify the price. Don't bother.

Used it for a film history class. Great textbook on the years that Hollywood helped hold the country together. Interesting highlights of those individuals that might not get a mentions elsewhere.

Awesome. Thanks

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