

Religion And Culture An Anthropological Focus 2nd Edition

A Reader in the Anthropology of Religion is a collection of some of the most significant classic and contemporary writings on the anthropology of religion. It includes both material whose theme is 'religion' in a straightforward and obvious sense, as well as material that has expanded how we might look at religion - and the horizons of what we mean by 'religion' - linking it to broader questions of culture and politics. This concise and accessible introduction establishes the relevance of cultural anthropology for the modern world through an integrated, ethnographically informed approach. The book develops readers' understanding and engagement by addressing key issues such as: What it means to be human The key characteristics of culture as a concept Relocation and dislocation of peoples The conflict between political, social and ethnic boundaries The concept of economic anthropology Cultural Anthropology: 101 includes case studies from both classic and contemporary ethnography, as well as a comprehensive bibliography and index. It is an essential guide for students approaching this fascinating field for the first time. What is the role of culture in human experience? This concise yet solid introduction to cultural anthropology helps readers explore and understand this crucial issue from a Christian perspective. Now revised and updated throughout, this new edition of a successful textbook covers standard cultural anthropology topics with special attention given to cultural relativism, evolution, and missions. It also includes a new chapter on medical anthropology. Plentiful figures, photos, and sidebars are sprinkled throughout the text, and updated ancillary support materials and teaching aids are available through Baker Academic's Textbook eSources.

Religion, Culture and Economy
Religion in Culture and Society
Anthropological Studies of Religion
Culture and Human Values
Christian Intervention in Anthropological Perspective : Selections from the Writings of Jacob A. Loewen
Reserches Into the Development of Mythology, Philosophy, Religion, Language, Art, and Custom
Kehoe (anthropology, U. of Wisconsin–Milwaukee) seeks to inoculate her students against the mushy thinking she finds concerning shamans and shamanism. She traces the misinformation to a sensational mid-20th-century French tome by which expatriate Romanian Mircea Eliade hoped to acquire a reputation and a place in a European or American university. (He succeeded.) Annotation copyrighted by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR
In this 2007 volume, eighteen of the world's leading scholars present original essays on various aspects of atheism: its history, both ancient and modern, defense and implications. The topic is examined in terms of its implications for a wide range of disciplines including philosophy, religion, feminism, postmodernism, sociology and psychology. In its defense, both classical and contemporary theistic arguments are criticized, and, the argument from evil, and impossibility arguments, along with a non religious basis for morality are defended. These essays give a broad understanding of atheism and a lucid introduction to this controversial topic.
Religion and CultureAn Anthropological FocusPrentice Hall
Cognitive and Anthropological Dimensions
An Anthropological Observation
The Slain God
Anthropological Studies in Culture, Religion and Education
Changing Trajectories of Religion and Popular Culture

Tylor

Anthropology of Religion: The Basics is an accessible and engaging introductory text organized around key issues that all anthropologists of religion face. This book uses a wide range of historical and ethnographic examples to address not only what is studied by anthropologists of religion, but how such studies are approached. It addresses questions such as: How do human agents interact with gods and spirits? What is the nature of doing religious ethnography? Can the immaterial be embodied in the body, language and material objects? What is the role of ritual, time, and place in religion? Why is charisma important for religious movements? How do global processes interact with religions? With international case studies from a range of religious traditions, suggestions for further reading, and inventive reflection boxes, Anthropology of Religion: The Basics is an essential read for students approaching the subject for the first time.

For sophomore/junior-level courses in World Religions and Anthropology of Religion in departments of Anthropology, Sociology, and Religion. Religion and Culture introduces students to the major World religions and aboriginal religious traditions. This edited volume presents all aspects of the anthropological perspective on religion. Contributing authors provide a unique assembly of various topics and traditions that are researched by contemporary anthropologists

The Anthropology of Performance is an invaluable guide tothis exciting and growing area. This cutting-edge volume onthe major advancements in performance studies presents thetheories, methods, and practices of performance in cultures aroundthe globe. Leading anthropologists describe the range of humanexpression through performance and explore its role in constructingidentity and community, as well as broader processes such asglobalization and transnationalism. Introduces new and advanced students to the task of studyingand interpreting complex social, cultural, and political eventsfrom a performance perspective Presents performance as a convergent field of inquiry thatbridges the humanities and social sciences, with a distinctivecross-cultural perspective in anthropology Demonstrates the range of human expression and meaning throughperformance in related fields of religious & ritual studies,folkloristics, theatre, language arts, and art & dance Explores the role of performance in constructing identity,community, and the broader processes of globalization andtransnationalism Includes fascinating global case studies on a diverse range ofphenomena Contributions from leading scholars examine verbal genres,ritual and drama, public spectacle, tourism, and the performancesembedded in everyday selves, communities and nations

