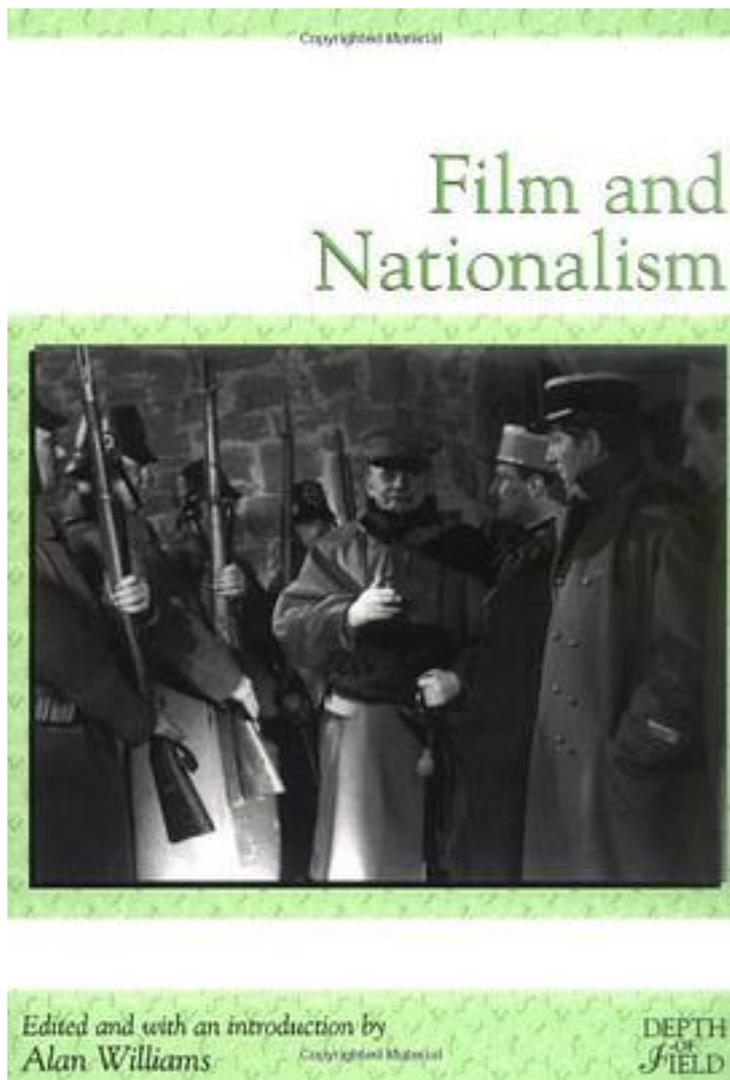


Film and Nationalism



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Today there is much debate over an increasingly "global economy". But commercial cinema has been, from the very beginnings of its existence, "globalized". From the medium's inception, films have defined and reinforced the core values and social structures of countries. They have also helped define -- socially and culturally -- what is to be considered "outside" the nation and what it is to be shunned. Film and Nationalism examines the ways in which cinema has been considered an arena of conflict and interaction between nations and nationhood. Each section of this volume explores a crucial aspect of the discussion. Is film an effective form of national propaganda? Are films losing the very notion of nationhood, in favor of a generalized, "global" cinematographic culture? What is film's influence over "national character"? In addition, the volume explores the cultural and economic interactions between developed and underdeveloped countries. How have third world nations defined themselves in relation to hegemonic first world cultures, and how have their relations been changed through the dissemination of Western films? Throughout, Alan Williams chooses essays that enhance our understanding of how films help shape our sense of nationhood and self.

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