

The Birth of the Beat Generation

In this course, we will examine the dramatic circumstances that gave rise to the Beat Generation in the 1940s. Together, we will examine three famous Beat works: *Howl and Other Poems* by Allen Ginsberg, *On the Road* by Jack Kerouac, and *Naked Lunch* by William S. Burroughs. We will focus on historical events involving Beat writers, important passages of Beat literature, and the literary movement that spawned the 1960s counterculture.



[The Birth of the Beat Generation course promo video](#)

Your Instructor: Kurt Hemmer



Kurt Hemmer is the editor of the *Encyclopedia of Beat Literature* and a professor at Harper College. Hemmer has produced award-winning documentaries on Beat poets with filmmaker Tom Knoff and published extensively on Beat writers. He organized the Jack Kerouac Centenary Conference and serves as president of the Beat Studies Association. He is currently working on a biography of Beat poet Gregory Corso.

Tuesdays, September 29 through November 3

6pm PT | 7pm MT | 8pm CT | 9pm ET

Each live session is 90 minutes

- Tuesday, September 29
- Tuesday, October 6
- Tuesday, October 13
- Tuesday, October 20
- Tuesday, October 27
- Tuesday, November 3

To register, please contact your local Osher Institute.