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We encourage readers to think critically about the ways in which popular cultural practices and products, such as movies, music, and television, emerge as forms of cultural expression. The book is an indispensable resource for introductory courses on religion and a much-needed option for advanced courses.

The Transition of Religion to Culture in Law and Public Discourse

This introduction to the cognitive science of religion traces the history of the discipline, discusses the archeological discoveries that have shed light on the development of religious consciousness, and examines the various manifestations, functions, and complexes of religious beliefs.

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This expedite this introductory text provides students with a ‘toolbox’ of approaches for analyzing religion and popular culture. It encourages readers to think critically about the ways in which popular cultural practices and products, such as movies, music, and television, emerge as forms of cultural expression. The book is an indispensable resource for introductory courses on religion and a much-needed option for advanced courses.

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Introducing Anthropology of Religion - Jack David Eller - 2007-08-07

This lively and readable survey introduces students to key areas of the field and shows how to apply an anthropological approach to the study of the world's religions.

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Religion and Material Culture - Terry Ray Clark - 2012-05-04

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Religion and Material Culture - David Morgan - 2010 - Religion is a foundational topic in contemporary society and culture. Religion and Material Culture brings together works from across the field of study, anthropology, history, art, and other disciplines, to investigate belief in everyday practice. In the objects of worship, and spirituality. This book provides an introductory text on the social, political, and cultural contexts within which religions are produced and perform. The book also includes case studies, discussions, and questions for further reading.

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An Introduction to Religion and Literature - Mark Knight - 2009-01-15
Religion has always been an integral part of the literary tradition: many canonical and non-canonical texts engage explicitly with religious ideas. This book provides a sustained exploration of the development of English Literature as a religious discipline based on an explicit consideration of the relationship between religion and literature. Literature also plays an important role in the construction of religious identity. Writing about the relationship between religion and literature has acknowledged that both the theological turn of religious thought and the renewed political significance of religious debate in contemporary western society have prompted a reassessment of the relationship between Religion and Literature. This book provides a lucid, accessible and thoughtful introduction to the study of religion and literature. While the focus is on Christian theology and post-1800 British literature, substantial reference is made to earlier writers, texts and historical periods. Part One of the book takes up a major theological idea, and explores it through close readings of well-known and influential literary texts.

An Introduction to the ‘Glossa Ordinaria’ as Medieval Hypertext - David A. Salmon - 2012-01-05
The Glossa Ordinaria is a medieval Latin commentary on the Bible that has been a rich source of biblical commentary for centuries. Circulated first in manuscript, the text is the Latin Vulgate Bible of St. Jerome with patristic commentary both in the margins and within the text itself. This study, the first of its kind, introduces the reader to the Glossa Ordinaria both historiographically and through the lens of contemporary hypertext theory, arguing that the Glossa Ordinaria is a hypertext of the mind. By application of ancient, medieval and modern theories, this study explicates the multiple meanings of the Glossa Ordinaria’s key terms. This book serves both as primer on the Glossa Ordinaria and examination of the text in light of modern theories.

Religion and Culture in Native America - Suzanne Crawford O'Brien - 2020-03-15
Religion and Culture in Native America presents an introduction to a diverse array of Indigenous religious and cultural practices in North America, focusing on issues in which tribal communities themselves are currently invested. These topics include climate change, water rights, the protection of sacred places, the recent emergence of the Idle No More movement, and the role of Indigenous land rights in contemporary life. Locating such contemporary challenges within their historical, religious, and cultural contexts illuminates how Native communities’ responses to such issues are not simply political, but deeply spiritual, informed by sacred traditions, historical, and cultural contexts. The book’s emphasis on the role of Native religious traditions in shaping Indigenous cultural identity offers lessons for all contemporary cultures, and shows how the reconciliation of Native religious traditions with the dominant culture is crucial to the survival of Indigenous peoples. The book concludes with a discussion of the role of Indigenous religions in promoting an ethos of social justice.

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Religion, Media and Religion - Daniel A. Stout - 2013-06-17
This text examines the history, theory, culture, and professional aspects of media and religion. While religion has been explored more fully in psychology, sociology, anthropology, and the humanities, there is no closer birthplace of understanding to the communication discipline. Daniel A. Stout teases this issue by providing a roadmap for examining this understudied area so that discussions about media and religion can more easily proceed. Offering great breadth, this text covers key concepts and historical highlights: world religions, religious studies, popular culture, and the internet. These generations treat knowledge and belief as a more flexible concept, often focusing on the practical rather than the theoretical and often making use of popular and cyber culture. Their approach to religious belief and practice requires a new way of studying the sociology of religion. "Sociology of Religion for Generations X and Y" examines key world religions - Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam - as well as newer religious groups, such as Scientology, New Age, Witchcraft and online communities. The book covers a range of key concepts, such as: secularization and modernization, re-enchchantment, the 'McDonaldization' of society, and the ‘fatal attraction’ of popular culture or the internet which takes the reader to the heart of the topic being discussed. Employing both classical sociological theory and contemporary critical theory, "Sociology of Religion for Generations X and Y" explains where contemporary religion and spirituality are coming from, where they are now, and where they are going.

Religion and Politics in Contemporary Russia - Tobias Kilner - 2020-12-14
Based on extensive original research at the local level, this book explores the relationship between Russian Orthodox church and post-Soviet politics. It reveals close personal links between politicians at the local, regional and national levels and their counterparts at the equivalent level in the Russian Orthodox Church, providing new insights into the nexus between religion and state. Combining historical analysis with an in-depth study of contemporary cases, the book offers a compelling case study of the Russian Orthodox Church and its interaction with Russian political and social life. Employing a convergence of conservative ideology between politicians and clerics and also highlights that, despite working...
Ranging from the warrior gods of Ancient Greece and Rome, and the ethical drama of the Mahabharata, through... 

