

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910824968003321
Autore	Liu Catherine
Titolo	American idyll : academic antielitism as cultural critique // Catherine Liu
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Iowa City, : University of Iowa Press, c2011
ISBN	1-60938-051-7
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (273 p.)
Disciplina	305.5/52097309045
Soggetti	Elite (Social sciences) - United States Intellectuals - United States Education, Higher - United States United States Social conditions 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: populist idylls, cultural politics -- The problem with the meritocracy -- Ordinary Americans, average students -- The curious cult of religious practicality -- Against all experts: no experience necessary -- The new age of cultural studies: crisis in the PMC -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	A trenchant critique of failure and opportunism across the political spectrum, American Idyll argues that social mobility, once a revered hallmark of American society, has ebbed, as higher education has become a mechanistic process for efficient sorting that has more to do with class formation than anything else. Academic freedom and aesthetic education are reserved for high-scoring, privileged students and vocational education is the only option for economically marginal ones. Throughout most of American history, antielitist sentiment was reserved for attacks aga