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The Black Tax
150 Years of Theft, Exploitation, and Dispossession in America
Andrew W. Kahrl

Revealing a history that is deep, broad, and infuriating, The Black Tax casts a bold light on the racist practices long hidden in the shadows of America’s tax regimes.

American taxation is unfair, and it is most unfair to the very people who critically need its support. Not only do taxpayers with fewer resources—less wealth, power, and land—pay more than the well-off, they are forced to fight for their rights within an unjust system that undermines any attempts to improve their position or economic standing. In The Black Tax, Andrew W. Kahrl reveals the shocking history and ruinous consequences of inequitable and predatory tax laws in this country—above all, widespread and devastating racial dispossession.

Throughout the twentieth century, African Americans acquired substantial amounts of property nationwide. But racist practices, obscure processes, and outright theft diminished their holdings and their power. Of these, Kahrl shows, few were more powerful, or more quietly destructive, than property taxes. He examines all the structural features and hidden traps within America’s tax system that have forced Black Americans to pay more for less and stripped them of their land and investments, and he reveals the staggering cost. The story of America’s now enormous concentration of wealth at the top—and the equally enormous absence of wealth among most Black households—has its roots here.

Kahrl exposes the painful history of these practices, from Reconstruction up to the present, describing how discrimination continues to take new forms, even as people continue to fight for their rights, their assets, and their power. If you want to understand the extreme economic disadvantages and persistent racial inequalities that African American households continue to face, The Black Tax is your starting point.

Andrew W. Kahrl is professor of history and African American studies at the University of Virginia. He is the author of the books The Land Was Ours and Free the Beaches.
Coming Out Republican
A History of the Gay Right
Neil J. Young

A revelatory and comprehensive history of the gay Right from incisive political commentator Neil J. Young.

One of the most maligned, misunderstood, and even mocked constituencies in American politics, gay Republicans regularly face condemnation from both the LGBTQ+ community and their own political party. Yet they’ve been active and influential for decades. Gay conservatives were instrumental, for example, in ending “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” and securing the legalization of same-sex marriage—but they also helped lay the groundwork for the rise of Donald Trump.

In Coming Out Republican, political historian and commentator Neil J. Young provides the first comprehensive history of the gay Right. From the 1950s up to the present day, Young excavates the multifarious origins, motivations, and evolutions of LGBTQ+ people who found their way to the institutions and networks of modern conservatism. Many on the gay Right have championed conservative values—like free markets, strong national defense, and individual liberty—and believed that the Republican Party therefore offered LGBTQ+ people the best pathway to freedom. But at the same time, that same party has actively and repeatedly demonized them. Young details the complicated relationship of being in—and yet never fully accepted into—the Republican Party, with his precise and provocative voice.

Coming Out Republican provides striking insight into who LGBTQ+ conservatives are, what they want, and why many of them continue to align with a party whose rank and file largely seem to hate them. As the Republican Party renews its assaults on LGBTQ+ rights, understanding the significant history of the gay Right has never been more critical.

Fifth Edition

The Craft of Research

Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, Joseph M. Williams, Joseph Bizup, and William T. FitzGerald

A thoroughly updated edition of a beloved classic that has guided generations of researchers in conducting effective and meaningful research.

With more than a million copies sold since its first publication, The Craft of Research has helped generations of researchers at every level—from high school students and first-year undergraduates to advanced graduate students to researchers in business and government. This fundamental work explains how to choose significant topics, pose genuine and productive questions, find and evaluate sources, build sound and compelling arguments, and convey those arguments effectively to others.

This new edition acknowledges the many ways research is conducted and communicated today. It recognizes that research may end in a product other than a paper—or no product at all—and includes a new chapter about effective presentations. It features fresh examples from a variety of fields that will appeal to today’s students and other readers. It also accounts for new technologies used in research and offers basic guidelines for the appropriate use of generative AI. And it ends with an expanded chapter on ethics that addresses researchers’ broader obligations to their research communities and audiences as well as systemic questions about ethical research practices.

This new edition will be welcomed by a new and more diverse generation of researchers.

Wayne C. Booth (1921–2005) was the George M. Pullman Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus in English Language and Literature at the University of Chicago. Gregory G. Colomb (1951–2011) was professor of English at the University of Virginia. Joseph M. Williams (1933–2008) was professor in the Department of English Language and Literature at the University of Chicago. Joseph Bizup is associate professor in the Department of English at Boston University. William T. FitzGerald is associate professor in the Department of English and Communication at Rutgers University–Camden and has published widely on writing and research pedagogy, the rhetoric of prayer, and style.
Populus
Living and Dying in Ancient Rome
Guy de la Bédoyère

This revealing look at life in ancient Rome offers a compelling journey through the vivid landscape of politics, domestic life, entertainment, and inequality experienced daily by Romans of all social strata.

Frenzied crowds, talking ravens, the stench of the Tiber River: life in ancient Rome was stimulating, dynamic, and often downright dangerous. The Romans relaxed and gossiped in baths, stole precious water from aqueducts, and partied and dined to excess. Everyone from senators to the enslaved crowded into theaters and circuses to watch their favorite singers, pantomime, and comedies and scream their approval at charioteers. The lucky celebrated their accomplishments with elaborate tombs. Amid pervasive inequality and brutality, beauty also flourished through architecture, poetry, and art.

From the smells of fragrant cookshops and religious sacrifices to the cries of public executions and murderous electoral mobs, Guy de la Bédoyère’s Populus draws on a host of historical and literary sources to transport us into the intensity of daily life at the height of ancient Rome.

Guy de la Bédoyère has written many books on the ancient world, including, most recently, Gladius: The World of the Roman Soldier and Pharaohs of the Sun. He was part of Channel 4’s archaeology series Time Team for many years, has lectured widely, and is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.

Praise for Gladius
“Encyclopedic . . . de la Bédoyère collects pretty much every fact known about what it was like to be in the military arm of the Roman Empire.”—New York Times Book Review
Central banks now stand between societies and collapse, but is it still democracy?

Two decades of financial crises have dramatically expanded central banks’ powers. In 2008, and then again in 2020, unelected banking officials found themselves suddenly responsible for the public welfare—not just because it was necessary, but based on an idea that their independence from political systems would insulate them from the whims of populism. Now, as international crises continue, and as the scope of monetary interventions grows in response, these bankers become increasingly powerful—and unavoidably political.

In *Balance of Power*, economist and historian Éric Monnet charts the rise of central banks as the nominally independent—but unavoidably political—superpowers of modern societies. This trajectory, Monnet argues, is neither inevitable nor unstoppable. By embracing the political natures of today’s central banks, we can construct systems of accountability for how they interact with states and societies. Monnet shows that this effort will do more than guard against unjust power; it will put the banks to work for greater, more democratic ends.

With existential challenges looming and the work of the Federal Reserve and European Central Bank more important than ever, *Balance of Power* offers a trenchant case for what this century’s central banks can—and must—become.

Éric Monnet is professor at the Paris School of Economics and director of studies at the School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, Paris. He was named France’s best young economist by *Le Monde* in 2022.

Steven Rendall is professor emeritus of romance languages at the University of Oregon. He has translated more than eighty books into English.
Shock Values
Prices and Inflation in American Democracy
Carola Binder

How inflation and deflation fears shape American democracy.

Many foundational moments in American economic history—the establishment of paper money, wartime price controls, the rise of the modern Federal Reserve—occurred during financial panics as prices either inflated or deflated sharply. The government’s decisions in these moments, intended to control price fluctuations, have produced both lasting effects and some of the most contentious debates in the nation’s history.

A sweeping history of the United States’ economy and politics, Shock Values reveals how the American state has been shaped by a massive, ever-evolving effort to insulate its economy from the real and perceived dangers of price fluctuations. Carola Binder narrates how the pains of rising and falling prices have brought lasting changes for every generation of Americans. And with each brush with price instability, the United States has been reinvented—not as a more perfect union, but as a reflection of its most recent failures.

Shock Values tells the untold story of prices and price stabilization in the United States. Expansive and enlightening, Binder recounts the interest-group politics, legal battles, and economic ideas that have shaped a nation from the dawn of the republic to the present.

Carola Binder is associate professor of economics at Haverford College. Her work has been featured in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and NPR. She tweets at @cconces.
The Northeast Corridor

The Trains, the People, the History, the Region

David Alff

All aboard for the first comprehensive history of the hard-working and wildly influential Northeast Corridor.

Traversed by thousands of trains and millions of riders, the Northeast Corridor might be America’s most famous railway, but its influence goes far beyond the right-of-way. David Alff welcomes readers aboard to see how nineteenth-century train tracks did more than connect Boston to Washington, DC. They transformed hundreds of miles of Atlantic shoreline into a political capital, a global financial hub, and home to fifty million people. The Northeast Corridor reveals how freight trains, commuter rail, and Amtrak influenced—and in turn were shaped by—centuries of American industrial expansion, metropolitan growth, downtown decline, and revitalization.

Paying as much attention to Aberdeen, Trenton, New Rochelle, and Providence as to New York City, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, Alff provides narrative thrills for history buffs, train enthusiasts, and adventurers alike. What’s more, he offers a glimpse into the future of the corridor. New infrastructural plans—supported by President Joe Biden, famously Amtrak’s biggest fan—envision ever-faster trains zipping along technologically advanced rails. Yet those tracks will literally sit atop a history that links the life of Frederick Douglass, who fled to freedom by boarding a train in Baltimore, to the Frederick Douglass Tunnel, which is expected to be the newest link in the corridor by 2032.

Trains have long made the places that make America, and they still do.

David Alff is associate professor of English at the State University of New York at Buffalo. He is the author of The Wreckage of Intentions: Projects in British Culture, 1660–1730.
The Design of Books

An Explainer for Authors, Editors, Agents, and Other Curious Readers
Debbie Berne

Seasoned designer Debbie Berne presents an accessible introduction to book design for authors, editors, and other book people.

Design is central to the appeal, messaging, and usefulness of books, but to most readers, it's mysterious or even invisible. Through interiors as well as covers, designers provide structure and information that shape the meaning and experience of books. In *The Design of Books*, Debbie Berne shines a light on the conventions and processes of her profession, revealing both the aesthetic and market-driven decisions designers consider to make books readable and beautiful. In clear, unstuffy language, Berne reveals how books are put together, with discussions of production considerations, typography and fonts, page layouts, use of images and color, special issues for ebooks, and the very face of each book: the cover.

*The Design of Books* speaks to readers and directly to books’ creators—authors, editors, and other publishing professionals—helping them to become more informed partners in the design of their projects. Berne lays out the practical steps at each stage of the design process, providing insight into who does what when and offering advice for authors on how to be effective advocates for their ideas while also letting go and trusting their manuscripts with teams of professionals. She includes guidance as well for self-publishing authors, including where to find a designer, what to expect from that relationship, and how to art-direct your own book.

Throughout, Berne teaches how understanding the whats, hows, and whys of book design heightens our appreciation of these cherished objects and helps everyone involved in the process to create more functional, desirable, and wonderful books.

Debbie Berne has been a professional book designer since 2002 and has designed hundreds of books and book covers. This is the first book she has both written and designed.
Data Grab
The New Colonialism of Big Tech and How to Fight Back
Ulises A. Mejias and Nick Couldry

A compelling argument that the extractive practices of today’s tech giants are the continuation of colonialism—and a crucial guide to collective resistance.

Large technology companies like Meta, Amazon, and Alphabet have unprecedented access to our daily lives, collecting information when we check our email, count our steps, shop online, and commute home. Current events are concerning—both the changing owners (and names) of billion-dollar tech companies and regulatory concerns about artificial intelligence underscore the sweeping nature of Big Tech’s surveillance.

As Ulises A. Mejias and Nick Couldry show in this eye-opening book, this vast accumulation of data is not the accidental stockpile of an industry. Just as nations stole territories for ill-gotten minerals, wealth, and dominance, tech companies steal personal data important to our daily lives. It’s only within the framework of colonialism, Mejias and Couldry argue, that we can comprehend this heist.

Like the land grabs of the past, today’s data grab converts data from our daily lives into raw material for the generation of corporate profit against our own interests. Like historical colonialism, today’s tech corporations have engineered an extractive form of doing business that builds a new social and economic order, leads to job precariousness, and degrades the environment. These methods deepen global inequality, consolidating corporate wealth in the Global North and engineering discriminatory algorithms. Promising convenience, connection, and scientific progress, tech companies enrich themselves by encouraging us to relinquish details about our personal interactions, our taste in movies or music, and even our health and medical records. Do we have any other choice?

Data Grab affirms that we do. To defy this new form of colonialism we will need to learn from previous forms of resistance and work together to imagine entirely new ones. Data Grab is a must-read for anyone concerned about privacy, self-determination, and justice in the internet age.

Ulises A. Mejias is professor of communication studies at the State University of New York at Oswego. Nick Couldry is professor of media, communications, and social theory at the London School of Economics and Political Science and faculty associate at Harvard University’s Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society.

“Mejias and Couldry have long been at the forefront of revealing the hidden power structures at play in our data-fueled digital era. With their new book Data Grab, they once again deliver their much-needed incisive analysis. . . . Their words arrive right on time as we begin to navigate the latest wave of artificial intelligence.”

—Karen Hao, contributing writer for The Atlantic
Solvable
How We Healed the Earth, and How We Can Do It Again
Susan Solomon

A compelling and pragmatic argument: solutions to yesterday’s environmental problems reveal today’s path forward.

We solved planet-threatening problems before, Susan Solomon argues, and we can do it again. Solomon knows firsthand what those solutions entail. She first gained international fame as the leader of an expedition to Antarctica in 1986, making discoveries that were key to healing the damaged ozone layer. She saw a path—from scientific and public awareness to political engagement, international agreement, industry involvement, and effective action. Solomon, an atmospheric scientist and award-winning author, connects this career-defining triumph to the inside stories of other past environmental victories—against ozone depletion, smog, pesticides, and lead—to extract the essential elements of what makes change possible.

The path to success begins when an environmental problem becomes both personal and perceptible to the general public. Lawmakers, diplomats, industries, and international agencies respond to popular momentum, and effective change takes place in tandem with consumer pressure when legislation and regulation yield practical solutions. Healing the planet is a long game won not by fear and panic, but with pragmatic maneuvering fueled by public, economic, and regulatory pressure.

Solvable is a book for anyone who has ever despaired about the climate crisis. As Solomon reminds us, doom and gloom get us nowhere, and idealism will only take us so far. Solomon’s authoritative point of view is an inspiration, a reality check, a road map, and a much-needed dose of realism. The problems facing our planet are Solvable. Solomon shows us how.

Susan Solomon is professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was the Founding Director of the MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative. She is known for pioneering work on the Antarctic ozone layer and for landmark studies of the timescales of climate change. She has received many scientific honors and awards, including the US National Medal of Science, the Grande Medaille from the French Academy of Sciences, and the Crafoord Prize from the Swedish Academy of Sciences. She is the author of The Coldest March, which was named a New York Times notable book and an Economist book of the year.
An engaging exploration of the wondrous social webs that permeate life in animal societies around the world.

It’s all about who you know. Whether vampire bats sharing blood meals for survival, field crickets remembering champion fighters, macaque monkeys forming grooming pacts after a deadly hurricane, or great tit birds learning the best way to steal milk—it pays to be well connected.

In this tour of the animal kingdom, evolutionary biologist Lee Alan Dugatkin reveals a new field of study, uncovering social networks that existed long before the dawn of human social media. He accessibly describes the latest findings from animal behavior, evolution, computer science, psychology, anthropology, genetics, and neurobiology, and incorporates interviews and insights from researchers that he finds swimming with manta rays, avoiding pigeon poop, and stopping monkeys from stealing iPads. With Dugatkin as our guide, we investigate social networks in giraffes, elephants, kangaroos, Tasmanian devils, whales, bats, and more. From animal networks in Australia and Asia to Africa, Europe, and the Americas, *The Well-Connected Animal* is an eye-opening exposé of wild friends, enemies, and everything in between.

Lee Alan Dugatkin is an evolutionary biologist and historian of science in the Department of Biology at the University of Louisville. Among his many books, he is coauthor of *How to Tame a Fox (and Build a Dog)* and the author of *Power in the Wild*, both also published by the University of Chicago Press.

Praise for Dugatkin

“Dugatkin’s depiction of power in the wild yields a stunningly provocative reflection.”—*Wall Street Journal*, on *Power in the Wild*

“A story that is part science, part Russian fairy tale, and part spy thriller. . . . Sparkling.”—*New York Times Book Review*, on *How to Tame a Fox (and Build a Dog)*
Extinctions
From Dinosaurs to You
Charles Frankel

A compelling answer to an important question: Can past mass extinctions teach us how to avoid future planetary disaster?

On its face, the story of mass extinction on Earth is one of unavoidable disaster. Asteroid smashes into planet; goodbye, dinosaurs. Planetwide crises seem to be beyond our ability to affect or evade. Extinctions argues that geological history tells an instructive story, one that offers important signs for us to consider. When the asteroid struck, Charles Frankel explains, it set off a wave of cataclysms that wore away at the global ecosystem until it all fell apart. What if there had been a way to slow or even turn back these tides? Frankel believes that the answer to this question holds the key to human survival.

Human history, from the massacre of Ice Age megafauna to today’s industrial climate change, has brought the planet through another series of cataclysmic events. But the history of mass extinction, together with the latest climate research, Frankel argues, shows us a way out. If we curb our destructive habits, particularly our drive to kill and consume other species, and work instead to conserve what biodiversity remains, the Earth might yet recover. Rather than await decisive disaster, Frankel argues that we must instead take action to reimagine what it means to be human. As he eloquently explains, geological history reminds us that life is not eternal; we can disappear, or we can become something new and continue our evolutionary adventure.

Charles Frankel is a science writer and lecturer specializing in geology and planetary exploration. His many books include Volcanoes and Wine: From Pompeii to Napa, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Freeman’s Challenge
The Murder That Shook America’s Original Prison for Profit
Robin Bernstein

An award-winning historian tells a gripping, morally complicated story of murder, greed, race, and the true origins of prison for profit.

In the early nineteenth century, as slavery gradually ended in the North, a village in New York State invented a new form of unfreedom: the profit-driven prison. Uniting incarceration and capitalism, the village of Auburn built a prison that enclosed industrial factories. There, “slaves of the state” were leased to private companies. The prisoners earned no wages, yet they manufactured furniture, animal harnesses, carpets, and combs, which consumers bought throughout the North. Then one young man challenged the system.

In Freeman’s Challenge, Robin Bernstein tells the story of an Afro-Native teenager named William Freeman who was convicted of a horse theft he insisted he did not commit and sentenced to five years of hard labor in Auburn’s prison. Incensed at being forced to work without pay, Freeman demanded wages. His challenge triggered violence: first against him, then by him. Freeman committed a quadruple murder that terrified and bewildered white America. And white America struck back—with aftereffects that reverberate into our lives today in the persistent myth of inherent Black criminality. William Freeman’s unforgettable story reveals how the North invented prison for profit half a century before the Thirteenth Amendment outlawed slavery “except as a punishment for crime”—and how Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, and other African Americans invented strategies of resilience and resistance in a city dominated by a citadel of unfreedom.

Through one Black man, his family, and his city, Robin Bernstein tells an explosive, moving story about the entangled origins of prison for profit and anti-Black racism.

Robin Bernstein is the Dillon Professor of American History and professor of African and African American studies and studies of women, gender, and sexuality at Harvard University. She is the author of Racial Innocence: Performing American Childhood from Slavery to Civil Rights.
Sons, Daughters, and Sidewalk Psychotics

Mental Illness and Homelessness in Los Angeles

Neil Gong

Sociologist Neil Gong explains why mental health treatment in Los Angeles rarely succeeds, for the rich, the poor, and everyone in between.

In Sons, Daughters, and Sidewalk Psychotics, sociologist Neil Gong traces the divide between the haves and have-nots in the psychiatric treatment systems that shape the life trajectories of people living with serious mental illness. In the decades since the United States closed its mental hospitals in favor of non-institutional treatment, two drastically different forms of community psychiatric services have developed: public safety-net clinics focused on keeping patients housed and out of jail, and elite private care trying to push clients toward respectable futures.

In Downtown Los Angeles, many patients are only caught in the safety net after experiencing homelessness or arrests. Public providers engage in guerilla social work to secure them housing and safety, but these programs are rarely able to deliver true rehabilitation for psychological distress and addiction. Patients are free to refuse treatment or use illegal drugs—so long as they do so away from public view.

Across town in West LA or Malibu, wealthy people diagnosed with serious mental illness attend opulent treatment centers. Programs may offer yoga and farm-to-table organic meals alongside personalized therapeutic treatments, but patients can feel trapped, as their families pay exorbitantly to surveil and “fix” them. Meanwhile, middle-class families—stymied by private insurers, unable to afford elite care, and yet not poor enough to qualify for social services—struggle to find treatment at all.

Gong’s findings raise uncomfortable questions about urban policy, family dynamics, and what it means to respect individual freedom.