Religion in Australian Culture
Culture to the Ultimate
The Symbolic Dimension
The Tapestry of Culture
Entheogens and the Development of Culture
An Anthropological View

The Tapestry of Culture: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology provides students and the interested public with a concise picture of the field of cultural anthropology today. From the first edition of *Tapestry of Culture* published in the early 1980s until now, anthropology has changed greatly, responding to scholarly and political influences as well as changing generations; the ninth edition reflects this ongoing transformation. The influence of postmodernism has generated new debates over theory and practice in anthropology. The content of *Tapestry* explains these debates, as well as what is still generally accepted and agreed upon by most anthropologists. This edition provides the instructor, student and lay public with the information necessary to enable them to critically read the literature of anthropology, more specifically ethnographic texts which are still the heart of this field. The approach of the book is to accommodate the various points of view in anthropology today. It shows how the concepts, ideas and behavior of other cultures are translated into our culture's terms. Though today many emphasize each culture's uniqueness, the presence of cultural similarities is compelling. Using a comparative approach, *The Tapestry of Culture* reveals cultural similarities, as well as the cultural differences.

Through revisiting and challenging what we think we know about the work of Edward Burnett Tylor, a founding figure of anthropology, this volume explores new connections and insights that link Tylor and his work to present concerns in new and important ways. At the publication of *Primitive Culture* in 1871, Tylor was at the centre of anthropological research on religion and culture, but today Tylor's position in the anthropological canon is rarely acknowledged. Edward Burnett Tylor, *Religion and Culture* does not claim to present a definitive, new Tylor. The old Tylor - the founder of British anthropology; the definer of religion; the intellectualist; the evolutionist; the liberal; the utilitarian; the avatar of white, Protestant rationalism; the Tylor of the canon - remains. Part I explore debates and contexts of Tylor's lifetime, while the chapters in Part II explore a series of new Tylors, including Tylor the ethnographer and Tylor the Spiritualist, re-writing the legacy of the founder of anthropology in the process. Edward Burnett Tylor, *Religion and Culture* is essential reading for anyone interested in the study of religion and the anthropology of religion.

This lively and readable survey introduces students to key areas of the field and shows how to apply an anthropological approach to the study of contemporary world religions. Written by an experienced teacher, it covers all of the traditional topics of anthropology of religion, including definitions and theories, beliefs, symbols and language, and ritual and myth, and combines analytic and conceptual discussion with up-to-date ethnography and theory. Eller includes copious examples from religions around the world - both familiar and unfamiliar - and two mini-case studies in each chapter. He also explores classic and contemporary anthropological contributions to important but often overlooked issues such as violence and fundamentalism, morality, secularization, religion in America, and new religious movements. *Introducing Anthropology of Religion* demonstrates that anthropology is both relevant and essential for understanding the world we inhabit today.

An Anthropological Focus
An Introduction to Anthropology of Religion
The Cambridge Companion to Atheism
An Introduction, Third Edition
New Perspectives in Missiological Anthropology
Religion

Entheogens and the Development of Culture makes the radical proposition that mind-altering substances have played a major part not only in cultural development but also in human brain development. Researchers suggest that we have purposely enhanced receptor sites in the brain, especially those for dopamine and serotonin, through the use of plants and fungi over a long period of time. The trade-off for lowered functioning and potential drug abuse has been more creative thinking—or a leap in consciousness. Experiments in entheogen use led to the development of primitive medicine, in which certain mind-altering plants and fungi were imbibed to still fatigue, pain, or depression, while others were taken to promote hunger and libido. Our ancestors selected for our neural hardware, and our propensity for seeking altered forms of consciousness as a survival strategy may be intimately bound to our decision-making processes going back to the dawn of time. Fourteen essays by a wide range of contributors—including founding president of the American Anthropological Association’s Anthropology of Religion section Michael Winkelman, PhD; Carl A. P. Ruck, PhD, Boston University professor of classics and an authority on the ecstatic rituals of the god Dionysus; and world-renowned botanist Dr. Gaston Guzman, member of the Colombian National Academy of Sciences and expert on hallucinogenic mushrooms—demonstrate that altering consciousness continues to be an important part of human experience today. Anthropologists, cultural historians, and anyone interested in the effects of mind-altering substances on the human mind and soul will find this book deeply informative and inspiring.