Religion and Drama in Early Modern England - Elizabeth Williamson - 2016-04-08

Offering fuller understandings of both dramatic representations and the complexities of religious culture, this collection reveals the ways in which religion and performance were intricately linked in early modern England. Its readings extend beyond the interpretation of straightforward religious allusions and support new avenues for theorizing the dynamic relationship between religious representations and dramatic ones. By addressing the particular ways in which commercial drama adapted the sensory aspects of religious experience to its own symbolic systems, the volume explores a broad range of religious and dramatic representation and performance. In particular, it examines the ways in which theatrical contexts influenced both the writing and reception of religioussermons, the historical development of a new genre, the royal theater, and the intra-theatrical performance of religious ceremonies, and the multiple valences of religious references in early modern plays. Additionally, Religion and Drama in Early Modern England reveals the theater's broad interpretation of post-Reformation Christian practices, as well as its engagement with the religions of Islam, Judaism and paganism.

An Introduction to Indian Philosophy - Christopher Butler - 2015-07-30

Introducing the topics, themes and arguments of the most influential Hindu and Buddhist Indian philosophers, this introduction focuses on five themes; the origins of religious ideas, religious pluralism, the mind-body debate, ideas of the soul and of the gods, and the idea of a religious order. The book is both a travel guide to Indian philosophy and a companion to the critical study of these religions. It provides a clear and comprehensive introduction to the key thinkers, the schools, and the issues raised by the comparison of religions. The book is ideal for those wishing to approach Indian philosophy in its own right, as well as for those working in the field of Religious Studies.


First, a collection of essays on American sociology of religion, including accounts of early dissertations changes in theory, and studies of denominations, globalization, feminism, new religions and Latino/a American religion.


It's hard to think of a single aspect of American culture, past or present, in which religion has not played a major role. The roles played, however, become more complex and less predictable from the perspectives of one or another time. For all those with a casual awareness of the many forms of religious belief practiced in the United States, the real story of religion in America, this Very Short Introduction is the go-to book they need. Timothy Beal describes many of American society's intermingle in continuous and unpredictable ways. From the founding fathers to modern times, including the role of American religion in shaping contemporary American society, and... Dreams. Beal's phrases provide deep understanding of the foundations of Indian philosophy.

War and Religion: A Very Short Introduction - Jolyon Mitchell - 2021-03-25

Very Short Introductions: Brilliant, Sharp, Inspiring is religion a force for war, or a force for peace? Some of the most terrible wars in history have been caused and motivated by religion. Much of the violence that fills our screens today sprouts from the same source. Yet some of the bravest pacifists have also been deeply religious people. The history of the relationship between war and religion is deep and complex. This Very Short Introduction provides an overview of the history of war and religion, and a framework for analyzing it. Running from the warrior gods of Ancient Greece and Rome, and the ethical drama of the Mahabharata, through the Islamic wars of conquest and the Crusades, to present day conflicts in Sri Lanka and the Balkans, it considers the entanglement of war and religion. Yet from just War theory and the constraints war-making imposed by Islamic jurisprudence, through the Pax Britannica of the middle ages, to the violence of Gandhi and Baha Khan, there is also a story to be told of peace and religion as well. Jolyon Mitchell and Jolyon Rees consider both sides of the age long drama of war and religion, challenging assumptions at the most fundamental level. Throughout, they show how the history of war and religion continues to shape our understanding of politics, and vice versa, and extend our perspectives on the way these two issues, deeply intertwined, come together.
Introduces readers to the world of homeland security and provides them with up-to-date information on recent attacks, new terrorist threats, viable terrorist organizations, current dilemmas, updated research, and best practices. This book provides comprehensive coverage of issues relating to terrorism, terrorist behavior, homeland security policies, and emergency management. It offers a foundation that spans the readily apparent chasm between the homeland security and disaster communities, and covers the stages of emergency management with a focus on terrorism prevention and response. Based on both the academic literature and practical understanding, the book includes research findings, covering theory and principles as well as their applications. Introduction to Homeland Security: Understanding Terrorism Prevention and Emergency Management, Second Edition teaches how to define homeland security, understand how it changed after 9/11, and explores its relationship with emergency management; recognize the causes of terrorism and what prompt people to engage in terrorist attacks; assess the trade-offs between security and rights, and understand how terrorism exploits the tension between these two priorities; work to prevent terrorist attacks through intelligence gathering, by promoting laws that prohibit terrorism, and by protecting borders and various sectors of society; prepare for a terrorist attack by creating an advisory council, passing ordinances, acquiring monetary resources, and establishing an EOC; effectively respond to a terrorist attack through the many functions involved, including the protection of first responders and the decontamination of the victims; recover from a terrorist attack through both short-term and long-term measures; anticipate the current challenges faced in homeland security; and comprehend the various types of attacks that might take place in the future. The second edition: Covers the four traditional phases of emergency response, with a focus on terrorism prevention and infrastructure protection. Includes new content such as recent domestic and international terrorist attacks including the attacks in Paris and Boston. Has a strong “practitioner” approach and draws upon a solid foundation of academic literature in the field. Discusses the roles and responsibilities of government agencies, non-government organizations, and individual citizens. Introduction to Homeland Security is an excellent book for all scholars, students, and practitioners interested or involved in homeland security and emergency management.

Introduction to Homeland Security - David A. McEntire - 2018-08-28
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