Neil Gong is assistant professor of sociology at the University of California, San Diego. He is coeditor, with Corey Abramson, of Beyond the Case: The Logics and Practices of Comparative Ethnography. His writing has appeared in the Washington Post, the Atlantic, and the Los Angeles Review of Books.
Liberty’s Grid
A Founding Father, a Mathematical Dreamland, and the Shaping of America
Amir Alexander

The surprising history behind a ubiquitous facet of the United States: the gridded landscape.

Fly across the United States and you’ll see cities and fields organized around the grid: perpendicular streets and a patchwork of rectangular farmland. All over the country, but especially in the West, the grid has become a hallmark of American life, a framework we use to navigate the terrain. This might seem a practical utility—an easy way to divide the land. It was not. This pattern at this scale, historian and writer Amir Alexander argues, was a plan redolent with philosophical and political meaning.

In 1784 Thomas Jefferson presented Congress with an audacious scheme to reshape the territory of the young United States. All western lands, he proposed, would be inscribed with a titanic rectilinear grid, aligned with the points of the compass. Following Isaac Newton and John Locke, he viewed mathematical space as a blank slate on which anything is possible, and where new Americans, acting freely, could find liberty. And if the real America, with its diverse landscapes and rich human history, did not match his vision, then it must be made to match it.

From the halls of Congress to the open prairies, and from the flight against George III to the Trail of Tears, Liberty’s Grid tells the story of the battle between grid-makers and their opponents. When Congress endorsed Jefferson’s plan, it set off a struggle over American space that has not subsided. Transcendentalists, urban reformers, and conservationists saw the grid not as a place of possibility, but as an artificial imposition that crushed the human spirit. Today, the ideas Jefferson associated with the grid still echo through political rhetoric about the country’s founding, and competing visions for the nation are visible from Manhattan avenues and Kansan pastures to Yosemite’s cliffs and suburbia’s cul-de-sacs. An engrossing read, Liberty’s Grid offers a powerful look at the ideological conflict written on the landscape.

The Afterlife of Data
What Happens to Your Information When You Die and Why You Should Care
Carl Öhman

A short, thought-provoking book about what happens to our online identities after we die.

These days, so much of our lives takes place online—but what about our afterlives? Thanks to the digital trails of data that we leave behind, our identities can now be reconstructed after our death. In fact, AI technology is already enabling us to “interact” with the departed. Sooner than we think, the dead will outnumber the living on Facebook. In this short, thought-provoking book, Carl Öhman explores the increasingly urgent question of what we should do with all this data—and to whom do our digital afterlives belong.

The stakes could hardly be higher. In the next thirty years alone, about two billion people will die. Those of us who remain will inherit the digital remains of an entire generation of humanity—the first digital citizens. Whoever ends up controlling these archives will also effectively control future access to our collective digital past, which will give them great power with vast political consequences. The fate of our digital remains should be of concern to everyone—past, present, and future. Rising to these challenges, Öhman explains, will require a collective reshaping of our economic and technical systems to reflect more than just the monetary values of digital remains.

As we stand before a period of deep civilizational change, The Afterlife of Data will be an essential guide to understanding why and how we as a human race must gain control of our collective digital past—before it is too late.

Carl Öhman is assistant professor of political science at Uppsala University, Sweden.
Otherworldly Antarctica
Ice, Rock, and Wind at the Polar Extreme
Edmund Stump

With stunning original photographs, an Antarctic scientist and explorer takes us to one of the most sublime, remote, and pristine regions on the planet.

The interior of Antarctica is an utterly pristine wilderness, a desolate landscape of ice, wind, and rock; a landscape so unfamiliar as to seem of another world. This place has been known to only a handful of early explorers and the few scientists fortunate enough to have worked there. Edmund Stump is one of the lucky few. Having climbed, photographed, and studied more of the continent-spanning Transantarctic Mountains than any other person on Earth, this geologist, writer, and photographer is uniquely suited to share these alien sights.

With stories of Stump's forty years of journeys and science, Otherworldly Antarctica contains 130 original color photographs, complemented by watercolors and sketches by artist Marlene Hill Donnelly. Over three chapters—on the ice, the rock, and the wind—we meet snowy paths first followed during Antarctica's Heroic Age, climb the central spire of the Organ Pipe Peaks, peer into the crater of the volcanic Mt. Erebus, and traverse Liv Glacier on snowmobile, while avoiding fatal falls into the blue interiors of hidden crevasses. Along the way, we see the beauty of granite, marble, and ice-cored moraines, meltwater ponds, lenticular clouds, icebergs, and glaciers. Many of Stump's breathtaking images are aerial shots taken from the planes and helicopters that brought him to the interior. More were shot from vantages gained by climbing the mountains he studied. Some were taken from the summits of peaks. Many are of places no one had set foot before—or has since. All seem both permanent and precarious, connecting this otherworld to our fragile own.

Edmund Stump is a retired professor of exploration at Arizona State University, where he taught geology for thirty-seven years. In a research career funded by the National Science Foundation, spanning forty years and thirteen Antarctic field seasons, he studied and sampled rocks throughout the 1,500-mile length of the Transantarctic Mountains and collected samples from the Vinson Massif, the highest summit in Antarctica. He is the author of The Roof at the Bottom of the World: Discovering the Transantarctic Mountains.

"Stump has made studying these mountains his life's work . . . . Thanks to the stunning photographs . . . this solid and dependable book is as beautiful as the mountains it describes."—Nature, on The Roof at the Bottom of the World
Vector
A Surprising Story of Space, Time, and Mathematical Transformation
Robyn Arianrhod

A celebration of the seemingly simple idea that allowed us to imagine the world in new dimensions—sparking both controversy and discovery.

The stars of this book, vectors and tensors, are unlikely celebrities. If you ever took a physics course, the word “vector” might remind you of the mathematics needed to determine forces on an amusement park ride, a turbine, or a projectile. You might also remember that a vector is a quantity that has magnitude and (this is the key) direction. In fact, vectors are examples of tensors, which can represent even more data. It sounds simple enough—and yet, Robyn Arianrhod shows in this riveting story, the idea of a single symbol expressing more than one thing at once was millennia in the making.

Vector and tensor calculus offers an elegant language for expressing the way things behave in space and time, and Arianrhod shows how this enabled physicists and mathematicians to think in a brand-new way. These include James Clerk Maxwell when he ushered in the wireless electromagnetic age; Einstein when he predicted the curving of space-time and the existence of gravitational waves; Paul Dirac, when he created quantum field theory; and Emmy Noether, when she connected mathematical symmetry and the conservation of energy. For it turned out that it’s not just physical quantities and dimensions that vectors and tensors can represent, but other dimensions and other kinds of information, too. This is why physicists and mathematicians can speak of four-dimensional space-time and other higher-dimensional “spaces,” and why you’re likely relying on vectors or tensors whenever you use digital applications such as search engines, GPS, or your mobile phone.

In exploring the evolution of vectors and tensors—and introducing the fascinating people who gave them to us—Arianrhod takes readers on an extraordinary, five-thousand-year journey through the human imagination.

Robyn Arianrhod is a science writer and mathematician affiliated with Monash University’s School of Mathematics, where she studies general relativity. She is the author of the critically acclaimed books Einstein’s Heroes: Imagining the World through the Language of Mathematics; Seduced by Logic: Émilie du Châtelet, Mary Somerville and the Newtonian Revolution; and Thomas Harriot: A Life in Science.
Work, Retire, Repeat

The Uncertainty of Retirement in the New Economy

Teresa Ghilarducci

With a Foreword by E. J. Dionne Jr.

A damning portrait of the dire realities of retirement in the United States—and how we can fix it.

While the French went on strike in 2023 to protest the increase in the national retirement age, workers in the United States have all but given up on the notion of dignified retirement for all. Instead, Americans—whose elders face the highest risk of poverty compared to workers in peer nations—are fed feel-good stories about Walmart clerks who can finally retire because a customer raised the necessary funds through a GoFundMe campaign.

Many argue that the solution to the financial straits of American retirement is simple: people need to just work longer. Yet this call to work longer is misleading in a multitude of ways, including its endangering of the health of workers and its discrimination against people who work in lower-wage occupations. In Work, Retire, Repeat, Teresa Ghilarducci tells the stories of elders locked into jobs—not because they love to work but because they must.

But this doesn’t need to be the reality. Work, Retire, Repeat shows how relatively low-cost changes to how we finance and manage retirement will allow people to truly choose how they spend their golden years.

Teresa Ghilarducci is professor of economics and policy analysis at the New School for Social Research in New York City. She serves as the director of the Schwartz Center for Economic Policy Analysis and the New School’s Retirement Equity Lab (ReLab). She also writes a regular column for Forbes’s #RetireWell blog.
Why You, Why Me, Why Now
The Mindset and Moves to Land That First Job, from Networking to Cover Letters, Resumes, and Interviews
Rachel Toor

A clear, accessible, and fun guide on everything it takes to land a job.

Searching for a job can be hard and demoralizing work. In Why You, Why Me, Why Now, Rachel Toor delivers some good news. The most important thing is within your control—a mindset that shows you know the goals of the organization you want to work for and that you’re ready and eager to contribute. Toor provides, with compassion and enthusiasm, strategies to make it easy for hiring managers to say “yes.” Through useful and funny anecdotes, she offers advice from professionals across industries and focuses on the attitude applicants can adopt to find success. Revealing traits employers seek, Toor shows how to craft winning cover letters, ways to tailor resumes for each job, and practical tips to get past AI screening. She also explains how to use LinkedIn and gives tips on preparing for interviews. Throughout, the book features Toor’s notes on writing well to help in landing a first job and beyond. Encouraging, entertaining, and blunt, this is a job-search guide like no other.


“All college seniors entering the job market should read this book. It contains page after page of potentially life-altering job search ideas and tips people don’t know and won’t think of on their own.” —Ellen Jovin, cofounder of Syntaxis and author of Rebel with a Clause: Tales and Tips from a Roving Grammarian
The Visual Elements—Design
A Handbook for Communicating Science and Engineering
Felice C. Frankel

With insights and examples from designers at publications from *Nature* to the *New York Times*, an essential guide to creating figures and presentations.

In this short handbook, award-winning science communicator Felice C. Frankel offers a quick guide for scientists and engineers who want to share—and better understand—their research by designing compelling graphics for journal submissions, grant applications, presentations, and posters. Like all the books in the Visual Elements series, this handbook is also a training tool for researchers. Distilling her celebrated books and courses to the essentials, Frankel shows scientists and engineers, from students to primary investigators, the importance of thinking visually. This crucial volume in the Visual Elements series offers a wealth of engaging design examples. Case studies and advice from designers at prestigious publications and researchers’ own before-and-after examples show how even the smallest changes—to color, type, composition, and layering—can greatly improve communication. Ideal for researchers who want a foothold for presenting and preparing their work for everything from conferences to publications, the book explains the steps for creating a concise and communicative graphic to highlight the most important aspects of research—and to clarify researchers’ own thinking. The resulting book is an essential element of any scientist’s, engineer’s, or designer’s library.

Felice C. Frankel is an award-winning science photographer and research scientist in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Working in collaboration with scientists and engineers, Frankel’s images have appeared in the *New York Times, National Geographic, Nature, Science, PNAS, Newsweek, Scientific American, Discover, Popular Science, and New Scientist*, among others. She is the author or coauthor of several books, including *Visual Strategies, Picturing Science and Engineering*, and *The Visual Elements—Photography*, the latter also published by the University of Chicago Press.

“Frankel is a legend when it comes to science imaging. This book is her powerful, inspiring guide to the tools and techniques for success.”—Randi Klett, photography director, *IEEE Spectrum*, on *The Visual Elements—Photography*
The Chicago Guide for Freelance Editors

How to Take Care of Your Business, Your Clients, and Yourself from Start-Up to Sustainability

Erin Brenner

The definitive guide to starting and running a freelance editing business.

You've been thinking about shifting into the world of freelance editing, but you don't know where to start. In a time when editors are seeking greater flexibility in their work arrangements and schedules, freelancing is an increasingly common career option. But deciding to go it alone means balancing the risks with the rewards. From the publisher of The Chicago Manual of Style comes this definitive guide to running your business and finding greater control and freedom in your work life.

In this book, Erin Brenner—an industry leader and expert on the business of editorial freelancing—gathers everything you need to know into a single resource. Brenner has run her own successful editing business for over two decades and has helped hundreds of editors launch or improve their businesses.

The Chicago Guide for Freelance Editors will walk you through the entire process of conceiving, launching, and working in a freelance editing business, from deciding on services and rates to thinking through branding and marketing strategies and beyond. This book is ideal for beginning freelancers looking to get set up and land their first clients, but it's equally valuable to those who have already been freelancing. You'll find a collection of advice from other freelance editors in this guide, as well as an extensive list of resources and tools. In the final and perhaps most important chapter, Brenner teaches you how to care for the key component of the business: yourself.

Erin Brenner is the owner of Right Touch Editing, which provides small and midsize organizations with writing and editing teams. Brenner has worked in communications since 2005, and she is a former instructor in the copyediting certificate program at the University of California, San Diego. She is the editor of Copyediting's Grammar Tune-Up Workbook.
PORTAL

Tracy Fuad

A poetry collection exploring inheritance and reproduction through the lenses of parenthood, etymology, postcoloniality, and climate anxiety.

Tracy Fuad's second collection of poems, PORTAL, probes the fraught experience of bringing a new life into a world that is both lush and filled with gloom. A baby is born in a brutalist building; the planet shrinks under the new logic of contagion; roses washed up from a shipwreck centuries ago are blooming up and down the cape. PORTAL documents a life that is mediated, even at its most intimate moments, by flattening interfaces of technology and in which language—and even intelligence—is no longer produced only by humans. The voices here are stalked by eco-grief and loneliness, but they also brim with song and ecstasy, reveling in the strangeness of contemporary life while grieving losses that cannot be restored. Through Fuad's frank, honest poetry, PORTAL vibrates with pleasure and dread.

Peeling back the surfaces of words to reveal their etymologies, Fuad embraces playfulness through her formal range, engaging styles from the tersely lineated to the essayistic as she intertwines topics of replication, reproduction, technology, language, history, and biology.

Tracy Fuad is the author of about:blank, a finalist for the National Poetry Series and the winner of the Donald Hall Prize. She is the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Provincetown Fine Arts Work Center, Hedgebrook, and the Berlin Senate Fund. She lives in Berlin, where she teaches at the Berlin Writers’ Workshop.
Mandible Wishbone Solvent
Asiya Wadud

A poetry collection that brings together word, image, and sound to reflect on fractured, fragmentary states of being.

The poetry of Mandible Wishbone Solvent is situated in the space of bridges, fragmentary overlays, spectral reach, and the desire to keep reaching. Asiya Wadud’s poems engage in this act, not to stake a claim or to fasten themselves, but to hold fragments together in order to offer possibilities for connection and extension. Throughout the collection lies an acknowledgment that any hold will drift, meander, and find new paths, with each separation making space for new entanglements. Drawing on a keen interest in tactility and ekphrasis, Wadud mines the repetition and extension that comes with any fractured state of existence and considers the nature of a residual and roving we.

Following this selection of lyrical, ekphrastic, fragmented poems, the book concludes with two prose pieces that dwell on the concepts of “isthmus” and “drift,” respectively, which offer further grounds for contemplation and provide a frame for the poems.

Asiya Wadud is the author of several poetry collections, including, most recently, No Knowledge Is Complete Until It Passes Through My Body. Her writing has been published in e-flux journal, BOMB Magazine, Triple Canopy, Poetry, Yale Review, and elsewhere. Her work has been supported by the Foundation Jan Michalski, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Danspace Project, Finnish Cultural Institute of New York, Rosendal Theater Norway, Kunstennationaldesarts, and Beirut Arts Center, among others. Wadud lives in Brooklyn, New York, where she teaches poetry at Saint Ann’s School and Columbia University.
The Blue Period
Black Writing in the Early Cold War
Jesse McCarthy

Addresses the political and aesthetic evolution of African American literature and its authors during the Cold War, an era McCarthy calls “the Blue Period.”

In the years after World War II, to be a Black writer was to face a stark predicament. The contest between the Soviet Union and the United States was a global one—an ideological battle that dominated almost every aspect of the cultural agenda. On the one hand, revolutionary Communism promised egalitarianism while being hostile to conceptions of personal freedom. On the other hand, opposing the Soviets was the United States, a country steeped in racial prejudice and the policies of Jim Crow.

Black writers of this time were equally alienated from the left and the right, Jesse McCarthy argues, and they channeled that alienation into remarkable experiments in literary form. Embracing racial affect and interiority, they forged an aesthetic resistance premised on fierce dissent from both US racial liberalism and Soviet Communism. From the end of World War II to the rise of the Black Power movement in the 1960s, authors such as Richard Wright, James Baldwin, Gwendolyn Brooks, and Paule Marshall defined a distinctive moment in American literary culture that McCarthy terms “the Blue Period.”

In McCarthy’s hands, this notion of the Blue Period provides a fresh critical framework that challenges long-held disciplinary and archival assumptions. Black writers in the early Cold War went underground, McCarthy argues, not to depoliticize or liberalize their work, but to make it more radical—keeping alive affective commitments for a future time.

Acclaimed poet and critic Maureen N. McLane offers an experimental work of criticism ranging across romantic and contemporary poetry.

In *My Poetics*, Maureen N. McLane writes as a poet, critic, theorist, and scholar—but above all as an impassioned reader. Written in an innovative, conversable style, McLane’s essays illuminate her own poetics and suggest more generally all that poetics can encompass. Ranging widely from romantic-era odes and hymns to anonymous ballads to haikus and haibuns to modernist and contemporary poetries in English, *My Poetics* explores poems as speculative instruments and as ways of registering our very sense of being alive. McLane pursues a number of open questions: How do poems generate modes for thinking? How does rhyme help us measure out thought? What is the relation of poetry to its surroundings, and how do specific poems activate that relation?

If, as Wallace Stevens wrote, “poetry is the scholar’s art,” *My Poetics* flies under a slightly different banner: study and criticism are also the poet’s art. Punctuated with McLane’s poems and drawing variously on Hannah Arendt, Percy Bysshe Shelley, Roland Barthes, Bruno Latour, and other writers and poets, *My Poetics* is a formally as well as intellectually adventurous work. Its artful arrangement of readings and divagations shows us a way to be with poems and poetics.

Maureen N. McLane is the Henry James Professor of English and American Letters at New York University. She is the author of four works of prose, most recently, *My Poets and Balladeering, Minstrelsy, and the Making of British Romantic Poetry*, and eight books of poems, including *What You Want, This Blue*, and *Some Say*. 
In Poe’s Wake
Travels in the Graphic and the Atmospheric
Jonathan Elmer

Explores how Edgar Allan Poe has become a household name, as much a brand as an author.

You’ll find his face everywhere, from coffee mugs, bobbleheads, and T-shirts to the cover of the Beatles’ Sergeant Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band. Edgar Allan Poe is one of American culture’s most recognizable literary figures, his life and works inspiring countless derivations beyond the literary realm. Poe’s likeness and influence have been found in commercial illustration and kitsch, art installations, films, radio plays, children’s cartoons, and video games. What makes Poe so hugely influential in media other than his own? What do filmmakers, composers, and other artists find in Poe that suits their purposes so often and so variously?

In Poe’s Wake locates the source of the writer’s enduring legacy in two vernacular aesthetic categories: the graphic and the atmospheric. Jonathan Elmer uses Poe to explore these two terms and track some deep patterns in their use, not through theoretical labor but through close encounters with a wide sampling of aesthetic objects that avail themselves of Poe’s work. Poe’s writings are violent and macabre, memorable both for certain grisly images and for certain prevailing moods or atmospheres—dread, creepiness, and mournfulness. Furthermore, a bundle of certain Poe traits—his thematic emphasis on extreme sensation, his flexible sense of form, his experimental and modular method, and his iconic visage—amount to what could be called a Poe “brand,” one as likely to be found in music videos or comics as in novels and stories. Encompassing René Magritte, Claude Debussy, Lou Reed, Roger Corman, Spongebob Squarepants, and many others, Elmer’s book shows how the Poe brand opens trunk lines to aesthetic experiences fundamental to a multimedia world.

Jonathan Elmer is professor of English at Indiana University. He is author of Reading at the Social Limit: Affect, Mass Culture, and Edgar Allan Poe and On Lingering and Being Last: Race and Sovereignty in the New World.
A Supreme Court Unlike Any Other

The Deepening Divide Between the Justices and the People

Kevin J. McMahon

A data-rich examination of the US Supreme Court’s unprecedented detachment from the democratic processes that buttress its legitimacy.

Today’s Supreme Court is unlike any other in American history. This is not just because of its jurisprudence but also because the current Court has a tenuous relationship with the democratic processes that help establish its authority. Historically, this “democracy gap” was not nearly as severe as it is today. Simply put, past Supreme Courts were constructed in a fashion far more in line with the promise of democracy—that the people decide and the majority rules.