Throughout its entire history, the discipline of anthropology has been perceived as undermining, or even discrediting, Christian faith. Many of its most prominent theorists have been agnostics who assumed that ethnographic findings and theories had exposed religious beliefs to be untenable. E. B. Tylor, the founder of the discipline in Britain, lost his faith through studying anthropology. James Frazer saw the material that he presented in his highly influential work, *The Golden Bough*, as demonstrating that Christian thought was based on the erroneous thought patterns of 'savages.' On the other hand, some of the most eminent anthropologists have been Christians, including E. E. Evans-Pritchard, Mary Douglas, Victor Turner, and Edith Turner. Moreover, they openly presented articulate reasons for how their religious convictions cohered with their professional work. Despite being a major site of friction between faith and modern thought, the relationship between anthropology and Christianity has never before been the subject of a book-length study. In this groundbreaking work, Timothy Larsen examines the point where doubt and faith collide with anthropological theory and evidence.

"*Religion: An Anthropological Perspective*" provides a critical view of religion focusing upon important but overlooked topics such as religion, cognition, and prehistory; science, rationality, and religion; altered states of consciousness, entheogens and religious experience; religion and the paranormal; magic and divination; religion and ecology; fundamentalism; and religion and violence. In addition, this book offers a unique and concise coverage of traditional topics of the anthropology of religion such as shamanism and witchcraft (past and present), ritual, myth, religious symbols, and revitalization movements. A vast range of findings from ethnography, ethnology, cultural anthropology, archaeology, prehistory, history, and cognitive science are brought to bear on the subject. Written in clear jargon-free prose, this book provides an accessible and comprehensive yet critical view of the anthropology of religion both for graduate and undergraduate students and general audiences. Its scope and critical scientific orientation sets

"*Religion: An Anthropological Perspective*" apart from all other treatments of the subject.

A Companion to the Anthropology of Religion
An Anthropology of Everyday Religion
Anthropology of Religion
Religion, Theory, Critique
Classic and Contemporary Approaches and Methodologies
The Anthropology of Religion

Cultural diversity and cultural change make it difficult to define and theorize cultural phenomena. This is especially apparent in the case of such cultural areas as religion and popular culture. This book presents ways to understand and explain the diversity and variability of religious and popular culture phenomena. The first part of this book focuses on the cognitive foundations and cultural dimensions of religious phenomena. The cognitive science of religion provides a new theoretical framework for explaining religious diversity and variability. The second part is dedicated to the study of selected phenomena of popular culture from the perspective distinctive to cultural anthropology. It attempts to bring into light this features of popular culture phenomena that have direct impact on cultural subjects.

Everyday practice of religion is complex in its nature, ambivalent and at times contradictory. The task of an anthropology of religious practice is therefore precisely to see how people navigate and make sense of that complexity, and what the significance of religious beliefs and practices in a given setting can be. Rather than putting everyday practice and normative doctrine on different analytical planes, the authors argue that the articulation of religious doctrine is also an everyday practice and must be understood as such.

Religion, Theory, Critique is an essential tool for learning about theory and method in the study of religion. Leading experts engage with contemporary and classical theories as well as non-Western cultural contexts. Unlike other collections, this anthology emphasizes the dynamic relationship between "religion" as an object of study and different methodological approaches and openly addresses the question of the manifold ways in which "religion," "secular," and "culture" are imagined within different disciplinary horizons. This volume is the first textbook which seeks to engage discussion of classical approaches with contemporary cultural and critical theories. Contributors write on the influence of the natural sciences in the study of religion; the role of European Christianity in modeling theories of religion; religious experience and the interface with cognitive science; the structure and function of religious language; the social-scientific study of religion; ritual in religion; the phenomenology of religion; critical theory and religion; embodiment and religion; the impact of colonialism and modernity; theorizing religion in terms of race and ethnicity; links among religion, nationalism, and globalization; the interplay of gender, sex, and religion; and religion and the environment. Each chapter introduces the topic, identifies key theorists and issues, and respects the pluralistic nature of the scholarship in the field. Altogether, this collection scrutinizes the explicit and implicit assumptions theorists make about religion as an object of analysis.