Drawing on historical and contemporary data alongside a deep knowledge of court battles during presidencies ranging from FDR to Donald Trump, Kevin J. McMahon charts the developments that brought us here. McMahon offers insight into the altered politics of nominating and confirming justices, the shifting pool of Supreme Court hopefuls, and the increased salience of the Court in elections. A Supreme Court Unlike Any Other is an eye-opening account of today’s Court within the context of US history and the broader structure of contemporary politics.

Kevin J. McMahon is the John R. Reitemeyer Professor of Political Science at Trinity College. He is also the author of Reconsidering Roosevelt on Race and, most recently, Nixon’s Court.
The Constitutional Bind
How Americans Came to Idolize a Document That Fails Them
Aziz Rana

An eye-opening account of how Americans came to revere the Constitution and what this reverence has meant domestically and around the world.

Some Americans today worry that the Federal Constitution is ill-equipped to respond to mounting democratic threats and may even exacerbate the worst features of American politics. Yet for as long as anyone can remember, the Constitution has occupied a quasi-mythical status in American political culture, which ties ideals of liberty and equality to assumptions about the inherent goodness of the text’s design. The Constitutional Bind explores how a flawed document came to be so glorified and how this has impacted American life.

In a pathbreaking retelling of the American experience, Aziz Rana shows that today’s reverential constitutional culture is a distinctively twentieth-century phenomenon. Rana connects this widespread idolization to another recent development: the rise of US global dominance. Ultimately, such veneration has had far-reaching consequences: despite offering a unifying language of reform, it has also unleashed an interventionist national security state abroad while undermining the possibility of deeper change at home.

Revealing how the current constitutional order was forged over the twentieth century, The Constitutional Bind also sheds light on an array of movement activists—in Black, Indigenous, feminist, labor, and immigrant politics—who struggled to imagine different constitutional horizons. As time passed, these voices of opposition were excised from memory. Today, they offer essential insights.

Aziz Rana is the incoming J. Donald Monan, SJ, University Professor of Law and Government at Boston College. His writing has appeared in the Washington Post, Dissent, n+1, the Boston Review, and Jacobin. He is the author of The Two Faces of American Freedom.
Respect and Loathing in American Democracy
Polarization, Moralization, and the Undermining of Equality
Jeff Spinner-Halev and Elizabeth Theiss-Morse

A deep examination of why respect is in short supply in politics today and why it matters.

Respect is in trouble in the United States. Many Americans believe respecting others is a necessary virtue, yet many struggle to respect opposing partisans. Surprisingly, it is liberal citizens, who hold respect as central to their view of democratic equality, who often have difficulty granting respect to others. Drawing on evidence from national surveys, focus groups, survey experiments, and the views of political theorists, Jeff Spinner-Halev and Elizabeth Theiss-Morse explain why this is and why respect is vital to—and yet so lacking in—contemporary US politics.

*Respect and Loathing in American Democracy* argues that liberals and conservatives are less divided than many believe, but alienate one another because they moralize different issues. Liberals moralize social justice, conservatives champion national solidarity, and this worldview divide keeps them at odds.

Respect is both far-reaching and vital, yet it is much harder to grant than many recognize, partly because of the unseen tension between respect, social justice, and national solidarity. *Respect and Loathing in American Democracy* proposes a path forward that, while challenging, is far from impossible for citizens to traverse.

Jeff Spinner-Halev is the Kenan Eminent Professor of Political Ethics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Elizabeth Theiss-Morse is the Willa Cather Professor of Political Science at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.
Polished
College, Class, and the Burdens of Social Mobility
Melissa Osborne

An illuminating look at the emotional costs of mobility faced by first-generation and low-income college students.

While college initiates a major transition in all students’ lives, low-income and first-generation students attending elite schools are often entering entirely new worlds. Amid the financial and academic challenges of adapting to college, their emotional lives, too, undergo a transformation. Surrounded by peers from different classes and cultural backgrounds, they are faced with an impossible choice: turn away from their former lives to blend in or stay true to themselves and remain on the outside.

An ethnography that draws on in-depth interviews with one hundred and fifty first-generation and low-income students across eighteen elite institutions, Polished uncovers the hidden consequences of the promise of social mobility in today’s educational landscape. Sociologist Melissa Osborne reveals how the very support designed to propel first-generation students forward can unexpectedly reshape their identities, often putting them at odds with their peers and families. Without direct institutional support, this emotional journey can lead to alienation, mental health challenges, poor academic outcomes, and difficult choices between upward mobility and maintaining authenticity and community. Whether you’re an educator, advocate, or student, Polished provides a powerful perspective on the uncharted challenges of social mobility and personal identity during college.

Melissa Osborne is associate professor of sociology at Western Washington University.
Temporary Monuments
Art, Land, and America’s Racial Enterprise
Rebecca Zorach

How art played a central role in the design of America’s racial enterprise—and how contemporary artists resist it.

Art has long played a key role in constructing how people understand and imagine America. Starting with contemporary controversies over public monuments in the United States, Rebecca Zorach carefully examines the place of art in the occupation of land and the upholding of White power in the US, arguing that it has been central to the design of America’s racial enterprise. Confronting closely held assumptions of art history, Zorach looks to the intersections of art, nature, race, and place, working through a series of symbolic spaces—the museum, the wild, islands, gardens, the home, and walls and borders—to open and extend conversations on the political implications of art and design.

Against the backdrop of central moments in American art, from the founding of early museums to the ascendancy of abstract expressionism, Zorach shows how contemporary artists—including Dawoud Bey, Theaster Gates, Maria Gaspar, Kerry James Marshall, Alan Michelson, Dylan Miner, Postcommodity, Cauleen Smith, and Amanda Williams—have mined the relationship between environment and social justice, creating works that investigate and interrupt White supremacist, carceral, and environmentally toxic worlds. The book also draws on poetry, creative nonfiction, hip-hop videos, and Disney films to illuminate crucial topics in art history, from the racial politics of abstraction to the origins of museums and the formation of canons.

Rebecca Zorach is the Mary Jane Crowe Professor of Art and Art History in the Department of Art History at Northwestern University, with affiliations in programs in American Studies and Environmental Policy and Culture. Her books include Blood, Milk, Ink, Gold: Abundance and Excess in the French Renaissance; The Passionate Triangle; and Art for People’s Sake: Artists and Community in Black Chicago, 1965–1975.
Wisecracks
Humor and Morality in Everyday Life
David Shoemaker

A philosopher’s case for the importance of good—ifethically questionable—humor.

A good sense of humor is key to the good life, but a joke taken too far can get anyone into trouble. Where to draw the line is not as simple as it may seem. After all, even the most innocent quips between friends rely on deception, sarcasm, and stereotypes and often run the risk of disrespect, meanness, and harm. How do we face this dilemma without taking ourselves too seriously?

In *Wisecracks*, philosopher David Shoemaker examines this interplay between humor and morality and ultimately argues that even morally suspect humor is an essential part of ethical life. Shoemaker shows how improvised “wisecracks” between family and friends—unlike scripted stand-up, sketches, or serials—help us develop an essential human skill: the ability to carry on and find the funny in tragedy. In developing a new ethics of humor in defense of questionable gibes, *Wisecracks* offers a powerful case for humor as a healing presence in human life.

David Shoemaker is professor of philosophy at Cornell University. He is the author of two books including *Responsibility from the Margins.*
Pictures and the Past

Media, Memory, and the Specter of Fascism in Postmodern Art

Alexander Bigman

A fresh take on the legacy of the group of artists known as the Pictures Generation, reinterpreting their work as haunted by the history of fascism and the threat of its return.

The artists of the Pictures Generation, converging on New York City in the late 1970s, indelibly changed the shape of American art. It has long been thought that this group’s main contribution was to rebel against abstraction by bringing back figural techniques and borrowing liberally from the aesthetics of mass media. In Pictures and the Past, however, art critic and historian Alexander Bigman presents us with a bold new interpretation of the artists’ most significant work, in particular its recurring evocations of fascist iconography.

Challenging conventional narratives, Bigman argues that these artists—especially Sarah Charlesworth, Jack Goldstein, Troy Brauntuch, Robert Longo, and Gretchen Bender—posed pressing questions about what it means to perceive the world historically in a society saturated by images. He argues that their traumatic references represent not only a coded form of political commentary about the 1980s, but also a pioneering reflection on the inherently political nature of collective memory writ large. Throughout, Bigman situates their work within a larger cultural context comprising developments in music, fashion, cinema, and literature. Pictures and the Past probes the shifting relationships between art, popular culture, and memory in the 1970s and ’80s, examining how the specter of fascism loomed for artists then—and the ways it still looms for us today.

Alexander Bigman is an art critic and historian. His writing has appeared in several publications, including Art History, The Art Bulletin, and Art in America. He lives in New York City, and this is his first book.
Think to New Worlds
The Cultural History of Charles Fort and His Followers
Joshua Blu Buhs

How a writer who cataloged scientific anomalies inspired a factious movement and made a lasting impact on American culture.

Flying saucers. Bigfoot. Frogs raining from the sky. Such phenomena fascinated Charles Fort, the maverick writer who scanned newspapers, journals, and magazines for reports of bizarre occurrences: dogs that talked, vampires, strange visions in the sky, and paranormal activity. His books of anomalies advanced a philosophy that saw science as a small part of a larger system in which truth and falsehood continually transformed into one another. His work found a ragged following of skeptics who questioned not only science but the press, medicine, and politics. Though their worldviews varied, they shared compelling questions about genius, reality, and authority. At the center of this community was adman, writer, and *enfant terrible* Tiffany Thayer, who founded the Fortean Society and ran it for almost three decades, collecting and reporting on every manner of oddity and conspiracy.

In *Think to New Worlds*, Joshua Blu Buhs argues that the Fortean effect on modern culture is deeper than you think. Fort’s descendants provided tools to expand the imagination, explore the social order, and demonstrate how power was exercised. Science fiction writers put these ideas to work as they sought to uncover the hidden structures undergirding reality. Avant-garde modernists—including the authors William Gaddis, Henry Miller, and Ezra Pound, as well as Surrealist visual artists—were inspired by Fort’s writing about metaphysical and historical forces. And in the years following World War II, flying saucer enthusiasts convinced of alien life raised questions about who controlled the universe.

Buhs’s meticulous and entertaining book takes a respectful look at a cast of oddballs and eccentrics, plucking them from history’s margins and spotlighting their mark on American modernism.

In the Shadow of Diagnosis
Psychiatric Power and Queer Life
Regina Kunzel

A look at the history of psychiatry's foundational impact on the lives of queer and gender-variant people.

In the mid-twentieth century, American psychiatrists proclaimed homosexuality a mental disorder, one that was treatable and amenable to cure. Drawing on a collection of previously unexamined case files from St. Elizabeths Hospital, In the Shadow of Diagnosis explores the encounter between psychiatry and queer and gender-variant people in the mid- to late-twentieth-century United States. It examines psychiatrists’ investments in understanding homosexuality as a dire psychiatric condition, a judgment that garnered them tremendous power and authority at a time that historians have characterized as psychiatry’s “golden age.” That stigmatizing diagnosis made a deep and lasting impact, too, on queer people, shaping gay life and politics in indelible ways. In the Shadow of Diagnosis helps us understand the adhesive and ongoing connection between queerness and sickness.

Regina Kunzel is the Larned Professor of History and Professor of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Yale University. Kunzel is the author of Criminal Intimacy: Prison and the Uneven History of Modern American Sexuality, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
How is it that Americans are more obsessed with exercise than ever, and yet also unhealthier? *Fit Nation* explains how we got here and imagines how we might create a more inclusive, stronger future.

If a shared American creed still exists, it’s a belief that exercise is integral to a life well lived. A century ago, working out was the activity of a strange subculture, but today, it’s almost impossible to avoid exhortations to exercise: Walk 5K to cure cancer! Awaken your inner sex kitten at pole-dancing class! Sweat like (or even with) a celebrity in spin class! Exercise is everywhere.

Yet the United States is hardly a “fit nation.” Only 20 percent of Americans work out consistently, over half of gym members don’t even use the facilities they pay for, and fewer than 30 percent of high school students get an hour of exercise a day. So how did fitness become both inescapable and inaccessible?

Spanning more than a century of American history, *Fit Nation* answers these questions and more through original interviews, archival research, and a rich cultural narrative. As a leading political and intellectual historian and a certified fitness instructor, Natalia Mehlman Petrzela is uniquely qualified to confront the complex and far-reaching implications of how our contemporary exercise culture took shape. She explores the work of working out not just as consumers have experienced it, but as it was created by performers, physical educators, trainers, instructors, and many others.

For Petrzela, fitness is a social justice issue. She argues that the fight for a more equitable exercise culture will be won only by revolutionizing fitness culture at its core, making it truly inclusive for all bodies in a way it has never been.

*Natalia Mehlman Petrzela* is a historian of contemporary American politics and culture and associate professor of history at the New School. A certified fitness instructor, she has worked out at home and in gyms for nearly three decades. She is the author of *Classroom Wars: Language, Sex, and the Making of Modern Political Culture*, and her work has appeared in outlets such as the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Atlantic*, and CNN. She is coproducer and host of the acclaimed podcast *Welcome to Your Fantasy* and cohost of the *Past Present* podcast. She lives in New York City.
Restricted Data

The History of Nuclear Secrecy in the United States

Alex Wellerstein

The first full history of US nuclear secrecy, from its origins in the late 1930s to our post–Cold War present.

The American atomic bomb was born in secrecy. From the moment scientists first conceived of its possibility to the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and beyond, there were efforts to control the spread of nuclear information and the newly discovered scientific facts that made them possible. The totalizing scientific secrecy that the atomic bomb appeared to demand was new, unusual, and very nearly unprecedented. It was foreign to both American science and American democracy—and potentially incompatible with both. From the beginning, this secrecy was controversial, and it was always contested. The atomic bomb was not merely the application of science to war, but the result of decades of investment in scientific education, infrastructure, and global collaboration. If secrecy became the norm, how would science survive?

Drawing on troves of declassified files, including records released by the government for the first time through the author’s efforts, Restricted Data traces the complex evolution of the US nuclear secrecy regime from the first whisper of the atomic bomb through the mounting tensions of the Cold War and into the early twenty-first century. A compelling history of powerful ideas at war, it tells a story that feels distinctly American: rich, sprawling, and built on the conflict between high-minded idealism and ugly, fearful power.

Alex Wellerstein is associate professor of science and technology studies at the Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey. He is the creator of the online nuclear weapons simulator NUKEMAP.

“A stunning achievement: a historical exercise that documents not just all the things we cannot know but all the things we only thought we couldn’t know, and which Wellerstein’s dogged research has dug out.”—London Review of Books
The Writer as Migrant

Ha Jin

Novelist Ha Jin raises questions about language, migration, and the place of literature in a rapidly globalizing world.

Consisting of three interconnected essays, The Writer as Migrant sets Ha Jin’s own work and life alongside those of other literary exiles, creating a conversation across cultures and between eras. He employs the cases of Alexander Solzhenitsyn and Chinese novelist Lin Yutang to illustrate the obligation a writer feels to the land of their birth, while Joseph Conrad and Vladimir Nabokov—who, like Ha Jin, adopted English for their writing—are enlisted to explore a migrant author’s conscious choice of a literary language. A final essay draws on V. S. Naipaul and Milan Kundera to consider the ways in which our era of perpetual change forces a migrant writer to reconceptualize the very idea of home. Throughout, Jin brings other celebrated writers into the conversation as well, including W. G. Sebald, C. P. Cavafy, and Salman Rushdie—refracting and refining the very idea of a literature of migration.

Simultaneously a reflection on a crucial theme and a fascinating glimpse at the writers who compose Ha Jin’s mental library, The Writer as Migrant is a work of passionately engaged criticism, one rooted in departures but feeling like a new arrival.

Ha Jin is the author of ten novels, four collections of short stories, and seven books of poetry. He is professor of English at Boston University.
Heard-Hoard
Atsuro Riley

Winner of the Alice Fay di Castagnola Award from the Poetry Society of America, this collection of verse from Atsuro Riley offers a vivid weavework rendering and remembering an American place and its people.

Recognized for his “wildly original” poetry and his “uncanny and unparalleled ability to blend lyric and narrative,” Atsuro Riley deepens here his uncommon mastery and tang. In Heard-Hoard, Riley has “razor-exacted” and “raw-wired” an absorbing new sequence of poems, a vivid weavework rendering an American place and its people.

At once an album of tales, a portrait gallery, and a soundscape; an “inscritched” dirt-mural and hymnbook, Heard-Hoard encompasses a chorus of voices shot through with (mostly human) histories and mysteries, their “old appetites as chronic as tides.” From the crackling story-man calling us together in the primal circle to Tammy figuring “time and time that yonder oak,” this collection is a profound evocation of lives and loss and lore.

Atsuro Riley is the author of Heard-Hoard, winner of the Alice Fay di Castagnola Award from the Poetry Society of America, a finalist for PEN America’s Voelcker Poetry Award, a Boston Globe Best Book of 2021, and a Bookworm Top 10 Book of the Year. His 2010 book Romey’s Order was the winner of the Whiting Award, the Kate Tufts Discovery Award, The Believer Poetry Award, and the Witter Bynner Award from the Library of Congress. Riley’s work has been honored with the Lannan Foundation Literary Fellowship, the Pushcart Prize, and the Wood Prize given by Poetry magazine. Brought up in the South Carolina lowcountry, he lives in San Francisco. He is the editor of Revel, a literary journal.

“The essential collection of our moment—what we’ve needed most without knowing it.”—McSweeney’s

“The collection calls us back to the roots of language, breaking it apart and putting it back together. Riley’s inventiveness is an invitation to notice language’s connection to the natural world, both equally complex and beautiful.”—Ploughshares
When the News Broke

Chicago 1968 and the Polarizing of America

Heather Hendershot

A riveting, blow-by-blow account of how the network broadcasts of the 1968 Democratic convention shattered faith in American media.

“The whole world is watching!” cried protestors at the 1968 Democratic convention as Chicago police beat them in the streets. When some of that violence was then aired on network television, another kind of hell broke loose. Some viewers were stunned and outraged; others thought the protestors deserved what they got. No one—least of all Chicago mayor Richard J. Daley—was happy with how the networks handled it.

In When the News Broke, Heather Hendershot revisits TV coverage of those four chaotic days in 1968—not only the violence in the streets but also the tumultuous convention itself, where Black citizens and others forcefully challenged southern delegations that had excluded them, anti-Vietnam delegates sought to change the party’s policy on the war, and journalists and delegates alike were bullied by both Daley’s security forces and party leaders. Ultimately, Hendershot reveals the convention as a pivotal moment in American political history, when a distorted notion of “liberal media bias” became mainstreamed and nationalized.

At the same time, she celebrates the values of the network news professionals who strived for fairness and accuracy. Despite their efforts, however, Chicago proved to be a turning point in the public’s trust in national news sources. Since those critical days, the political Right in the United States has amplified distrust of TV news, to the point where even the truest and most clearly documented stories can be deemed “fake.” As Hendershot demonstrates, it doesn’t matter whether the “whole world is watching” if people don’t believe what they see.

Heather Hendershot is professor of film and media at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Her books include What’s Fair on the Air? Cold War Right-Wing Broadcasting and the Public Interest and Open to Debate: How William F. Buckley Put Liberal America on the Firing Line.
Race at the Top
Asian Americans and Whites in Pursuit of the American Dream in Suburban Schools
Natasha Warikoo

An illuminating, in-depth look at competition in diverse suburban high schools, where parents are often determined to ensure that their children remain at the head of the class.

The American suburb conjures an image of picturesque privilege: manicured lawns, quiet streets, and—most important to parents—high-quality schools. These elite enclaves are also historically white, allowing many white Americans to safeguard their privileges by using public schools to help their children enter top colleges. That’s changing, however, as Asian American professionals increasingly move into wealthy suburban areas to give their kids that same leg up for their college applications and future careers.

As Natasha Warikoo shows in *Race at the Top*, white and Asian parents alike will do anything to help their children get to the top of the achievement pile. She takes us into the affluent suburban East Coast school she calls “Woodcrest High,” with a student body about one-half white and one-third Asian American. As increasing numbers of Woodcrest’s Asian American students earn star-pupil status, many whites feel displaced from the top of the academic hierarchy, and their frustrations grow. To maintain their children’s edge, some white parents complain to the school that schoolwork has become too rigorous. They also emphasize excellence in extracurriculars like sports and theater, which maintains their children’s advantage.

Warikoo reveals how, even when they are bested, white families in Woodcrest work to change the rules in their favor so they can remain the winners of the meritocracy game. Along the way, Warikoo explores urgent issues of racial and economic inequality that play out in affluent suburban American high schools. Caught in a race for power and privilege at the very top of society, what families in towns like Woodcrest fail to see is that everyone in their race is getting a medal—the children who actually lose are those living beyond their town’s boundaries.

*Natasha Warikoo* is professor of sociology at Tufts University. She is the author of several books, including *The Diversity Bargain*, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
States of Plague
Reading Albert Camus in a Pandemic
Alice Kaplan and Laura Marris

States of Plague examines Albert Camus’s novel as a palimpsest of pandemic life, an uncannily relevant account of the psychology and politics of a public health crisis.

As one of the most discussed books of the COVID-19 crisis, Albert Camus’s classic novel The Plague has become a new kind of literary touchstone. Surrounded by terror and uncertainty, often separated from loved ones or unable to travel, readers sought answers within the pages of Camus’s 1947 tale about an Algerian city gripped by an epidemic. Many found in it a story about their own lives—a book to shed light on a global health crisis.

In thirteen linked chapters told in alternating voices, Alice Kaplan and Laura Marris hold the past and present of The Plague in conversation, discovering how the novel has reached people in their current moment. Kaplan’s chapters explore the book’s tangled and vivid history, while Marris’s are drawn to the ecology of landscape and language. Through these pages, they find that their sense of Camus evolves under the force of a new reality, alongside the pressures of illness, recovery, concern, and care in their own lives. Along the way, Kaplan and Marris examine how the novel’s original allegory might resonate with a new generation of readers who have experienced a global pandemic. They describe how they learned to contemplate the skies of a plague spring, to examine the body politic and the politics of immunity.

Both personal and eloquently written, States of Plague uncovers for us the mysterious way a novel can imagine the world during a crisis and draw back the veil on other possible futures.

Alice Kaplan is the Sterling Professor of French and director of the Whitney Humanities Center at Yale. She is the author of several books, including French Lessons, Looking for “The Stranger,” and Dreaming in French, also published by the University of Chicago Press. She has been a finalist for both the National Book Critics Circle Award and the National Book Award. She lives in Guilford, Connecticut. Laura Marris is a writer and translator. Her recent translations include Albert Camus’s The Plague, Louis Guilloux’s Blood Dark, and Geraldine Schwarz’s Those Who Forget. Her first solo-authored book, The Age of Loneliness, is forthcoming. She lives in Buffalo, New York.
The Last Writings of Thomas S. Kuhn

Incommensurability in Science

Thomas S. Kuhn

Edited by Bojana Mladenović

A must-read follow-up to The Structure of Scientific Revolutions, one of the most important books of the twentieth century.

This book contains the text of Thomas S. Kuhn’s unfinished book, The Plurality of Worlds: An Evolutionary Theory of Scientific Development, which Kuhn himself described as “a return to the central claims of The Structure of Scientific Revolutions, and the problems that it raised but did not resolve.” The Plurality of Worlds is preceded by two related texts that Kuhn publicly delivered but never published in English: his paper “Scientific Knowledge as a Historical Product” and his Shearman Memorial Lectures, “The Presence of Past Science.” An introduction by the editor describes the origins and structure of The Plurality of Worlds and sheds light on its central philosophical problems.

Kuhn’s aims in his last writings are bold. He sets out to develop an empirically grounded theory of meaning that would allow him to make sense of both the possibility of historical understanding and the inevitability of incommensurability between past and present science. In his view, incommensurability is fully compatible with a robust notion of the real world that science investigates, the rationality of scientific change, and the idea that scientific development is progressive.

Thomas S. Kuhn (1922–96) was an American philosopher and the Laurence S. Rockefeller Professor of Philosophy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. One of the most influential philosophers of science of the twentieth century, his books include The Copernican Revolution, The Essential Tension, and Black-Body Theory and the Quantum Discontinuity, 1894–1912, all also published by the University of Chicago Press. Bojana Mladenović is professor of philosophy at Williams College. She is the author of Kuhn’s Legacy: Epistemology, Metaphilosophy, and Pragmatism.
Dawn at Mineral King Valley
The Sierra Club, the Disney Company, and the Rise of Environmental Law
Daniel P. Selmi

The story behind the historic Mineral King Valley case, which reveals how the Sierra Club battled Disney’s ski resort development and launched a new environmental era in America

In our current age of climate change–induced panic, it’s hard to imagine a time when private groups were not actively enforcing environmental protection laws in the courts. It wasn’t until 1972, however, that a David and Goliath–esque Supreme Court showdown involving the Sierra Club and Disney set a revolutionary legal precedent for the era of environmental activism we live in today.

Set against the backdrop of the environmental movement that swept the country in the late 1960s and early 1970s, Dawn at Mineral King Valley tells the surprising story of how the US Forest Service, the Disney company, and the Sierra Club each struggled to adapt to the new, rapidly changing political landscape of environmental consciousness in postwar America. Proposed in 1965 and approved by the federal government in 1969, Disney’s vast development plan would have irreversibly altered the practically untouched Mineral King Valley, a magnificently beautiful alpine area in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. At first, the plan met with unanimous approval from elected officials, government administrators, and the press—it seemed inevitable that this expanse of wild natural land would be radically changed and turned over to a private corporation. Then the scrappy Sierra Club forcefully pushed back with a lawsuit that ultimately propelled the modern environmental era by allowing interest groups to bring litigation against environmentally destructive projects.

An expert on environmental law and appellate advocacy, Daniel P. Selmi uses his authoritative narrative voice to recount the complete history of this revolutionary legal battle and the ramifications that continue today, almost fifty years later.

Daniel P. Selmi is the Fritz B. Burns Chair in Real Property Emeritus at Loyola Law School, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles.
Platypus Matters
The Extraordinary Story of Australian Mammals
Jack Ashby

Scientifically informed and funny, a firsthand account of Australia’s wonderfully unique mammals—and how our perceptions impact their future.

Think of a platypus: They lay eggs (that hatch into so-called platypups), produce milk without nipples and venom without fangs, and can detect electricity. Or a wombat: Their teeth never stop growing, they poop cubes, and they defend themselves with reinforced rears. And what about antechinuses? The tiny marsupial carnivores whose males don’t see their first birthday, as their frenzied sex lives take so much energy that their immune systems fail. Platypuses, possums, wombats, echidnas, devils, kangaroos, quolls, dibblers, dunnarts, kowaris: Australia has some truly astonishing mammals, with incredible, unfamiliar features. But how does the world regard these creatures? And what does that mean for their conservation?

In Platypus Matters, naturalist Jack Ashby shares his love for these often-misunderstood animals. Informed by his own experiences meeting living marsupials and egg-laying mammals on fieldwork in Tasmania and mainland Australia, as well as his work with thousands of zoological specimens collected for museums over the last two-hundred-plus years, Ashby’s tale not only explains historical mysteries and debunks myths (especially about the platypus), but also reveals the toll these myths can take. Ashby makes clear that calling these animals “weird” or “primitive”—or incorrectly implying that Australia is an “evolutionary backwater,” a perception that can be traced back to the country’s colonial history—has undermined conservation: Australia now has the worst mammal extinction rate of anywhere on Earth. Important, timely, and written with humor and wisdom by a scientist and self-described platypus nerd, this celebration of Australian wildlife will open eyes and change minds about how we contemplate and interact with the natural world—everywhere.

Jack Ashby is the assistant director of the University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge, and an honorary research fellow in the Department of Science and Technology Studies at University College London. He is the author of Animal Kingdom: A Natural History in 100 Objects and lives in Hertfordshire.
Lydia Maria Child
A Radical American Life
Lydia Moland

Now in paperback, a compelling biography of Lydia Maria Child, one of nineteenth-century America’s most courageous abolitionists.

By 1830, Lydia Maria Child had established herself as something almost unheard of in the American nineteenth century: a beloved and self-sufficient female author. Best known today for the immortal poem “Over the River and Through the Wood,” Child had become famous at an early age for spunky self-help books and charming children’s stories. But in 1833, Child shocked her readers by publishing the first book-length argumentation against slavery in the United States—a book so radical in its commitment to abolition that friends abandoned her, patrons ostracized her, and her book sales plummeted. Yet Child soon drew untold numbers to the abolitionist cause, becoming one of the foremost authors and activists of her generation.

*Lydia Maria Child: A Radical American Life* tells the story of what brought Child to this moment and the extraordinary life she lived in response. Through Child’s example, philosopher Lydia Moland asks questions as pressing and personal in our time as they were in Child’s: What does it mean to change your life when the moral future of your country is at stake? When confronted by sanctioned evil and systematic injustice, how should a citizen live? Child’s lifetime of bravery, conviction, humility, and determination provides a wealth of spirited guidance for political engagement today.

*Lydia Moland* is professor of philosophy at Colby College. Her scholarship in German philosophy, including *Hegel’s Aesthetics: The Art of Idealism,* has been supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the American Academy in Berlin. Her work on Lydia Maria Child has appeared in the *Paris Review,* the *Boston Globe,* the *Washington Post,* and on National Public Radio.

“A call to arms, an almanac for activists, as well as an ample, honest, and immensely readable book.”—*Wall Street Journal*
Astrotopia
The Dangerous Religion of the Corporate Space Race
Mary-Jane Rubenstein

A revealing look at the parallel mythologies behind the colonization of Earth and space—and a bold vision for a more equitable, responsible future both on and beyond our planet.

As environmental, political, and public health crises multiply on Earth, we are also at the dawn of a new space race in which governments team up with celebrity billionaires to exploit the cosmos for human gain. The best-known of these pioneers are selling different visions of the future: while Elon Musk and SpaceX seek to establish a human presence on Mars, Jeff Bezos and Blue Origin work toward moving millions of earthlings into rotating near-Earth habitats. Despite these distinctions, these two billionaires share a core utopian project: the salvation of humanity through the exploitation of space.

In Astrotopia, philosopher of science and religion Mary-Jane Rubenstein pulls back the curtain on the not-so-new myths these space barons are peddling, like growth without limit, energy without guilt, and salvation in a brand-new world. As Rubenstein reveals, we have already seen the destructive effects of this frontier zealotry in the centuries-long history of European colonialism. Much like the imperial project on Earth, this renewed effort to conquer space is presented as a religious calling: in the face of a coming apocalypse, some very wealthy messiahs are offering an other-worldly escape to a chosen few. But Rubenstein does more than expose the values of capitalist technoscience as the product of bad mythologies. She offers a vision of exploring space without reproducing the atrocities of earthly colonialism, encouraging us to find and even make stories that put cosmic caretaking over profiteering.

Mary-Jane Rubenstein is professor of religion and science in society at Wesleyan University. She is coauthor of Image: Three Inquiries in Imagination and Technology, also published by the University of Chicago Press, and the author of Pantheologies: Gods, Worlds, Monsters; Worlds Without End: The Many Lives of the Multiverse; and Strange Wonder: The Closure of Metaphysics and the Opening of Awe.

“Rubenstein, while expertly dismantling some overblown claims of companies such as SpaceX and Blue Origin, proposes a gentler mode of space exploration that refuses to rehearse the violent history of colonialism on earth.”—Steven Poole, Wall Street Journal
The Last Consolation Vanished

The Testimony of a Sonderkommando in Auschwitz

Zalmen Gradowski

Edited by Arnold I. Davidson and Philippe Mesnard
Translated by Rubye Monet

A unique and haunting first-person Holocaust account by Zalmen Gradowski, a Sonderkommando prisoner killed in Auschwitz.

On October 7, 1944, a group of Jewish prisoners in Auschwitz rebelled against their Nazi murderers. It was a desperate uprising that was defeated by the end of the day. More than four hundred prisoners were killed. The Last Consolation Vanished is the first complete English translation of one prisoner’s powerful account of life and death in Auschwitz and was found buried in the ashes near Crematorium III.

Zalmen Gradowski was in the Sonderkommando (special squad) at Auschwitz, a Jewish prisoner given the unthinkable task of ushering Jewish deportees into the gas chambers, removing their bodies, salvaging any valuables, transporting their corpses to the crematoria, and destroying all evidence of their murders. Sonderkommandos were forcibly recruited by SS soldiers. Despite their impossible situation, many Sonderkommandos chose to resist in two interlaced ways: planning an uprising and testifying. Gradowski did both, by helping to lead a rebellion and by documenting his experiences.

The October 7th rebellion was completely crushed and Gradowski was killed in the process, but his testimony lives on. His extraordinary and moving account, accompanied by a foreword and afterword by Philippe Mesnard and Arnold I. Davidson, is a voice speaking to us from the past on behalf of millions who were silenced. Their story must be shared.

Zalmen Gradowski (1910–44) was a Jewish-Polish prisoner in Auschwitz-Birkenau and a member of the Sonderkommando who was murdered in Auschwitz. Arnold I. Davidson is Distinguished Professor of Humanities at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Philippe Mesnard is professor of comparative literature in the Department of Literature at the Université Clermont Auvergne, France. Rubye Monet is an English teacher and scholar, writer, and translator of Yiddish living in France.
This heartfelt collection is a testament to sociology’s power to heal people and transform societies.

The world is a tough place right now. Climate change, income inequality, racist violence, and the erosion of democracy have exposed the vulnerability of our individual and collective futures. But as the sociologists gathered here by Marika Lindholm and Elizabeth Wood show, no matter how helpless we might feel, it’s vital that we discover new paths toward healing and change. The short, accessible, emotionally and intellectually powerful essays in Between Us offer a transformative new way to think about sociology and its ability to fuel personal and social change. These forty-five essays reflect a diverse range of experiences. Whether taking an adult son with autism grocery shopping or fighting fires in Barcelona, contending with sexism at the beach or facing racism at a fertility clinic, celebrating one’s immigrant heritage or acknowledging one’s KKK ancestors, this book shows students that sociology is deeply rooted in everyday life and can be used to help us process and understand it. A perfect introduction to the discipline and why it matters, Between Us will resonate with students from all backgrounds as they embark on their academic journey.

Marika Lindholm is the founder of Empowering Solo Moms Everywhere, a social platform dedicated to informing, empowering, and honoring women who parent on their own. Elizabeth Anne Wood is professor of sociology and acting dean of instruction at Nassau Community College.
How to Think Impossibly
About Souls, UFOs, Time, Belief, and Everything Else
Jeffrey J. Kripal

A mind-bending invitation to experience the impossible as fundamentally human.

From precognitive dreams and telepathic visions to near-death experiences, UFO encounters, and beyond, so-called impossible phenomena are not supposed to happen. But they do happen—all the time. Jeffrey J. Kripal asserts that the impossible is a function not of reality but of our everchanging assumptions about what is real. How to Think Impossibly invites us to think about these fantastic (yet commonplace) experiences as an essential part of being human, expressive of a deeply shared reality that is neither mental nor material but gives rise to both. Thinking with specific individuals and their extraordinary experiences in vulnerable, open, and often humorous ways, Kripal interweaves humanistic and scientific inquiry to develop an awareness that the fantastic is real, the supernatural is supernatural, and the impossible is possible.

Jeffrey J. Kripal holds the J. Newton Rayzor Chair in Philosophy and Religious Thought at Rice University. He is the author of several books, including, most recently, The Superhumanities: Historical Precedents, Moral Objections, New Realities, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Jacques Derrida explores the ramifications of what we owe to others.

*Hospitality* reproduces a two-year seminar series delivered by Jacques Derrida at the École des hautes études en sciences sociales in Paris between 1995 and 1997. In these lectures, Derrida asks a series of related questions about responsibility and “the foreigner”: How do we welcome or turn away the foreigner? What does the idea of the foreigner reveal about kinship and the state, particularly in relation to friendship, citizenship, migration, asylum, assimilation, and xenophobia? Central to his project is a rigorous distinction between conventional, finite hospitality, with its many conditions, and the aspirational idea of hospitality as something offered unconditionally to the stranger. This volume collects the second year of the seminar, which considers an Islamic problematic of hospitality, the relevance of forgiveness, and the work of Emmanuel Levinas.

*Jacques Derrida* (1930–2004) was director of studies at the École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris, and professor of humanities at the University of California, Irvine. Several of his books have been published in translation by the University of Chicago Press. *Pascale-Anne Brault* is professor of French at DePaul University. *Peggy Kamuf* is professor emerita of French and comparative literature at the University of Southern California.
An Artificial History of Natural Intelligence
Thinking with Machines from Descartes to the Digital Age
David W. Bates

A revolutionary history of human intelligence that argues that humans know themselves by knowing their machines.

We imagine that we are both in control of and controlled by our bodies—autonomous and yet automatic. This entanglement, according to David W. Bates, emerges in the seventeenth century when humans first built and compared themselves with machines. Reading varied thinkers from Descartes to Kant to Turing, Bates reveals how time and time again technological developments offered new ways to imagine how the body’s automaticity worked alongside the mind’s autonomy. Tracing these evolving lines of thought, An Artificial History of Natural Intelligence offers a new theorization of the human as a being that is dependent on technology and produces itself as an artificial automation without a natural, outside origin.

David W. Bates is professor of rhetoric at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the author of three books, including Enlightenment Aberrations: Error and Revolution in France.
The Three Ethologies
A Positive Vision for Rebuilding Human-Animal Relationships
Matthew Calarco

A transformative vision for human-animal relations on personal, social, and environmental levels.

The Three Ethologies offers a fresh, affirmative vision for rebuilding human-animal relations. Venturing beyond the usual scholarly and activist emphasis on restricting harm, Matthew Calarco develops a new philosophy for understanding animal behavior, a practice known as ethology, through three distinct but interrelated lenses: mental ethology, which rebuilds individual subjectivity; social ethology, which rethinks our communal relations; and environmental ethology, which reconfigures our relationship to the land we co-inhabit with our animal kin. Drawing on developments in philosophy, (eco-)feminist theory, critical geography, Indigenous studies, and the environmental humanities, Calarco casts an inspiring vision of how ethological living can help us to reimagine our ideas about goodness, truth, and beauty.

Matthew Calarco is professor of philosophy at California State University, Fullerton. He is the author of three books, including Altermobilities: Reflections on Roadkill between Mobility Studies and Animal Studies.
Something Speaks to Me
Where Criticism Begins
Michel Chaouli

An account of criticism as an urgent response to what moves us.

Criticism begins when we put down a book to tell someone about it. It is what we do when we face a work or event that bowls us over and makes us scramble for a response. As Michel Chaouli argues, criticism involves three moments: Something speaks to me. I must tell you about it. But I don't know how. The heart of criticism, no matter its form, lies in these surges of thoughts and feelings. Criticism arises from the fundamental need to share what overwhelms us.

We tend to associate criticism with scholarship and journalism. But Chaouli is describing not professional criticism but what he calls “poetic criticism”—a staging ground for surprise, dread, delight, comprehension, and incomprehension. Written in the mode of a philosophical essay, Something Speaks to Me draws on a wide range of writers, artists, and thinkers, from Kant and Schlegel to Merleau-Ponty, Bachelard, Barthes, and Cavell. Reflecting on these dimensions of poetic experience, Something Speaks to Me is less concerned with joining academic debates than communicating the urgency of criticism.

Michel Chaouli is professor of German and comparative literature at Indiana University Bloomington, where he also directs the Center for Theoretical Inquiry in the Humanities. His recent publications include Thinking with Kant’s “Critique of Judgment” and the coedited volume Poetic Critique: Encounters with Art and Literature.
The Pandemic Workplace
How We Learned to Be Citizens in the Office
Ilana Gershon

A provocative book arguing that the workplace is where we learn to live democratically.

In The Pandemic Workplace, anthropologist Ilana Gershon turns her attention to the US workplace and how it changed—and changed us—during the pandemic. She argues that the unprecedented organizational challenges of the pandemic forced us to radically reexamine our attitudes to work and think more deeply about how values clash in the workplace. It also led us as workers to exercise our freedom in previously unimaginable ways, as we rethought when and how we allow others to tell us what to do.

Based on over two hundred interviews, Gershon’s book reveals how negotiating these tensions during the pandemic made the workplace into a laboratory for democratic living—the key place where Americans are learning effective political strategies and how to think about the common good. Exploring the explicit and unspoken ways we are governed (and govern others) at work, this accessible book shows how the workplace teaches us to be democratic citizens.

Ilana Gershon is professor of anthropology at Rice University. She is the author of several books, including Down and Out in the New Economy: How People Find (or Don’t Find) Work Today, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Addiction
Becomes Normal
On the Late-Modern American Subject
Jaeyoon Park

Addiction is now seen as an ordinary feature of human nature, an idea that introduces new doubts about the meaning of our desires.

Over the last forty years, a variety of developments in American science, politics, and culture have reimagined addiction in their own ways, but they share an important understanding: Increasingly, addiction is described as normal, the natural result of a body that has been exposed to potent stimuli. This shift in thinking suggests that addiction is a condition latent in all of us, a common response to a society rich in thrills.

In Addiction Becomes Normal, Jaeyoon Park provides a history and critical analysis of the normalization of addiction in late-modern American society. By exploring addiction science, diagnostic manuals, judicial reform, and public health policy, he shows how seeing addiction as normal has flourished in recent decades and is supported throughout cultural life in the United States by the language of wellness, psychotherapy, and more. Building on Michel Foucault’s depiction of the human figure, Park argues that this shift reflects the emergence of a new American subject, one formed by the accretion of experiences. This view of the human subject challenges the idea that our compulsions reflect our characters, wills, or spirits. For if addiction is an extreme but ordinary attachment, and if compulsive consumption resembles healthy behavior, then desire is no longer an expression of the soul so much as the pursuit of a past reward. A perceptive work of recent history and political theory, Addiction Becomes Normal raises new questions about what it means to be human in America today.