Encounters of Body and Soul in Contemporary Religious Practices

Ordinary Lives and Grand Schemes
Edward Burnett Tylor, *Religion and Culture*

Anthropological Reflections

A Reader

A Reader in the Anthropology of Religion

A collection of readings designed to accompany the editor's text, Religions in Practice; An Approach to the Anthropology of Religion . Articles from leading journals of anthropological research provide a sampler of current concerns and findings regarding religion and ritual throughout the world. The

A lucid outline of explanations of religious phenomena offered by such great thinkers as Hegel, Marx, and Weber.

Why should the church be concerned about cultures? Louis J. Luzbetak began to answer this question twenty-five years ago with the publication of *The Church and Cultures: An Applied Anthropology for the Religious Worker*. Reprinted six times and translated into five languages, it became an undisputed classic in the field. Now, by popular demand, Luzbetak has thoroughly rewritten his work, completely updating it in light of contemporary anthropological and missiological thought and in face of current world conditions. Serving as a handbook for a culturally sensitive ministry and witness, *The Church and Cultures* introduces the non-anthropologist to a wealth of scientific knowledge directly relevant to pastoral work, religious education social action and liturgy - in fact, to all forms of missionary activity in the church. It focuses on a burning theological issue: that of contextualization, the process by which a local church integrates its understanding of the Gospel (text) with the local culture (context).

The Anthropology of Performance
Anthropologists and the Christian Faith
The Anthropology and Neurobiology of Ecstatic Experience

Understanding Religion and Culture

The Church and Cultures

Introducing Anthropology of Religion

This concise and accessible textbook introduces students to the anthropological study of religion. Stein and Stein examine religious expression from a cross-cultural perspective and expose students to the varying complexity of world religions. The chapters incorporate key theoretical concepts and a rich range of ethnographic material. The fourth edition of The Anthropology of Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft offers:

- *increased coverage of new religious movements, fundamentalism, and religion and conflict/violence;*
- *fresh case study material with examples drawn from around the globe;*
- *further resources via a comprehensive companion website. This is an essential guide for students encountering anthropology of religion for the first time.*

Originally published: 1978, in series: Lectures on the history of religions; new ser., no. 11. With new introd.

A comprehensive anthropological study of religion traces the history of the discipline, discusses the archeological discoveries that have shed light on the development of religious consciousness, and examines the various manifestations, functions, and changes of religious customs and beliefs.

A Christian Perspective

An Anthropological Exploration in Critical Thinking

Shamans and Religion

Anthropology of Religion: The Basics

Anthropological and Theological Perspectives

The Anthropology of Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft

Social scientists and philosophers confronted with religious phenomena have always been challenged to find a proper way to describe the spiritual experiences of the social group they were studying. The influence of the Cartesian dualism of body and mind (or soul) led to a distinction between non-material, spiritual experiences (i.e., related to the soul) and physical, mechanical experiences (i.e., related to the body). However, recent developments in medical science on the one hand and challenges to universalist conceptions of belief and spirituality on the other have resulted in "body" and "soul" losing the reassuring solid contours they had in the past. Yet, in "Western culture," the body-soul duality is alive, not least in academic and media discourses. This volume pursues the ongoing debates and discusses the importance of the body and how it is perceived in contemporary religious faith: what happens when "body" and "soul" are un-separated entities? Is it possible, even for anthropologists and ethnographers, to escape from "natural dualism"? The contributors here present research in novel empirical contexts, the benefits and limits of the old dichotomy are discussed, and new theoretical strategies proposed.