Jaeyoon Park teaches political theory at Amherst College.

“In this ingenious and provocative book, Park argues that twenty-first-century Americans increasingly think of themselves as the sites of desires that originate elsewhere—in fitness watches, in ‘wellness’ culture, in Netflix algorithms, and, not least, in psychoactive substances. The result is a thrilling and maddening account of the unexpected but immediately recognizable ways that we are invited to imagine and govern ourselves in a world where ‘addiction has become normal.’”—David Herzberg, University of Buffalo
Fluid Geographies
Water, Science, and Settler Colonialism in New Mexico
K. Maria D. Lane

An unprecedented analysis of the origin story of New Mexico’s modern water management system.

K. Maria D. Lane’s *Fluid Geographies* traces New Mexico’s transition from a community-based to an expert-led system of water management during the pre-statehood era. To understand this major shift, Lane carefully examines the primary conflict of the time, which pitted Indigenous and *Nuevomexicano* communities, with their long-established systems of irrigation management, against Anglo-American settlers, who benefitted from centralized bureaucratic management of water. The newcomers’ system eventually became settled law, but water disputes have continued throughout the district courts of New Mexico’s Rio Grande watershed ever since.

Using a fine-grained analysis of legislative texts and nearly two hundred district court cases, Lane analyzes evolving cultural patterns and attitudes toward water use and management in a pivotal time in New Mexico’s history. Illuminating complex themes for a general audience, *Fluid Geographies* helps readers understand how settler colonialism constructed a racialized understanding of scientific expertise and legitimized the dispossession of nonwhite communities in New Mexico.

K. Maria D. Lane is professor of geography and presidential teaching fellow at the University of New Mexico, where she also serves as interim dean of graduate studies. She is the author of *Geographies of Mars*, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
El Lissitzky on Paper
Print Culture, Architecture, Politics, 1919–1933
Samuel Johnson

An examination of the importance of paper in the work of Soviet artist, designer, and architect El Lissitzky.

Russian artist El Lissitzky’s work spans painting, photography, theatrical and exhibition design, architecture, graphic design, typography, and literature. He was active in the Jewish cultural renaissance, formed an artists’ collective with Kazimir Malevich, was a key figure in the dissemination of early Soviet art in Western Europe, and designed propaganda for the Stalin regime. With such a varied history and body of work, scholars have often struggled to identify the core principles that tied his diverse oeuvre together.

In *El Lissitzky on Paper*, Samuel Johnson argues that Lissitzky’s commitment to creating works on paper is a constant that unites his endeavors. Paper played a key role in the utopian projects that informed Lissitzky’s work, and the artist held a commitment to print as the premier medium of immediate public exchange. Johnson analyzes and contextualizes this idea against the USSR’s strict management of this essential resource and the growth of new media communications, including the telephone, telegraph, and film.

With this book, Johnson presents a significant contribution to scholarship on this major artist, revealing new connections between Lissitzky’s work in architecture and visual art and bringing to light sources from largely unstudied Russian archives.

Samuel Johnson is the Carole & Alvin I. Schragis Faculty Fellow and assistant professor of art history at Syracuse University.
Return from the World
Economic Growth and Reverse Migration in Brazil
Gregory Duff Morton

An anthropologist’s investigation of why some Brazilians choose to leave behind a booming economy and return to their villages.

In *Return from the World*, anthropologist Gregory Duff Morton traces the migrations of Brazilian workers who leave a thriving labor market and return to their home villages to become peasant farmers. Morton seeks to understand what it means to turn one’s back deliberately on the promise of economic growth.

Giving up their positions in factories, at construction sites, and as domestic workers, these migrants travel thousands of miles back to villages without running water or dependable power. There, many take up subsistence farming. Some become activists with the MST, Brazil’s militant movement of landless peasants. Bringing their stories vividly to life, Morton dives into the dreams and disputes at play in finding freedom in the shared rejection of growth.

Gregory Duff Morton is assistant professor at City College of New York, where he teaches anthropology and Latin American studies. This is his first book.
The Politics of Utopia
A New History of John Law’s System, 1695–1795
Arnaud Orain

Translated by Andrew Brown

A fascinating retelling of the first banking and financial collapse in eighteenth-century France.

The Scottish economist John Law has been described as the architect of modern central banking. His “System,” established in Regency France between 1716 and 1720, saw the founding of a bank issuing paper money and the establishment of State commercial and colonial enterprises aimed at consolidating public debt. What at first seemed like financial wizardry, however, resulted in rampant speculation and economic collapse. In The Politics of Utopia, Arnaud Orain offers a provocative rereading of this well-known episode.

Starting in the seventeenth century, he reconstructs the figures and ideas, long predating Law, that anticipated and laid the groundwork for the System, which, he argues, is best understood as a failed social utopia aimed at the total transformation of society. Overturning familiar narratives of this seismic event, this book rewrites a stunning chapter in economic history by dealing with cultural, colonial, religious, and political dimensions of the (in)famous System till the French Revolution, revealing new lessons for today’s fraught financial landscape.

Arnaud Orain is an economist and historian who is directeur d’études at the Centre des Recherches Historiques at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris. Andrew Brown is a prolific translator from French to English. He has translated works by Pierre Bourdieu, Tzvetan Todorov, and Jean-François Lyotard, among many others.
Enlightenment Biopolitics

A History of Race, Eugenics, and the Making of Citizens

William Max Nelson

A wide-ranging history tracing the birth of biopolitics in Enlightenment thought and its aftermath.

In Enlightenment Biopolitics, historian William Max Nelson pursues the ambitious task of tracing the context in which biopolitical thought emerged and circulated. He locates that context in the Enlightenment when emancipatory ideals sat alongside the horrors of colonialism, slavery, and race-based discrimination. In fact, these did not just coexist, Nelson argues; they were actually mutually constitutive of Enlightenment ideals.

In this book, Nelson focuses on Enlightenment-era visions of eugenics (including proposals to establish programs of selective breeding), forms of penal slavery, and spurious biological arguments about the supposed inferiority of particular groups. The Enlightenment, he shows, was rife with efforts to shape, harness, and “organize” the minds and especially the bodies of subjects and citizens. In his reading of the birth of biopolitics and its transformations, Nelson examines the shocking conceptual and practical connections between inclusion and exclusion, equality and inequality, rights and race, and the supposed “improvement of the human species” and practices of dehumanization.

William Max Nelson is associate professor of history at the University of Toronto. He is the author of The Time of Enlightenment: Constructing the Future in France, 1750 to Year One and a coeditor of The French Revolution in Global Perspective.
Whoosh Goes the Market

Algorithms, Automation, and Alienation

Daniel Scott Souleles

A vivid, fast-paced inside look at financial markets, the people who work on them, and how technology is changing their world (and ours).

Markets are messy, and no one knows this better than traders who work tirelessly to predict what they will do next. In *Whoosh Goes the Market*, Daniel Scott Souleles takes us into the day-to-day experiences of a team at a large trading firm, revealing what it’s actually like to make and lose money on contemporary capital markets.

The team Souleles shadows have mostly moved out of the pits and now work with automated, glitch-prone computer systems. They remember the days of trading manually, and they are suspicious of algorithmically driven machine-learning systems. Openly musing about their own potential extinction, they spend their time expressing fear and frustration in profanity-laced language. With Souleles as our guide, we learn about everything from betting strategies to inflated valuations, trading swings, and market manipulation. This crash course in contemporary finance vividly reveals the existential anxiety at the evolving frontlines of American capitalism.

Daniel Scott Souleles is an anthropologist who is associate professor in the Department of Business Humanities and Law at the Copenhagen Business School. He is the author of *Songs of Profit, Songs of Loss: Private Equity, Wealth, and Inequality* and a coeditor of *People before Markets: An Alternative Casebook*. 
Home Signs
An Ethnography of Life beyond and beside Language
Joshua O. Reno

An intimate account of an anthropologist’s relationship with his non-verbal son and how it has shaped and transformed his understanding of closeness and communication.

Home Signs grew out of anthropologist Joshua Reno’s experience of caring for and trying to communicate with his teenage son, Charlie, who cannot speak. In order to manage interactions with others, Charlie uses what are known as “home signs”: gestures developed to meet his need for expression, ranging from the wiggle of a finger to a subtle sideways glance. Though he is non-verbal, he is far from silent; in fact, he is in constant communication with others.

In this intimate reflection on language, disability, and togetherness, the author invites us into his and Charlie’s shared world. Combining portraits of their family life and interviews with other caregivers, Reno upends several assumptions, especially the idea that people who seem to not be able to speak for themselves need others to speak on their behalf. With its broad exploration of non-verbal communication in both human and non-human contexts, Home Signs challenges us to think harder about what it means to lead a “normal” life and to connect with another person.

Joshua O. Reno is professor and graduate director of anthropology at Binghamton University. He is the author of several books, including Military Waste: The Unexpected Consequences of Permanent War Readiness and, with Britt Halvorson, Imagining the Heartland: White Supremacy and the American Midwest.
Futures after Progress
Hope and Doubt in Late Industrial Baltimore
Chloe Ahmann

A powerful ethnographic portrait of South Baltimore, a place haunted by toxic pasts in its pursuit of better futures.

Baltimore is a city where promises of progress have revealed themselves to carry lethal costs. In Futures after Progress, anthropologist Chloe Ahmann explores the rise and fall of industrial lifeways on Baltimore’s far southern edge and the uncertainties that linger in their wake. Focusing on the community of Curtis Bay—one of the most polluted places in the country—she also follows local efforts to realize a good future after industry, and the rifts competing visions opened between neighbors.

Examining tensions between White and Black residents, environmental activists and industrial enthusiasts, local elders and younger generations, Ahmann shows how this community has become a battleground where some lives are written off as the cost of doing business. But this is a story of hope, too. Rigorous and moving, Futures after Progress offers insight into the deep roots of our ecological predicament, giving us a glimpse into what lies ahead for a country beset by dreams deferred and a planet on the precipice of change.

Chloe Ahmann is assistant professor of anthropology at Cornell University. This is her first book.
Fluxus Administration

George Maciunas and the Art of Paperwork

Colby Chamberlain

A new, innovative approach to the work of Fluxus artist George Maciunas.

Though widely recognized as the founder of the legendary Fluxus movement, George Maciunas has long been a puzzling figure in the history of twentieth-century art. Many have questioned whether he should be considered an artist at all. In Fluxus Administration, critic and art historian Colby Chamberlain reveals the consistent artistic practice hidden behind Maciunas’s varied work in architecture, music, performance, publication, graphic design, film, and real estate: an attempt to create models for community through structures of bureaucracy.

In this deeply researched study, Chamberlain traces how Maciunas’s art insinuated itself into settings as unlikely as the routes of the postal service, the fine print of copyright law, the zoning strictures of urban planning, and the corridors of hospitals. These shifting frames of reference expand our understanding of where an artistic practice can operate and what forms it might assume. In particular, Chamberlain draws on media theory to highlight Maciunas’s ingeniously crafted paperwork, much of which is beautifully reproduced here for the first time.

Colby Chamberlain is assistant professor of art history at the Cleveland Institute of Art. As an art critic, he is a frequent contributor to Artforum, among other venues. This is his first book.
The Enlightenment and Original Sin
Matthew Kadane

An eloquent microhistory that argues for the centrality of the doctrine of original sin to the Enlightenment.

What was the Enlightenment? This question has been endlessly debated. In The Enlightenment and Original Sin, historian Matthew Kadane advances the bold claim that the Enlightenment is best defined through what it set out to accomplish, which was nothing short of rethinking the meaning of human nature.

Kadane argues that this project centered around the doctrine of original sin and, ultimately, its rejection, signaling the radical notion that an inherently flawed nature can be overcome by human means. Kadane explores these ambitious, wide-ranging themes through the story of the largely unknown Pentecost Barker, an eighteenth-century “purser” and wine merchant. Examining Barker’s diary and correspondence with a Unitarian minister, Kadane tracks the transformation of Barker’s consciousness from a Puritan to an Enlightenment outlook, revealing in one man’s transformation large-scale shifts in self-understanding whose philosophical reverberations would (and have continued to) shape debates on human nature for centuries.

America’s New Racial Battle Lines

Protect versus Repair

Rogers M. Smith and Desmond King

A sobering portrait of the United States’ divided racial politics.

For nearly two decades, Rogers M. Smith and Desmond King have charted the shifting racial policy alliances that have shaped American politics across different eras. In America’s New Racial Battle Lines, they show that US racial policy debates are undergoing fundamental change. Disputes over color-blind versus race-conscious policies have given way to new lines of conflict. Today’s conservatives promise to protect traditionalist, predominantly white, Christian Americans against what they call the “radical” Left. Meanwhile, today’s progressives seek not just to integrate American institutions but to more fully transform and “repair” pervasive systemic racism.

Drawing on interviews with activists, surveys, social network analyses, and comprehensive reviews of federal, state, and local policies and advocacy groups, Smith and King map the memberships and goals of two rival racial policy alliances and delineate the contrasting stories each side tells. They also show that these increasingly polarized racial policy alliances are substantially funded on both the Left and Right.

Placing today’s conflicts in theoretical and historical perspectives, Smith and King analyze where these intensifying clashes may take the nation in the years ahead. They highlight the great potential for mounting violence, as well as the remaining possibilities for finding common ground.

Rogers M. Smith is professor emeritus of political science at the University of Pennsylvania. Desmond King is professor of American government at Nuffield College, Oxford University.
Partisan Hostility and American Democracy

James N. Druckman, Samara Klar, Yanna Krupnikov, Matthew Levendusky, and John Barry Ryan

An unflinching examination of the effects and boundaries of partisan animosity.

For generations, experts argued that American politics needed cohesive parties to function effectively. Now many fear that strong partisan views, particularly hostility to the opposing party, are damaging democracy. Is partisanship as dangerous as we fear it is?

To provide an answer, this book offers a nuanced evaluation of when and how partisan animosity matters in today’s highly charged, dynamic political environment, drawing on panel data from some of the most tumultuous years in recent American history, 2019 through 2021. The authors show that partisanship powerfully shapes political behaviors, but its effects are conditional, not constant. Instead, it is most powerful when politicians send clear signals and when an issue is unlikely to bring direct personal consequences. In the absence of these conditions, other factors often dominate decision-making.

The authors argue that while partisan hostility has degraded US politics—for example, politicizing previously non-political issues and undermining compromise—it is not in itself an existential threat. As their research shows, the future of American democracy depends on how politicians, more than ordinary voters, behave.

James N. Druckman is professor of political science at the University of Rochester. Samara Klar is professor of political science at the University of Arizona. Yanna Krupnikov is professor of communication and media at the University of Michigan. Matthew Levendusky is professor of political science at the University of Pennsylvania. John Barry Ryan is associate professor in the Department of Communication and Media and the Department of Political Science at the University of Michigan.
The Political Development of American Debt Relief
Emily Zackin and Chloe N. Thurston

A political history of the rise and fall of American debt relief.

Americans have a long history with debt. They also have a long history of mobilizing for debt relief. Throughout the nineteenth century, indebted citizens demanded government protection from their financial burdens, challenging readings of the Constitution that exalted property rights at the expense of the vulnerable. Their appeals shaped the country’s periodic experiments with state debt relief and federal bankruptcy law, constituting a preindustrial safety net. Yet, the twentieth century saw the erosion of debtor politics and the eventual retrenchment of bankruptcy protections.

The Political Development of American Debt Relief traces how geographic, sectoral, and racial politics shaped debtor activism over time, enhancing our understanding of state-building, constitutionalism, and social policy.

Emily Zackin is associate professor of political science at Johns Hopkins University. Chloe Thurston is associate professor of political science at Northwestern University.
Designed to Fail
Why Racial Equity in School Funding Is So Hard to Achieve
Roseann Liu

A provocative examination of how systemic racism in education funding is sustained.

For people who care about urban school districts like Philadelphia’s, addressing the challenges that these schools face often boils down to the need for more money. But why are urban districts that serve Black and Brown students still so perennially underfunded compared to majority-white ones? Why is racial equity in school funding so hard to achieve?

In Designed to Fail, Roseann Liu provides an inside look at the Pennsylvania state legislature and campaigns for fair funding to show how those responsible for the distribution of school funding work to maintain the privileges of majority-white school districts. Liu analyzes how colorblind policies, political structures, and the maintenance of the status quo by people in power perpetuate wide and deepening racial disparities in education funding. Taking a lesson from community organizers fighting for a racially equitable school funding system, Liu’s work is a bold call to address structural racism at the root and organize from a place of abundant justice.

Roseann Liu is assistant professor in the College of Education Studies at Wesleyan University and visiting assistant professor in Asian American studies at Swarthmore College. Prior to academia, she was a policy and program evaluation researcher and a public school teacher.
A Good Reputation
How Residents Fight for an American Barrio
Elizabeth Korver-Glenn and Sarah Mayorga

A historic Houston barrio provides an illuminating lens on neighborhood reputation.

Neighborhoods have the power to form significant parts of our worlds and identities. A neighborhood’s reputation, however, doesn’t always match up to how residents see themselves or wish to be seen. The distance between residents’ desires and their environment can profoundly shape neighborhood life.

In *A Good Reputation*, sociologists Elizabeth Korver-Glenn and Sarah Mayorga delve into the development and transformation of the reputation of Northside, a predominantly Latinx barrio in Houston. Drawing on two years of ethnographic research and in-depth interviews with residents, developers, and other neighborhood stakeholders, the authors show that people’s perceptions of their neighborhoods are essential to understanding urban inequality and poverty. Korver-Glenn and Mayorga’s empirically detailed account of disputes over neighborhood reputation helps readers understand the complexity of high-poverty urban neighborhoods, demonstrating that gentrification is a more complicated and irregular process than existing accounts of urban inequality would suggest. Offering insightful theoretical analysis and compelling narrative threads from understudied communities, *A Good Reputation* will yield insights for scholars of race and ethnicity, urban planning, and beyond.

Elizabeth Korver-Glenn is assistant professor of sociology at Washington University in St. Louis. She is the author of *Race Brokers: Housing Markets and Segregation in 21st Century Urban America*. Sarah Mayorga is associate professor of sociology at Brandeis University in Waltham, MA. She is the author of *Urban Specters: The Everyday Harms of Racial Capitalism and Behind the White Picket Fence: Power and Privilege in a Multiethnic Neighborhood*.
Insurgent Communities
How Protests Create a Filipino Diaspora
Sharon M. Quinsaat

Sociologist Sharon M. Quinsaat sheds new light on the formation of diasporic connections through transnational protests.

When people migrate and settle in other countries, do they automatically form a diaspora? In *Insurgent Communities*, Sharon M. Quinsaat explains the dynamic process through which a diaspora is strategically constructed. Quinsaat looks to Filipinos in the United States and the Netherlands—examining their resistance against the dictatorship of Ferdinand Marcos, their mobilization for migrants’ rights, and the construction of a collective memory of the Marcos regime—to argue that diasporas emerge through political activism. Social movements provide an essential space for addressing migrants’ diverse experiences and relationships with their homeland and its history. A significant contribution to the interdisciplinary field of migration and social movements studies, *Insurgent Communities* illuminates how people develop collective identities in times of social upheaval.

*Sharon M. Quinsaat* is a scholar of social movements and migration and an associate professor of sociology at Grinnell College. She has published her research in *Mobilization, Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, Ethnic and Racial Studies, Mass Communication and Society, Sociology Compass*, and *Asian Survey*. 
Working Women in Jordan
Education, Migration, and Aspiration
Fida J. Adely

A surprising look at the meaningful social changes in Jordan as lived and navigated by educated women.

Jordan has witnessed tremendous societal transformation in its relatively short history. Today it has one of the most highly educated populations in the region, and women have outnumbered and outperformed their male counterparts for more than a decade. Yet, despite their education and professional status, many women still struggle to build a secure future and a life befitting their aspirations.

In *Working Women in Jordan*, anthropologist Fida J. Adely turns to college-educated women in Jordan who migrate from rural provinces to Amman for employment opportunities. Building on twelve years of ethnographic research and extensive interviews with dozens of women, as well as some of their family members, Adely analyzes the effects of developments such as expanded educational opportunities, urbanization, privatization, and the restructuring of the labor market on women’s life trajectories, gender roles, the institution of marriage, and kinship relations. Through these rich narrative accounts and the analysis of broader socioeconomic shifts, Adely explains how educational structures can act as both facilitators of and obstacles to workforce entry—along with cascading consequences for family and social life. Deeply thorough and compelling, *Working Women in Jordan* asks readers to think more critically about what counts as development, and for whom.

*Fida J. Adely* is the Hala and Clovis Maksoud Chair in Arab Studies and associate professor at the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University. She is the author of *Gendered Paradoxes: Educating Jordanian Women in Nation, Faith, and Progress*, published by the University of Chicago Press.
From Skepticism to Competence

How American Psychiatrists Learn Psychotherapy

Mariana Craciun

An examination of how novice psychiatrists come to understand the workings of the mind—and the nature of medical expertise—as they are trained in psychotherapy.

While many medical professionals can physically examine the body to identify and understand its troubles—a cardiologist can take a scan of the heart, an endocrinologist can measure hormone levels, an oncologist can locate a tumor—psychiatrists have a much harder time unlocking the inner workings of the brain or its metaphysical counterpart, the mind.

In From Skepticism to Competence, sociologist Mariana Craciun delves into the radical uncertainty of psychiatric work by following medical residents in the field as they learn about psychotherapeutic methods. Most are skeptical at the start. While they are well equipped to treat brain diseases through prescription drugs, they must set their expectations aside and learn how to navigate their patients’ minds. Their instructors, experienced psychotherapists, help the budding psychiatrists navigate this new professional terrain by revealing the inner workings of talk and behavioral interventions and stressing their utility in a world dominated by pharmaceutical treatments. In the process, the residents examine their own doctoring assumptions and develop new competencies in psychotherapy. Exploring the world of contemporary psychiatric training, Craciun illuminates novice physicians’ struggles to understand the nature and meaning of mental illness and, with it, their own growing medical expertise.

Mariana Craciun is assistant professor of sociology at Tulane University.
Structuring Inequality
How Schooling, Housing, and Tax Policies Shaped Metropolitan Development and Education
Tracy L. Steffes

How inequality was forged, fought over, and forgotten through public policy in metropolitan Chicago.

As in many American metropolitan areas, inequality in Chicagoland is visible in its neighborhoods. These inequalities are not inevitable, however. They have been constructed and deepened by public policies around housing, schooling, taxation, and local governance, including hidden state government policies.

In Structuring Inequality, historian Tracy L. Steffes shows how metropolitan inequality in Chicagoland was structured, contested, and naturalized over time even as reformers tried to change it through school desegregation, affordable housing, and property tax reform. While these efforts had modest successes in the city and the suburbs, reformers faced significant resistance and counter-mobilization from affluent suburbanites, real estate developers, and other defenders of the status quo who defended inequality and reshaped the policy conversation about it. Grounded in comprehensive archival research and policy analysis, Structuring Inequality examines the history of Chicagoland’s established systems of inequality and provides perspective on the inequality we live with today.

Tracy L. Steffes is associate professor of education and history at Brown University. She is the author of School, Society, and State: A New Education to Govern Modern America, 1890–1940.
Interspecies Communication
Sound and Music beyond Humanity
Gavin Steingo

A surprising study reveals a plethora of attempts to communicate with non-humans in the modern era.

In *Interspecies Communication*, music scholar Gavin Steingo examines significant cases of attempted communication beyond the human—cases in which the dualistic relationship of human to non-human is dramatically challenged. From singing whales to Sun Ra to searching for alien life, Steingo charts the many ways we have attempted to think about, and indeed to reach, beings that are very unlike ourselves.

Steingo focuses on the second half of the twentieth century, when scientists developed new ways of listening to oceans and cosmic space—two realms previously inaccessible to the senses and to empirical investigation. As quintessential frontiers of the postwar period, the outer space of the cosmos and the inner space of oceans were conceptualized as parallel realities, laid bare by newly technologized “ears.” Deeply engaging, *Interspecies Communication* explores our attempts to cross the border between the human and non-human, to connect with non-humans in the depths of the oceans, the far reaches of the universe, or right under our own noses.

Gavin Steingo is professor of music at Princeton University. He is the author of *Kwaito’s Promise: Music and the Aesthetics of Freedom in South Africa*, published by the University of Chicago Press.
The Path of Desire
Living Tantra in Northeast India
Hugh B. Urban

A provocative ethnography of contemporary Tantra as a dynamic living tradition.

Tantra, one of the most important religious currents in South Asia, is often misrepresented as little more than ritualized sex. In this ethnography, Hugh B. Urban reveals a dynamic living tradition behind the sensationalist stories. Urban shows that Tantric desire goes beyond the erotic, encompassing such quotidian experiences as childbearing or healing. He traces these holistic desires through a series of unique practices: institutional Tantra centered on gurus and esoteric rituals; public Tantra marked by performance and festival; folk Tantra focused on magic and personal well-being; and popular Tantra imagined in fiction, film, and digital media. The result is a groundbreaking new description of Hindu Tantra that challenges us to approach religion as something always entwined with politics and culture, thoroughly entangled with ordinary needs and desires.

Hugh B. Urban is College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor at the Ohio State University. He is the author of numerous book, including Secrecy: Silence, Power, and Religion, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Aesthetics in Grief and Mourning
Philosophical Reflections on Coping with Loss
Kathleen Marie Higgins

A philosophical exploration of aesthetic experience during bereavement.

In Aesthetics of Grief and Mourning, philosopher Kathleen Marie Higgins reflects on the ways aesthetics aids people experiencing loss. Some practices related to bereavement, such as funerals, are scripted, but many others are recursive, improvisational, mundane—telling stories, listening to music, and reflecting on art or literature. Higgins shows how valuing these grounding, aesthetic practices can ease the disorienting effects of loss, shedding new light on the importance of aesthetics for personal and communal flourishing.

Kathleen Marie Higgins is professor of philosophy at the University of Texas at Austin. She is the author of three books including The Music between Us: Is Music a Universal Language?, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Plant Collectors in Angola
Botany, Exploration, and History in South-Tropical Africa
Estrela Figueiredo and Gideon F. Smith

An authoritative treatise on the history of botanical studies and exploration in Angola.

For any region, cataloging, interpreting, and understanding the history of botanical exploration, plant collecting, and the preserved specimens that were amassed as a result are critically important for research and conservation. In this book, published in cooperation with the International Association for Plant Taxonomy, Estrela Figueiredo and Gideon F. Smith, both botanists with expertise in the taxonomy of African plants, provide the first comprehensive, contextualized account of plant collecting in Angola, a large country in south-tropical Africa. An essential book for anyone concerned with the biodiversity and history of Africa, this authoritative work offers insights into the lives, times, and endeavors of 358 collectors. In addition, the authors present analyses of the records that accompanied the collectors’ preserved specimens. Illustrated in color throughout, the result fills a serious void in the current knowledge of the botanical and exploration history of Africa.

Estrela Figueiredo was a tenured scientist at the Instituto de Investigação Científica Tropical, Lisboa, Portugal until 2007, after which she assumed associate positions at the South African National Biodiversity Institute and the University of Pretoria. She is currently attached to Nelson Mandela University in Gqeberha. As a plant systematist, she has focused virtually her entire career on the flora of Africa, including that of Angola. Gideon F. Smith has held several senior management positions at the South African National Biodiversity Institute, as well as the John Acocks Chair in Botany at the University of Pretoria. He is at present attached to the Nelson Mandela University in Gqeberha and is South Africa’s most prolific author on Old and New World succulents. Among their many books, Figueiredo and Smith are coauthors of Plants of Angola / Plantas de Angola and Common Names of Angolan Plants.
How Primates Eat
A Synthesis of Nutritional Ecology across a Mammal Order
Edited by Joanna E. Lambert, Margaret A. H. Bryer, and Jessica M. Rothman

Foreword by Tim Clutton-Brock
Afterword by Alison Richard

Exploring everything from nutrients to food acquisition and research methods, a comprehensive synthesis of the study of food and feeding in nonhuman primates.

What do we mean when we say that a diet is nutritious? Why is it that some animals can get all the energy they need from eating leaves while others would perish on such a diet? Why don’t mountain gorillas eat fruit all day like chimpanzees do? Answers to these questions about food and feeding are among the many tasty morsels that emerge from this authoritative book. Informed by the latest scientific tools and millions of hours of field and laboratory work on species across the primate order and around the globe, this volume is an exhaustive synthesis of our understanding of what, why, and how primates eat what they eat. State-of-the-art information presented at physiological, behavioral, ecological, and evolutionary scales will serve as a road map for graduate students, researchers, and practitioners as they work toward a holistic understanding of life as a primate and the urgent conservation consequences of diet and food availability in a changing world.

Joanna E. Lambert is an evolutionary biologist and professor of animal ecology at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where she directs the Wildlife and Humans Lab. Margaret A. H. Bryer is assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Jessica M. Rothman is professor of anthropology at Hunter College, where she leads the Wildlife Ecology and Nutrition Project and Wildlife Nutritional Ecology Lab.
The Musician as Philosopher


Michael Gallope

An insightful look at how avant-garde musicians of the postwar period in New York explored the philosophical dimensions of music’s ineffability.

The Musician as Philosopher explores the philosophical thought of musicians of the postwar New York avant-garde: David Tudor, Ornette Coleman, the Velvet Underground, Alice Coltrane, Patti Smith, and Richard Hell. It contends that these musicians—all of whom are understudied, and none of whom are traditionally taken to be composers—not only challenged the rules by which music is written and practiced but also confounded and reconfigured gendered and racialized expectations for what critics took to be legitimate forms of musical sound. From a broad historical perspective, their arresting music electrified a widely recognized social process of the 1960s: a simultaneous affirmation and crisis of the modern self.

Michael Gallope is associate professor of cultural studies and comparative literature at the University of Minnesota. He is the author of Deep Refrains: Music, Philosophy, and the Ineffable, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Master Plans and Minor Acts
Repairing the City in Post-Genocide Rwanda
Shakirah E. Hudani

An examination of planning, place, and the politics of repair in post-genocide Rwanda.

Master Plans and Minor Acts examines a “material politics of repair” in post-genocide Rwanda, where in a country saturated with deep historical memory, spatial master-planning aims to drastically redesign urban spaces. How is the postconflict city reconstituted through the work of such planning, and with what effects for material repair and social conciliation?

Through extended ethnographic and qualitative research in Rwanda in the decades after the genocide of 1994, this book questions how repair after conflict is realized amid large-scale urban transformation. Bridging African studies, urban studies, and human geography in its scope, this work ties Rwanda’s transformation to contexts of urban change in other postconflict spaces, bringing to the fore critical questions about the ethics of planning in such complex geographies.

Shakirah E. Hudani is assistant professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
The Strength of Our Commitments
National Human Rights Institutions in Europe and Beyond
Corina Lacatus

A deep dive into the mechanics of national human rights institutions and the forces that make or break their success.

In the years since World War II, the endeavor to promote human rights has gained momentum and become increasingly important within international relations. Yet these efforts often run into serious problems of enforcement.

Many countries formed national human rights institutions (NHRIs) with independent mandates to support and monitor government compliance with international human rights law. Be they commissions, ombudsmen, or tribunals, these institutions vary in their power and impact. For this book, Corina Lacatus surveyed NHRIs in Europe and around the world to determine their effectiveness and explain why some succeed while others fail.

The Strength of Our Commitments explores the relationship between the domestic and international support an institution receives and its ability to secure resources and credibility, and to tangibly improve human rights conditions. Lacatus shows that NHRIs can be models of resilience, even in the face of opposition from political elites. Although the impact of NHRIs on human rights is difficult to measure, The Strength of Our Commitments shows how their strength comes from clearly defined formal powers, strong institutional leadership, and independence from political interference.

Corina Lacatus is associate professor of global governance at Queen Mary University of London. She is the author of The (In)visibility Complex.
Nietzsche's Legacy

Ecce Homo and The Antichrist, Two Books on Nature and Politics

Heinrich Meier

Translated by Justin Gottschalk

A reappraisal of Ecce Homo and The Antichrist within Nietzsche's oeuvre.

Nietzsche's Legacy takes on the most challenging and misunderstood works in Nietzsche's oeuvre to illuminate his view of what a philosopher is and what constitutes a philosophic life. Interpreting Ecce Homo and The Antichrist as twin books meant to replace the abandoned Will to Power project, Heinrich Meier recovers them from the stigma of Nietzsche's late mental collapse, showing that these works are, above all, a lucid self-assessment. The carefully written pair contains both the highest affirmation—the Yes of the “revaluation of all values”—and the most resolute negation—the No to Christianity. How the Yes and the No go together, how the relation between nature and politics is to be determined, how Nietzsche’s intention is governing the political-philosophical double-face: this is the subject of Nietzsche's Legacy, which opens up a new understanding of Nietzsche's philosophy as a whole.

Heinrich Meier is director emeritus of the Carl Friedrich von Siemens Foundation, professor of philosophy at the University of Munich, and permanent visiting professor in the John U. Nef Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago. Justin Gottschalk is the translator of Heinrich Meier’s previous book What Is Nietzsche’s Zarathustra? He lives outside Washington, DC.
John Donne’s Physics
Elizabeth D. Harvey and Timothy M. Harrison

A reimagining of Devotions upon Emergent Occasions as an original treatment of human life shaped by innovations in seventeenth-century science and medicine.

In 1624, poet and preacher John Donne published Devotions upon Emergent Occasions, a book that recorded his near-death experience during a deadly epidemic in London. Four hundred years later, in the aftermath of our own pandemic, Harvey and Harrison show how Devotions crystalizes the power, beauty, and enduring strangeness of Donne’s thinking. Arguing that Donne saw human life in light of emergent ideas in the study of nature (physics) and the study of the body (physick), John Donne’s Physics reveals Devotions as a culminating achievement, a radically new literary form that uses poetic techniques to depict Donne’s encounter with death in a world transformed by new discoveries and knowledge systems.

Elizabeth D. Harvey is professor emeritus of English at the University of Toronto, a literary critic, and a psychoanalyst. She is the author or editor of several books, most recently Luce Irigaray and Premodern Culture: Thresholds of History. Timothy M. Harrison is associate professor in the Department of English Language and Literature and the John U. Nef Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago. He is the author of Coming To: Consciousness and Natality in Early Modern England, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
The Librarian’s Atlas

The Shape of Knowledge in Early Modern Spain

Seth Kimmel

A history of early modern libraries and the imperial desire for total knowledge.

Medieval scholars imagined the library as a microcosm of the world, but as novel early modern ways of managing information facilitated empire in both the New and Old Worlds, the world became a projection of the library. In *The Librarian’s Atlas*, Seth Kimmel offers a sweeping material history of how the desire to catalog books coincided in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries with the aspiration to control territory. Through a careful study of library culture in Spain and Morocco—close readings of catalogs, marginalia, indexes, commentaries, and maps—Kimmel reveals how a book-lover’s dream of a comprehensive and well-organized library shaped an expanded sense of the world itself.

Seth Kimmel is associate professor of Latin American and Iberian cultures at Columbia University. He is the author of *Parables of Coercion: Conversion and Knowledge at the End of Islamic Spain*, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Sovereign Fictions
Poetics and Politics in the Age of Russian Realism
Ilya Kliger

An exploration of Russian realist fiction reveals a preoccupation with the absolutist state.

The nineteenth-century novel is generally assumed to owe its basic social imaginaries to the ideologies, institutions, and practices associated with modern civil society. In Sovereign Fictions, Ilya Kliger asks what happens to the novel when its fundamental socio-historical orientation is, as in the case of Russian realism, toward the state. Kliger explores Russian realism’s distinctive construals of sociality through a broad range of texts from the 1830s to the 1870s, including major works by Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, Gogol, Pushkin, Lermontov, Goncharov, and Turgenev, and several lesser-known but influential books of the period, including Alexander Druzhinin’s Polinka Saks (1847), Aleksei Pisemsky’s One Thousand Souls (1858), and Vasily Sleptsov’s Hard Times (1865). Challenging much current scholarly consensus about the social dynamics of nineteenth-century realist fiction, Sovereign Fictions offers an important intervention in socially inflected theories of the novel and in current thinking on representations of power and historical poetics.

Ilya Kliger is associate professor of Russian and Slavic studies at New York University, where he is also director of undergraduate studies in the Department of Russian and Slavic Studies. Kliger is the author of The Narrative Shape of Truth: Veridiction in Modern European Literature and the coeditor of Persistent Forms: Practicing Historical Poetics.
Shakespeare’s Once and Future Child
Speculations on Sovereignty
Joseph Campana

A study of Shakespeare’s child figures in relation to their own political moment, as well as our own.

Politicians are fond of saying that “children are the future.” How did the child become a figure for our political hopes? Joseph Campana’s book locates the source of this idea in transformations of childhood and political sovereignty during the age of Shakespeare, changes spectacularly dramatized by Shakespeare himself. Shakespeare’s works feature far more child figures—and more politically entangled children—than other literary or theatrical works of the era. Campana delves into this rich corpus to show how children and childhood expose assumptions about the shape of an ideal polity, the nature of citizenship, the growing importance of population and demographics, and the question of what is or is not human. As our ability to imagine viable futures on our planet feels ever more limited, and as children take up legal proceedings to sue on behalf of the future, it behooves us to understand the way past child figures haunt our conversations about intergenerational justice. Shakespeare offers critical precedents for questions we still struggle to answer.

Joseph Campana is the William Shakespeare Professor of English and director of the Center for Environmental Studies at Rice University. He is author of The Pain of Reformation: Spenser, Vulnerability, and the Ethics of Masculinity, the coeditor of Renaissance Posthumanism, and was an editor of the academic journal Studies in English Literature, 1500–1900. He has also published three collections of poetry, The Book of Life, Natural Selections, and The Book of Faces.
Odd Affinities
Virginia Woolf’s Shadow Genealogies
Elizabeth Abel

A new reading of Virginia Woolf in the context of “long modernism.”

For decades, Virginia Woolf’s work has been viewed primarily within a female literary tradition. Elizabeth Abel dislodges Woolf from her iconic place within this tradition to uncover her shadowy presence in other literary genealogies. Abel elicits unexpected echoes of Woolf in four major writers from diverse cultural contexts: Nella Larsen, James Baldwin, Roland Barthes, and W. G. Sebald. By mapping the wayward paths of what Woolf called “odd affinities” that traverse the boundaries of gender, race, and nationality, Abel offers a new account of the arc of Woolf’s career and the transnational modernist genealogy constituted by her elusive and shifting presence. Odd Affinities will appeal to students and scholars working in New Modernist studies, comparative literature, gender and sexuality studies, and African American studies.

Elizabeth Abel is the John F. Hotchkis Professor of English at the University of California, Berkeley. She is the author of Virginia Woolf and the Fictions of Psychoanalysis and Signs of the Times: The Visual Politics of Jim Crow and the editor or coeditor of four collections, most recently, Female Subjects in Black and White: Race, Psychoanalysis, Feminism.
Madness and Enterprise

Psychiatry, Economic Reason, and the Emergence of Pathological Value

Nima Bassiri

Uncovers a powerful relationship between pathology and money: beginning in the nineteenth century, the severity of mental illness was measured against a patient’s economic productivity.

Madness and Enterprise reveals the economic norms embedded within psychiatric thinking about mental illness in the North Atlantic world. Over the course of the nineteenth century, various forms of madness were subjected to a style of psychiatric reasoning that was preoccupied with money. Psychiatrists across Western Europe and the United States attributed financial and even moral value to an array of pathological conditions, such that some mental disorders were seen as financial assets and others as economic liabilities. By turning to economic conduct and asking whether potential patients appeared capable of managing their financial affairs or even generating wealth, psychiatrists could often bypass diagnostic uncertainties about a person’s mental state.

Through an exploration of the intertwined histories of psychiatry and economic thought, Nima Bassiri shows how this relationship transformed the very idea of value in the modern North Atlantic, as the most common forms of social valuation—moral value, medical value, and economic value—were rendered equivalent and interchangeable. If what was good and what was healthy was increasingly conflated with what was remunerative (and vice versa), then a conceptual space opened through which madness itself could be converted into an economic form and subsequently redeemed—and even revered.

Nima Bassiri is assistant professor of literature at Duke University, where he is also the codirector of the Institute for Critical Theory.

“In this smart and sophisticated book, Bassiri shows us how an economic style of reasoning came to permeate psychiatry at the turn of the century. Not only were economic and psychiatric metaphors constantly entangled with one another but madness itself became central to economic rationalization. This book offers us a radically new perspective on the history of psychiatry. It also puts forth a fascinating philosophy of psychiatry which places irrationalism at the heart of modern capitalism.”—Camille Robcis, Columbia University
Looking through the Speculum
Examining the Women’s Health Movement
Judith A. Houck

Highlights local history to tell a national story about the evolution of the women’s health movement, illuminating the struggles and successes of bringing feminist dreams into clinical spaces.

The women’s health movement in the United States, beginning in 1969 and taking hold in the 1970s, was a broad-based movement seeking to increase women’s bodily knowledge, reproductive control, and well-being. It was a political movement that insisted that bodily autonomy provided the key to women’s liberation. It was also an institution-building movement that sought to transform women’s relationships with medicine; it was dedicated to increasing women’s access to affordable health care without the barriers of homophobia, racism, and sexism. But the movement did not only focus on women’s bodies. It also encouraged activists to reimagine their relationships with one another, to develop their relationships in the name of personal and political change, and, eventually, to discover and confront the limitations of the bonds of womanhood.

This book examines historically the emergence, development, travails, and triumphs of the women’s health movement in the United States. By bringing medical history and the history of women’s bodies into our emerging understandings of second-wave feminism, the author sheds light on the understudied efforts to shape health care and reproductive control beyond the hospital and the doctor’s office—in the home, the women’s center, the church basement, the bookshop, and the clinic. Lesbians, straight women, and women of color all play crucial roles in this history. At its center are the politics, institutions, and relationships created by and within the women’s health movement, depicted primarily from the perspective of the activists who shaped its priorities, fought its battles, and grappled with its shortcomings.

Judith A. Houck is professor of history and gender and women’s studies at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

“At a moment when reproductive and bodily autonomy are under threat more than ever, Houck tells a timely story of women’s health movement activists who demystified and transformed reproductive medicine to establish liberatory health practices and institutions. Houck’s protagonists also grappled with intersectional marginalization, leading many to demand health care that embraced the particular needs and demands of lesbians, trans people, and women of color.”
—Jennifer Nelson, University of Redlands
Botanical Icons
Critical Practices of Illustration in the Premodern Mediterranean
Andrew Griebeler

A richly illustrated account of how premodern botanical illustrations document evolving knowledge about plants and the ways they were studied in the past.

This book traces the history of botanical illustration in the Mediterranean from antiquity to the early modern period. By examining Greek, Latin, and Arabic botanical inquiry in this early era, Andrew Griebeler shows how diverse and sophisticated modes of plant depiction emerged and ultimately gave rise to practices now recognized as central to modern botanical illustration. The documentation is remarkable and varied, and the author draws on centuries of material from across Europe and the Mediterranean.

Lavishly illustrated, Botanical Icons marshals ample evidence for a dynamic and critical tradition of botanical inquiry and nature observation in the late antique and medieval Mediterranean. The author reveals that many of the critical practices characteristic of modern botanical illustrations began in premodern manuscript culture. Consequently, he demonstrates that the distinctions between pre- and early-modern botanical illustration center more on the advent of print, and the narrowing of the range of accepted forms of illustration, than on the invention of critical and observational practices exclusive to modernity.

Griebeler’s emphasis on continuity, intercultural collaboration, and the gradual transformation of Mediterranean traditions of critical botanical illustration persuasively counters previously prevalent narratives of rupture and Western European exceptionalism in the histories of art and sciences.

Andrew Griebeler is assistant professor in the Department of Art, Art History, and Visual Studies at Duke University.

“Botanical Icons is a fascinating, thought-provoking, critical survey of plant illustration practices in the premodern Mediterranean. Griebeler takes his audience on a journey that forces one to reconsider conceptions (and misconceptions) of Mediterranean visual botanical knowledge that are at the root of the modern scientific depiction of plants. The rich, scholarly text, which provokes questions on every page, is supported and augmented by the use of many carefully selected comparative images from across Mediterranean cultures.”—Stephen A. Harris, University of Oxford
Insatiable City
Food and Race in New Orleans
Theresa McCulla

A history of food in the Crescent City that explores race, power, social status, and labor.

In *Insatiable City*, Theresa McCulla probes the overt and covert ways that the production of food and the discourse about it both created and reinforced many strains of inequality in New Orleans, a city significantly defined by its foodways. Tracking the city’s economy from nineteenth-century chattel slavery to twentieth-century tourism, McCulla uses menus, cookbooks, newspapers, postcards, photography, and other material culture to limn the interplay among the production and reception of food, the inscription and reiteration of racial hierarchies, and the constant diminishment and exploitation of working-class people. The consumption of food and people, she shows, was mutually reinforced and deeply intertwined. Yet she also details how enslaved and free people of color in New Orleans used food and drink to carve paths of mobility, stability, autonomy, freedom, profit, and joy. A story of pain and pleasure, labor and leisure, *Insatiable City* goes far beyond the task of tracing New Orleans’s culinary history to focus on how food suffuses culture and our understandings and constructions of race and power.

Theresa McCulla is a curator at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History.
Screening the Operatic Stage
Television and Beyond
Christopher Morris

An ambitious study of the ways opera has sought to ensure its popularity by keeping pace with changes in media technology.

From the early days of television broadcasts to today’s live streams, opera houses have embraced technology as a way to reach new audiences. But how do these new forms of remediated opera extend, amplify, or undermine production values, and what does the audience gain or lose in the process? In Screening the Operatic Stage, Christopher Morris critically examines the cultural implications of opera’s engagement with screen media.

Foregrounding the potential for a playful exchange and self-awareness between stage and screen, Morris uses the conceptual tools of media theory to understand the historical and contemporary screen cultures that have transmitted the opera house into living rooms, onto desktops and portable devices, and across networks of movie theaters. If these screen cultures reveal how inherently “technological” opera is as a medium, they also highlight a deep suspicion among opera producers and audiences toward the intervention of media technology. Ultimately, Screening the Operatic Stage shows how the conventions of televisual representation employed in opera have masked the mediating effects of technology in the name of fidelity to live performance.

Christopher Morris is professor of music at the National University of Ireland Maynooth. He is the author of Modernism and the Cult of Mountains: Music, Opera, Cinema and Reading Opera Between the Lines: Orchestral Interludes and Cultural Meaning from Wagner to Berg. He is co-executive editor of Opera Quarterly.
Format Friction
Perspectives on the Shellac Disc
Gavin Williams

The first book to consider the shellac disc as a global format.

With the rise of the gramophone around 1900, the shellac disc traveled the world and eventually became the dominant sound format of the first half of the twentieth century. Format Friction brings together a set of local encounters with the shellac disc, beginning with its preconditions in South Asian knowledge and labor and with early colonial expeditions to capture sounds, to offer a global portrait of this format.

Spun at seventy-eight revolutions per minute, the shellac disc rapidly became an industrial standard, even while the gramophone itself remained a novelty. The very basis of this early sound reproduction technology was friction, an elemental materiality of sound shaped through cultural practice. Using friction as a lens, Gavin Williams illuminates the environments plundered, the materials seized, and the ears entangled in the making of this format. Bringing together material, political, and music history, Format Friction decenters the story of a beloved medium and thus also explores new ways of understanding listening in technological culture more broadly.

Gavin Williams is a lecturer in music at King’s College London. He is the editor of Hearing the Crimean War: Wartime Sound and the Unmaking of Sense.
Embodied Histories
New Womanhood in Vienna, 1894–1934
Katya Motyl

Explores the emergence of a new womanhood in turn-of-the-century Vienna.

In *Embodied Histories*, historian Katya Motyl explores the everyday acts of defiance that formed the basis for new, unconventional forms of womanhood in early twentieth-century Vienna. The figures Motyl brings back to life dressed in new ways, defied gender conformity, behaved brashly, and expressed themselves freely, overturning assumptions about what it meant to exist as a woman.

Motyl delves into the ways in which these women inhabited and reshaped the urban landscape of Vienna, an increasingly modern, cosmopolitan city. Specifically, she focuses on how easily overlooked quotidian practices such as loitering outside cafés and wandering through city streets helped create novel conceptions of gender. Exploring the emergence of a new womanhood, *Embodied Histories* presents a new account of how gender, the body, and the city merge with and transform each other, showing how our modes of being are radically intertwined with the spaces we inhabit.

Katya Motyl is assistant professor of history, as well as affiliate faculty of the Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program and the Global Studies Program at Temple University.
Oikonomia
Ancient Greek Philosophers on the Meaning of Economic Life
Étienne Helmer

Translated by David A. Auerbach

A detailed analysis of oikonomia, an underexplored branch of knowledge in ancient Greek philosophy.

In this book, Étienne Helmer offers a comprehensive analysis of oikonomia in ancient Greek philosophy. Despite its similarity to the word “economy,” for the ancients, oikonomia named a branch of knowledge—the science of management—that was aimed at studying the practices we engage in to satisfy our needs. This began with the domestic sphere, but it radiated outward from the oikos (house) to encompass broader issues in the polis (city) as well. Helmer explores topics such as gender roles and marriage, property and the household, the acquisition and preservation of material goods, and how Greek philosophers addressed the issue of slavery in the ancient world. Even if we are not likely to share many of ancient thinkers’ beliefs today, Helmer shows that there was once a way of thinking of “economic life” that went beyond the accumulation of wealth and represented a key point of departure for understanding how to inhabit the world with others.

Étienne Helmer teaches philosophy at the University of Puerto Rico.
David A. Auerbach has been a translator and editor for over twenty-five years. He works at the Translation Program of the University of Puerto Rico.
Worthy of Freedom

Indenture and Free Labor in the Era of Emancipation

Jonathan Connolly

A study of Indian indentured labor in Mauritius, British Guiana, and Trinidad that explores the history of indenture’s normalization.

In this book, historian Jonathan Connolly traces the normalization of indenture from its controversial beginnings to its widespread adoption across the British Empire during the mid-nineteenth century. Initially, indenture caused a scandal and was viewed as a covert revival of slavery. But soon enough, economic conflict in the colonies altered public perceptions of indenture, now increasingly viewed as a legitimate form of free labor and a means of preserving the promise of abolition. Connolly explains how, over time, the large-scale, state-sponsored migration of Indian subjects to work in sugar plantations across Mauritius, British Guiana, and Trinidad transformed the political economy and emancipation and came to be seen as a supposed force for progress.

Excavating legal and public debates and tracing practical applications of the law, Connolly carefully reconstructs how the categories of free and unfree labor were made and remade to suit the interests of capital and empire, showing that emancipation was not simply a triumphal event but, rather, a deeply contested process. In so doing, he advances an original interpretation of how indenture changed the meaning of “freedom” in a post-abolition world.

Jonathan Connolly is assistant professor of history at the University of Illinois Chicago.
The Economics of Artificial Intelligence
Health Care Challenges
Edited by Ajay Agrawal, Joshua Gans, Avi Goldfarb, and Catherine E. Tucker

A timely investigation of the potential economic effects, both realized and unrealized, of artificial intelligence within the United States health care system.

In sweeping conversations about the impact of artificial intelligence on many sectors of the economy, health care has received relatively little attention. Yet it seems unlikely that an industry that represents nearly one-fifth of the economy could escape the efficiency and cost-driven disruptions of AI.

The Economics of Artificial Intelligence: Health Care Challenges brings together contributions from health economists, physicians, philosophers, and scholars in law, public health, and machine learning to identify the primary barriers to entry of AI in the health care sector. Across original papers and in wide-ranging responses, the contributors analyze barriers of four types: incentives, management, data availability, and regulation. They also suggest that AI has the potential to improve outcomes and lower costs. Understanding both the benefits of and barriers to AI adoption is essential for designing policies that will affect the evolution of the health care system.

Ajay Agrawal is professor of strategic management and the Geoffrey Taber Chair in Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the University of Toronto. Joshua Gans is professor of strategic management and the Jeffrey S. Skoll Chair in Technical Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the University of Toronto. Avi Goldfarb is the Rotman Chair in Artificial Intelligence and Healthcare and professor of marketing at the University of Toronto. Catherine E. Tucker is the Sloan Distinguished Professor of Management Science at MIT Sloan.
Economy and Interest
A New Presentation of the Fundamental Problems Related to the Economic Role of the Rate of Interest and Their Solutions
Maurice Allais

Translated by John Stephen Daly
With a Preface by Bertrand Munier

The essential work from the Nobel Prize–winning virtuoso of twentieth-century economics, translated to English for the first time.

Few scholars advanced the frontier of economic modeling more than French economist Maurice Allais. Allais’s contributions—beyond his famous Allais paradox—earned him the Nobel Prize and drew comparisons to the works of Paul Samuelson and even some modern mathematical behavioral economists.

Allais’s accomplishments, however, went largely unread by non-Francophone readers due to the challenge of their translation for publishers. The effects of this gap are immeasurable. As Paul Samuelson wrote, “Had Allais’s earliest writings been in English, a whole generation of economic theory would have taken a different course.”

Economy and Interest is the milestone translation of Allais’s most influential work, one whose staggering findings predate their accepted formulations by other famed economists decades later. In its sweep and technical virtuosity, Economy and Interest is certain to delight and challenge new generations of English-language readers.

Maurice Allais (1911–2010) was a French economist and winner of the 1988 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics. John Stephen Daly is a freelance translator working between French, English, and Latin.
Afterall
2024, Issue 57
Edited by Elisa Adami, Amanda Carneiro, Nav Haq, Mark Lewis, Adeena Mey, Charles Stankievech, and Chloe Ting

The newest issue from the biannual journal of art history and theory.

Established in 1998, Afterall is a journal of contemporary art that provides an in-depth analysis of art and its social, political, and philosophical contexts. Each issue provides the reader with well-researched contributions that discuss each artist’s work from different perspectives. Contextual essays and other texts discussing events, works, or exhibitions further develop the thematic focus of each issue.

Issue 57 pursues Afterall’s ongoing interest in conversations about the new political and ethical responsibilities faced by the global art world in which exhibitions become sites of translation of the realities of the non-Western world and of experimentation with progressive and emancipatory internationalisms. Themes covered in this issue include Eurasia as Exhibitionary Space, the Rise of Indigenous Reason, and art practices that go beyond the East-West Paradigm.
Crime and Justice, Volume 52
A Review of Research
Edited by Michael Tonry

Volume 52 is an annual survey of cutting-edge issues by preeminent criminology scholars.

Since 1979, Crime and Justice has presented a review of the latest international research, providing expertise to enhance the work of sociologists, psychologists, criminal lawyers, justice scholars, and political scientists. The series explores a full range of issues concerning crime, its causes, and its cures. In both the review and the thematic volumes, Crime and Justice offers an interdisciplinary approach to address core issues in criminology.

Michael Tonry is the McKnight Presidential Professor of Criminal Law and Policy (Emeritus) at the University of Minnesota and an external scientific member of the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security, and Law in Freiburg, Germany.
Osiris, Volume 39
Disability and the History of Science
Edited by Jaipreet Virdi, Mara Mills, and Sarah F. Rose

Presents a powerful new vision of the history of science through the lens of disability studies.

Disability has been a central—if unacknowledged—force in the history of science, as in the scientific disciplines. Across historical epistemology and laboratory research, disability has been “good to think with”: an object of investigation made to yield generalizable truths. Yet disability is rarely imagined to be the source of expertise, especially the kind of expertise that produces (rational, neutral, universal) scientific knowledge.

This volume of Osiris places disability history and the history of science in conversation to foreground disability standpoints, disabled scientists, and disability sciencing (engagement with scientific tools and processes). Looking beyond paradigms of medicalization and industrialization, the volume authors examine knowledge production about disability from the ancient world to the present in fields ranging from mathematics to the social sciences, resulting in groundbreaking histories of taken-for-granted terms such as impairment, infirmity, epidemics, and shōgai.

Some contributors trace the disabling impacts of scientific theories and practices in the contexts of war, factory labor, insurance, and colonialism; others excavate racial and settler ableism in the history of scientific facts, protocols, and collections; still others query the boundaries between scientific, lay, and disability expertise. Contending that disability alters method, authors bring new sources and interpretation techniques to the history of science, overturn familiar narratives, apply disability analyses to established terms and archives, and discuss accessibility issues for disabled historians. The resulting volume announces a disability history of science.

Jaipreet Virdi is associate professor of history at the University of Delaware and co-chair of the Hagley Graduate Program in Capitalism, Technology, and Culture. Mara Mills is associate professor of media, culture, and communication at New York University and founding co-director of the NYU Center for Disability Studies. Sarah F. Rose is associate professor of history at the University of Texas at Arlington, where she founded and directs the UTA Disability Studies Minor.
The Supreme Court Review, 2023

Edited by David A. Strauss, Geoffrey R. Stone, Justin Driver, and William Baude

An annual peer-reviewed law journal covering the legal implications of decisions by the Supreme Court of the United States.

Since it first appeared in 1960, the Supreme Court Review (SCR) has won acclaim for providing a sustained and authoritative survey of the implications of the Court’s most significant decisions. SCR is an in-depth annual critique of the Supreme Court and its work, analyzing the origins, reforms, and modern interpretations of American law. SCR is written by and for legal academics, judges, political scientists, journalists, historians, economists, policy planners, and sociologists.

David A. Strauss is the Gerald Ratner Distinguished Service Professor of Law and the faculty director of the Jenner & Block Supreme Court and Appellate Clinic at the University of Chicago. Geoffrey R. Stone is the Edward H. Levi Distinguished Service Professor of Law at the University of Chicago. Justin Driver is the Robert R. Slaughter Professor of Law at Yale Law School, Yale University. William Baude is the Harry Kalven, Jr. Professor of Law and the faculty director of the Constitutional Law Institute at the University of Chicago.
NBER Macroeconomics Annual, 2023
Volume 38
Edited by Martin Eichenbaum, Erik Hurst, and Valerie Ramey

Provides a forum for leading economists to participate in important debates in macroeconomics and to report on major developments in macroeconomic analysis and policy.

The NBER Macroeconomics Annual features research by leading scholars on important issues in contemporary macroeconomics. David Berger, Kyle Herkenhoff, Andreas Kostol, and Simon Mongey consider the importance of market power in the labor market and develop a theory of monopsony that incorporates worker-firm-specific preference heterogeneity, search frictions, and firm granularity. Mary Amiti, Sebastian Heise, Fatih Karahan, and Aysengül Şahin examine how supply chain disruptions and labor supply constraints contributed to the recent rise of inflation. Daron Acemoglu, David Autor, and Christina Patterson explore the hypothesis that slow productivity growth stems from an unbalanced sectoral distribution of innovation. Greg Buchak, Gregor Matvos, Tomasz Piskorski, and Amit Seru investigate two important margins of adjustment in credit markets—banks’ ability to sell loans and shadow bank activity—and argue that accounting for them is critical for analyzing how lending responds to economic or policy shocks. Finally, Pedro Bordalo, Nicola Gennaioli, Rafael La Porta, Matthew O’Brien, and Andrei Shleifer demonstrate that overreaction of long-term profit expectations to reported profits could help reconcile Robert Shiller’s “excess volatility” puzzle with economic fluctuations more generally.

Martin Eichenbaum is the Charles Moskos Professor of Economics at Northwestern University. Erik Hurst is the Frank P. and Marianne R. Diassi Distinguished Service Professor of Economics, John E. Jeuck Faculty Fellow at the Booth School of Business, and deputy director of the Becker Friedman Institute for Economics, all at the University of Chicago. Valerie Ramey is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution. All three are research associates of the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Timely and authoritative research on the latest issues in tax policy.

*Tax Policy and the Economy* publishes current academic research on taxation and government spending with both immediate bearing on policy debates and longer-term interest.

This volume presents new research on taxation and public expenditure programs, with particular focus on how they affect economic behavior. John Guyton, Kara Leibel, Dayanand Manoli, Ankur Patel, Mark Payne, and Brenda Schafer study the disallowance of Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) benefits as a result of IRS audits, and find that in post-audit years, audited taxpayers are less likely than similar non-audited taxpayers to claim EITC benefits. Janet Holtzblatt, Swati Joshi, Nora Cahill, and William Gale provide new empirical evidence on racial differences in the income tax penalty, or bonus, associated with a couple being married. Haichao Fan, Yu Liu, Nancy Qian, and Jaya Wen evaluate how computerizing value-added tax transactions in China affected the tax revenue collected from large manufacturing firms. Niels Johannesen, Daniel Reck, Max Risch, Joel Slemrod, John Guyton, and Patrick Langetieg study data on the ownership of foreign bank accounts and other financial accounts as reported on income tax returns. They find that many of these accounts are in tax havens, and they discuss the impact of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act on tax compliance and government revenue. Louis Kaplow integrates charitable giving into an optimal income tax framework, and shows that the externalities associated with such giving are key to determining its optimal tax treatment. Finally, Roger Gordon compares caps or quantity targets on emissions with carbon taxes and points out that which one dominates can be situation-specific and depend on a number of features of the economy.

**Robert A. Moffitt** is the Krieger-Eisenhower Professor of Economics at Johns Hopkins University and a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Environmental and Energy Policy and the Economy
Volume 5
Edited by Matthew J. Kotchen, Tatyana Deryugina, and Catherine D. Wolfram

Rigorous, careful, and nonpartisan research with a high policy impact on environmental and energy economics.

Environmental and Energy Policy and the Economy focuses on the effective and efficient management of environmental and energy challenges.

This volume presents six new papers on environmental and energy economics and policy. Sarah Armitage, Noël Bakhtian, and Adam Jaffe review the literature on innovation market failures with an eye towards developing insights on the implementation of such policies. Richard Newell, William Pizer, and Brian Prest discuss alternative ways of accounting for capital displacement in benefit-cost analysis. Tihitina Andarge, Yongjie Ji, Bonnie Keeler, David Keiser, and Conor McKenzie provide new estimates of the distribution of environmental benefits and burdens of the Clean Water Act. E. Mark Curtis, Layla O’Kane, and Jisung Park examine the employment transitions into and out of sectors most likely affected by decarbonization. Lucas Davis provides a detailed analysis of heat pump adoption in the United States. Finally, Robert Huang and Matthew Kahn contribute to the political economy of U.S. energy policy, showing that many Republican-leaning states have an advantage at generating some types of green power.

Matthew J. Kotchen is professor of economics at Yale University, with a primary appointment in the Yale School of the Environment and secondary appointments in the Yale School of Management and the Department of Economics. Tatyana Deryugina is associate professor of finance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Catherine D. Wolfram is the William F. Pounds Professor of Energy Economics at MIT Sloan School of Management. All three are research associates of the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Entrepreneurship and innovation are widely recognized as drivers of economic dynamics and long-term prosperity. This series communicates key findings about the implications of entrepreneurial and innovative activity across the economy.

*Entrepreneurship and Innovation Policy and the Economy*, Volume 3, synthesizes key findings about entrepreneurial and innovative activity in the U.S. economy. Jorge Guzman, Fiona Murray, Scott Stern, and Heidi Williams examine regional innovation engines and highlight the place-specific actions, potential bottlenecks, and roles of different stakeholders in catalyzing entrepreneurship and innovation. Next, Lee Branstetter and Guangwei Li examine the challenges faced by the Chinese central government in implementing industrial policy to push the technology frontier. Turning to climate issues, James Sallee analyzes policies aimed at accelerating the energy transition by hastening the replacement of durable capital assets like automobiles and residential appliances. Joshua Gans studies cryptocurrencies and other crypto-token-based instruments and the broad range of government responses to them. Finally, Ina Ganguli and Fabian Waldinger consider the effects of the Russian invasion on the human capital in the Ukrainian science community.

**Benjamin F. Jones** is the Gordon and Llura Gund Family Professor of Entrepreneurship, professor of strategy at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, and a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research. **Josh Lerner** is the Jacob H. Schiff Professor of Investment Banking at Harvard Business School, and a research associate and codirector of the Productivity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship Program at the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Pulp Empire
The Secret History of Comic Book Imperialism
Paul S. Hirsch

Uncovers the gripping untold story of how the US government used comic books as propaganda tools to help wage World War II and the Cold War.

In the 1940s and ’50s, comic books were some of the most popular—and most unfiltered—entertainment in the United States. Publishers sold hundreds of millions of copies a year of violent, racist, and luridly sexual comics to Americans of all ages until a 1954 Senate investigation led to the adoption of a censorship code that nearly destroyed the industry. But this was far from the first time the US government actively involved itself with comics—it was simply the most dramatic manifestation of a long, strange relationship between high-level policymakers and a medium that even artists and writers often dismissed as a “creative sewer.” In Pulp Empire, Paul S. Hirsch uncovers the gripping untold story of how the US government both attacked and appropriated comic books to help wage World War II and the Cold War, promote foreign policy, and deflect global critiques of American racism.

As Hirsch details, during World War II government agencies like the Writers’ War Board began to work with comic book publishers, supporting the creation of characters and stories designed to stoke racial hatred for the Axis powers while simultaneously attempting to dispel racial tensions at home. Later, as the Cold War defense industry expanded its reach—and as comic book sales reached a peak of nearly a billion copies a year—the government again turned to the medium, this time trying to win hearts and minds in the decolonizing world through cartoon propaganda.

Pulp Empire brings to light the decades-long symbiosis between the upper tiers of government and lowbrow mass-market publishers. Hirsch’s research weaves together a wealth of previously classified material, including wartime records, legislative documents, and more. His book illuminates how comics were both vital expressions of American freedom and unsettling glimpses into the national id.

Paul S. Hirsch is a visiting research affiliate at the Institute for Historical Studies in the Department of History at the University of Texas at Austin. His work has received major support from organizations including the Robert B. Silvers Foundation, the National Science Foundation, and the Library of Congress.
Temptation Transformed
The Story of How the Forbidden Fruit Became an Apple
Azzan Yadin-Israel

A “brisk and entertaining” (Wall Street Journal) journey into the mystery behind why the forbidden fruit became an apple, upending an explanation that stood for centuries.

How did the apple, unmentioned by the Bible, become the dominant symbol of temptation, sin, and the Fall? Temptation Transformed pursues this mystery across art and religious history, uncovering where, when, and why the forbidden fruit became an apple.

Azzan Yadin-Israel reveals that Eden’s fruit, once thought to be a fig or a grape, first appears as an apple in twelfth-century French art. He then traces this image back to its source in medieval storytelling. Though scholars often blame theologians for the apple, accounts of the Fall written in commonly spoken languages—French, German, and English—influenced a broader audience than cloistered Latin commentators. Azzan Yadin-Israel shows that, over time, the words for “fruit” in these languages narrowed until an apple in the Garden became self-evident. A wide-ranging study of early Christian thought, Renaissance art, and medieval languages, Temptation Transformed offers an eye-opening revisionist history of a central religious icon.

Azzan Yadin-Israel is professor of Jewish studies and classics at Rutgers University. He is the author of several books, including The Grace of God and the Grace of Man: The Theologies of Bruce Springsteen.

“Yadin-Israel’s thoroughness in investigating sources across time, language, and media is impressive; at the same time, this scholarly rigor is accompanied by great lucidity of tone and argument as well as a sense of humor that, collectively, will make the book useful, illuminating, and enjoyable for a popular as well as a scholarly audience.”
—Claire M. Waters, University of California, Davis
The Lofts of SoHo
Aaron Shkuda

A groundbreaking look at the transformation of SoHo.

American cities entered a new phase when, beginning in the 1950s, artists and developers looked upon a decaying industrial zone in Lower Manhattan and saw, not blight, but opportunity: cheap rents, lax regulation, and wide open spaces. Thus, SoHo was born. From 1960 to 1980, residents transformed the industrial neighborhood into an artist district, creating the conditions under which it evolved into an upper-income, gentrified area. Introducing the idea—still potent in city planning today—that art could be harnessed to drive municipal prosperity, SoHo was the forerunner of gentrified districts in cities nationwide, spawning the notion of the creative class.

In *The Lofts of SoHo*, Aaron Shkuda studies the transition of the district from industrial space to artists’ enclave to affluent residential area, focusing on the legacy of urban renewal in and around SoHo and the growth of artist-led redevelopment. Shkuda explores conflicts between residents and property owners and analyzes the city’s embrace of the once-illegal loft conversion as an urban development strategy. As Shkuda explains, artists eventually lost control of SoHo’s development, but over several decades they nonetheless forced scholars, policymakers, and the general public to take them seriously as critical actors in the twentieth-century American city.

Aaron Shkuda is project manager of the Princeton-Mellon Initiative in Architecture, Urbanism, and the Humanities at Princeton University. He lives in New Jersey.

*The Lofts of SoHo* is a groundbreaking work that reshapes existing literature on deindustrialization and urban decline. It’s a fascinating work of cultural history and one of the few urban history monographs to look at gentrification. Shkuda gives readers an engaging and richly detailed text that tells a compelling and original story.”
—Suleiman Osman, George Washington University
Great American City
Chicago and the Enduring Neighborhood Effect
Robert J. Sampson

Great American City demonstrates the powerfully enduring impact of place.

Based on one of the most ambitious studies in the history of social science, Robert J. Sampson’s Great American City presents the fruits of over a decade’s research to support an argument that we all feel and experience every day: life is decisively shaped by your neighborhood.

Engaging with the streets and neighborhoods of Chicago, Sampson, in this new edition, reflects on local and national changes that have transpired since his book’s initial publication, including a surge in gun violence and novel forms of segregation despite an increase in diversity. New research, much of it a continuation of the influential discoveries in Great American City, has followed, and here, Sampson reflects on its meaning and future directions. Sampson invites readers to see the status of the research initiative that serves as the foundation of the first edition—the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods (PHDCN)—and outlines the various ways other scholars have continued his work. Both accessible and incisively thorough, Great American City is a must-read for anyone interested in cutting-edge urban sociology and the study of crime.

Robert J. Sampson is the Woodford L. and Ann A. Flowers University Professor at Harvard University.

Praise for the first edition

“Robert J. Sampson’s important new book challenges prevailing notions of community decline. Sampson argues that our communities continue to matter a great deal and that our lives are powerfully shaped by where we live. . . . [With] lots of empirical detail and theoretically driven, Great American City shows the striking persistence of poverty across its neighborhoods from 1960 to 2000.”—The Atlantic

“While Sampson’s magnum opus will find most of its readers within the social science community and will likely become required reading for budding and practicing scholars, the trickle-down impact of his analysis is likely to be significant.”—Publishers Weekly
What does it mean to market yourself as a business in today’s job search world?

Finding a job used to be simple. Now . . . well, it’s complicated. In today’s economy, you can’t just be an employee looking to get hired—you have to market yourself as a business, one that can help another business achieve its goals.

That’s a radical transformation in how we think about work and employment, says Ilana Gershon. And with *Down and Out in the New Economy*, she digs deep into that change and what it means, not just for job seekers, but for businesses and our very culture. In telling her story, Gershon covers all parts of the employment spectrum: she interviews hiring managers about how they assess candidates; attends personal branding seminars; talks with managers at companies around the United States to suss out regional differences—like how Silicon Valley firms look askance at the lengthier employment tenures of applicants from the Midwest. And she finds that not everything has changed: though the technological trappings may be glitzier, in a lot of cases, who you know remains more important than what you know.

Rich in the voices of people deeply involved with all parts of the employment process, *Down and Out in the New Economy* offers a snapshot of the quest for work today—and a pointed analysis of its larger meaning.

Ilana Gershon is associate professor of anthropology at Indiana University. She is the author of several books, including *The Pandemic Workplace*, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Trading Spaces
The Colonial Marketplace and the Foundations of American Capitalism
Emma Hart

Hart looks at the shift from the marketplace as an actual place to a theoretical idea and how this shaped the early American economy.

When we talk about the economy, “the market” is often just an abstraction. While the exchange of goods was historically tied to a particular place, capitalism has gradually eroded this connection to create our current global trading systems. In Trading Spaces, Emma Hart argues that Britain’s colonization of North America was a key moment in the market’s shift from place to idea, with major consequences for the character of the American economy.

Hart’s book takes in the shops, auction sites, wharves, taverns, fairs, and homes of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century America—places where new mechanisms and conventions arose as Europeans recreated or adapted continental methods to new surroundings. Since those earlier conventions tended to rely more heavily on regulations than their colonial offspring, what emerged in early America was a less-fettered brand of capitalism. By the nineteenth century, this had evolved into a market economy that would not look too foreign to contemporary Americans. To tell this complex transnational story of how our markets came to be, Hart looks back farther than most historians of US capitalism, rooting these markets in the norms of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Britain. Perhaps most important, this is not a story of specific commodity markets over time, but rather is a history of the trading spaces themselves: the physical sites in which the grubby work of commerce occurred and where the market itself was born.

Emma Hart is a senior lecturer in modern history at the University of St. Andrews.
Charts the social and cultural life of private insurance in postwar America, showing how insurance institutions and actuarial practices played crucial roles in bringing social, political, and economic neoliberalism into everyday life.

Actuarial thinking is everywhere in contemporary America, an oft-unnoticed byproduct of the postwar insurance industry’s political and economic influence. Calculations of risk permeate our institutions, influencing how we understand and manage crime, education, medicine, finance, and other social issues. Caley Horan’s remarkable book charts the social and economic power of private insurers since 1945, persuasively arguing that these institutions’ actuarial practices played a crucial—and crucially unexplored—role in insinuating the social, political, and economic frameworks of neoliberalism into everyday life.

Analyzing insurance marketing, consumption, investment, and regulation, Horan asserts that postwar America’s obsession with safety and security fueled the exponential expansion of the insurance industry and the growing importance of risk management in countless fields. At its broadest, actuarial thinking presumes that all rational action is economic action, encouraging individuals to conduct their lives in market terms, taking charge of their own risks and welfare. The rise and dissemination of neoliberal values did not happen on its own, Horan shows: they were the result of a project to unsocialize risk, shrinking the state’s commitment to providing social welfare, and heaping burdens upon the people often least capable of bearing them. Insurance Era is a sharply researched and fiercely written account of how and why private insurance and its actuarial market logic came to be so deeply lodged in American visions of social welfare.

Caley Horan is associate professor of history at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
Allies and Rivals
German-American Exchange and the Rise of the Modern Research University
Emily J. Levine

Allies and Rivals is the first history of the ascent of American higher education told through the lens of German-American exchange.

During the nineteenth century, nearly ten thousand Americans traveled to Germany to study in universities renowned for their research and teaching. By the mid-twentieth century, American institutions led the world. How did America become the center of excellence in higher education? And what does that story reveal about who will lead in the twenty-first century?

Allies and Rivals is the first history of the ascent of American higher education seen through the lens of German-American exchange. In a series of compelling portraits of such leaders as Wilhelm von Humboldt, Martha Carey Thomas, and W. E. B. Du Bois, Emily J. Levine shows how academic innovators on both sides of the Atlantic competed and collaborated to shape the research university. Even as nations sought world dominance through scholarship, universities retained values apart from politics and economics. Open borders enabled Americans to unite the English college and German PhD to create the modern research university, a hybrid now replicated the world over.

In a captivating narrative spanning one hundred years, Levine upends notions of the university as a timeless ideal, restoring the contemporary university to its rightful place in history. In so doing she reveals that innovation in the twentieth century was rooted in international cooperation—a crucial lesson that bears remembering today.

Emily J. Levine is associate professor of education and (by courtesy) history at Stanford University. She is the author of Dreamland of Humanists, published by the University of Chicago Press.
Urban Lowlands
A History of Neighborhoods, Poverty, and Planning
Steven T. Moga

Interrogates the connections between a city’s physical landscape and the poverty and social problems that are often concentrated at its literal lowest points.

In *Urban Lowlands*, Steven T. Moga looks closely at the Harlem Flats in New York City, Black Bottom in Nashville, Swede Hollow in St. Paul, and the Flats in Los Angeles, to interrogate the connections between a city’s physical landscape and the poverty and social problems that are often concentrated at its literal lowest points. Taking an interdisciplinary perspective on the history of US urban development that stretches from the nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century, Moga reveals patterns of inequitable land use, economic dispossession, and social discrimination against poor and working-class residents. In attending to the landscapes of neighborhoods typically considered slums, Moga shows how physical and policy-driven containment has shaped the lives of the urban poor, while wealth and access to resources have been historically concentrated in elevated areas—truly “the heights.” Moga’s innovative framework expands our understanding of how planning and economic segregation alike have molded the American city.

*Steven T. Moga* is associate professor of landscape studies at Smith College.

“Moga makes an exceptionally persuasive case regarding the factors shaping the development of lowland areas. He clearly establishes the importance of disease theory and racial attitudes as critical to urban decision-making. What is most impressive about *Urban Lowlands* is that Moga seamlessly connects his story of bottomlands to larger developments in urban planning in the post-1930s period.”—David Soll, author of *Empire of Water: An Environmental and Political History of the New York Water Supply*
Uncountable
A Philosophical History of Number and Humanity from Antiquity to the Present
David Nirenberg and Ricardo L. Nirenberg

Ranging from math to literature to philosophy, Uncountable explains how numbers triumphed as the basis of knowledge—and compromise our sense of humanity.

Our knowledge of mathematics has structured much of what we think we know about ourselves as individuals and communities, shaping our psychologies, sociologies, and economies. In pursuit of a more predictable and more controllable cosmos, we have extended mathematical insights and methods to more and more aspects of the world. Today those powers are greater than ever, as computation is applied to virtually every aspect of human activity. Yet, in the process, are we losing sight of the human? When we apply mathematics so broadly, what do we gain and what do we lose, and at what risk to humanity?

These are the questions that David and Ricardo L. Nirenberg ask in Uncountable, a provocative account of how numerical relations became the cornerstone of human claims to knowledge, truth, and certainty. There is a limit to these number-based claims, they argue, which they set out to explore. The Nirenbergs, father and son, bring together their backgrounds in math, history, literature, religion, and philosophy, interweaving scientific experiments with readings of poems, setting crises in mathematics alongside world wars, and putting medieval Muslim and Buddhist philosophers in conversation with Einstein, Schrödinger, and other giants of modern physics. The result is a powerful lesson in what counts as knowledge and its deepest implications for how we live our lives.

David Nirenberg is dean of the Divinity School at the University of Chicago, where he also teaches in the Committee of Social Thought and the Department of History. His books include Anti-Judaism: The Western Tradition; Neighboring Faiths: Islam, Christianity, and Judaism in the Middle Ages and Today; and Communities of Violence: Persecution of Minorities in the Middle Ages. After doing research in mathematics for a dozen years, David’s father, Ricardo L. Nirenberg, turned to his other calling: philosophy and literature. He has published numerous essays, short fiction, and the novels Cry Uncle and Wave Mechanics: a Love Story. He is the founder and editor of the literary journal offcourse.org.
American Exceptionalism
A New History of an Old Idea
Ian Tyrrell

A powerful dissection of a core American myth.

The idea that the United States is unlike every other country in world history is a surprisingly resilient one. Throughout his distinguished career, Ian Tyrrell has been one of the most influential historians of the idea of American exceptionalism, but he has never written a book focused solely on it until now. The notion that American identity might be exceptional emerged, Tyrrell shows, from the belief that the nascent early republic was not simply a postcolonial state but a genuinely new experiment in an imperialist world dominated by Britain. Prior to the Civil War, American exceptionalism fostered declarations of cultural, economic, and spatial independence. As the country grew in population and size, becoming a major player in the global order, its exceptionalist beliefs came more and more into focus—and into question. Over time, a political divide emerged: those who believed that America’s exceptionalism was the basis of its virtue and those who saw America as either a long way from perfect or actually fully unexceptional, and thus subject to universal demands for justice. Tyrrell masterfully articulates the many forces that made American exceptionalism such a divisive and definitional concept. Today, he notes, the demands that people acknowledge America’s exceptionalism have grown ever more strident, even as the material and moral evidence for that exceptionalism—to the extent that there ever was any—has withered away.

Ian Tyrrell is emeritus professor of history at the University of New South Wales and the author of Crisis of the Wasteful Nation: Empire and Conservation in Theodore Roosevelt’s America and Historians in Public: The Practice of American History, 1890–1970, both published by the University of Chicago Press.

“American Exceptionalism is a much-needed, erudite, wide-ranging, and persuasive study. There are many books addressing American exceptionalism but none like this. It is the most critically astute, synthetic, interdisciplinary, and balanced of all the studies made of the topic.”—John Corrigan, author of Religious Intolerance, America, and the World: A History of Forgetting and Remembering
Reason and Character
The Moral Foundations of Aristotelian Political Philosophy
Lorraine Smith Pangle

A close and selective commentary on Aristotle’s *Nicomachean Ethics*, offering a novel interpretation of Aristotle’s teachings on the relation between reason and moral virtue.

What does it mean to live a good life or a happy life, and what part does reason play in the quest for fulfillment? Lorraine Smith Pangle shows how Aristotle’s arguments for virtue as the core of happiness and for reason as the guide to virtue emerge in response to Socrates’s paradoxical claim that virtue is knowledge and vice is ignorance.

Against Socrates, Aristotle does justice to the effectual truth of moral responsibility—that our characters do indeed depend on our own voluntary actions. But he also incorporates Socratic insights into the close interconnection of passion and judgment and the way passions and bad habits work not to overcome knowledge that remains intact but to corrupt the knowledge one thinks one has. *Reason and Character* presents fresh interpretations of Aristotle’s teaching on the character of moral judgment and moral choice, on the way reason finds the mean—especially in justice—and on the relation between practical and theoretical wisdom.

*Lorraine Smith Pangle* is professor of government and codirector of the Thomas Jefferson Center for the Study of Core Texts and Ideas at the University of Texas at Austin.
Demos Assembled
Democracy and the International Origins of the Modern State, 1840–1880
Stephen W. Sawyer

An intelligent, engaging, and in-depth reading of the nature of the state and the establishment of the modern political order in the mid-nineteenth century.

Previous studies have covered in great detail how the modern state slowly emerged from the early Renaissance through the seventeenth century, but we know relatively little about the next great act: the birth and transformation of the modern democratic state. And in an era where our democratic institutions are rife with conflict, it’s more important now than ever to understand how our institutions came into being.

Stephen W. Sawyer’s Demos Assembled provides us with a fresh, transatlantic understanding of that political order’s genesis. While the French influence on American political development is well understood, Sawyer sheds new light on the subsequent reciprocal influence that American thinkers and politicians had on the establishment of post-revolutionary regimes in France. He argues that the emergence of the stable Third Republic (1870–1940), which is typically said to have been driven by idiosyncratic internal factors, was in fact a deeply transnational, dynamic phenomenon. Sawyer’s findings reach beyond their historical moment, speaking broadly to conceptions of state formation: how contingent claims to authority, whether grounded in violence or appeals to reason and common cause, take form as stateness.

Stephen W. Sawyer is professor and chair of history, cofounder of the History, Law, and Society Program, and director of the Center for Critical Democracy Studies at the American University of Paris. He is editor of the Tocqueville Review and associate editor of the Annales. History and Social Sciences. He is coeditor of Boundaries of the State in US History and translator of Michel Foucault’s Wrong Doing, Truth Telling, also published by the University of Chicago Press.

“Sawyer’s analysis is subtle, original, and coherent. His language is precise and succinct. He has written a challenging, ambitious, and consequently quite difficult book, which requires repeated reading and thought.”—H-France
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