This collection provides vivid ethnographic explorations of particular, local Christianities as they are experienced by different groups around the world. At the same time, the contributors, all anthropologists, rethink the vexed relationship between anthropology and Christianity. As Fenella Cannell contends in her powerful introduction, Christianity is the critical "repressed" of anthropology. To a great extent, anthropology first defined itself as a rational, empirically based enterprise quite different from theology. The theology it repudiated was, for the most part, Christian. Cannell asserts that anthropological theory carries within it ideas profoundly shaped by this rejection. Because of this, anthropology has been less successful in considering Christianity as an ethnographic object than it has in considering other religions. This collection is designed to advance a more subtle and less self-limiting anthropological study of Christianity. The contributors examine the contours of Christianity among diverse groups: Catholics in India, the Philippines, and Bolivia, and Seventh-Day Adventists in Madagascar; the Swedish branch of Word of Life, a charismatic church based in the United States; and Protestants in Amazonia, Melanesia, and Indonesia. Highlighting the wide variation in what it means to be Christian, the contributors reveal vastly different understandings and valuations of conversion, orthodoxy, Scripture, the inspired word, ritual, gifts, and the concept of heaven. In the process they bring to light how local Christian practices and beliefs are affected by encounters with colonialism and modernity, by the opposition between Catholicism and Protestantism, and by the proximity of other religions and belief systems.

Together the contributors show that it not sufficient for anthropologists to assume that they know in advance what the Christian experience is; each local variation must be encountered on its own terms. Contributors. Cecilia Busby, Fenella Cannell, Simon Coleman, Peter Gow, Olivia Harris, Webb Keane, Eva Keller, David Mosse, Danilyn Rutherford, Christina Toren, Harvey Whitehouse

Religious belief is an extremely powerful motivator of human behaviour. Religious considerations permeate and influence all parts of a culture. Religious systems are universal in human cultures, around the world and through all stages of human history and prehistory. Of all academic approaches to religion, the anthropological approach is the most comprehensive and the most useful to students of human belief and behaviour, because it examines religion as a cultural system that cannot fully be understood separated from the other systems with which it interacts. This new four-volume collection from Routledge assembles exemplary scholarship in the field from its Victorian beginnings to the present, and represents all generally accepted categories of religious belief and ritual, plus some new ones. Topics covered include: [Early Explorations](#); [Symbols](#); [Supernatural Beings](#); [Magical Power and Forces](#); [Human Agents of Supernatural Danger](#); [Myth](#); [Ritual](#); [Religious Practitioners](#); [Women and Gender](#); [Belief](#); [Ecology](#); [Mind and Body](#); [Neurobiological Bases](#); and [Religion in Socio-Cultural Change](#). The first volume is prefaced with a general introduction newly written by the editor which outlines the history and salient aspects of the anthropological concern for religion, and introduces the specific sections of the work. Each thematic part also includes a short introduction to set the gathered materials in context. Anthropology of Religion is destined to be valued by scholars, students, researchers, and practitioners as an essential one-stop reference.

The Anthropology of Christianity

Introducing Cultural Anthropology

Culture, Religion, and the Sacred Self

Anthropological and Theological Perspectives [sic]

An Introductory Text

An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

A Companion to the Anthropology of Religion presents a collection of original, ethnographically – informed essays that explore the variety of beliefs, practices, and religious experiences in the contemporary world and asks how to think about religion as a subject of anthropological inquiry. Presents a collection of original, ethnographically – informed essays exploring the wide variety of beliefs, practices, and religious experiences in the contemporary world Explores a broad range of topics including the perspectivism debate, the rise of religious nationalism, reflections on religion and new media, religion and politics, and ideas of self and gender in relation to religious belief Includes examples drawn from different religious traditions and from several regions of the world Features newly – commissioned articles reflecting the most up – to – date research and critical thinking in the field, written by an international team of leading scholars Adds immeasurably to our understanding of the complex relationships between religion, culture, society, and the individual in today s world

The classic anthropological analysis of religion from a pioneer in the field From the preface: " Scientific efforts to learn just what are the forms and functions of religion have not been few; it is the purpose of this book to review some of them and to synthesize the suggestions and findings. . . . My own personal feeling is that sociological viewpoints (including much of social anthropology) tend to focus on the scaffolding and milieu of religion rather than on religion itself and that religion can be best understood from a combination of psychological and cultural points of view. . . . This book is not, I think, motivated by a need to destroy, by dissection, a way of thinking and acting that many educated people feel is of little use, or is even disadvantageous, in a world increasingly committed to the search for scientific and technological solutions of human problems. Rather, I aim to preserve a friendly detachment in the asking of fundamental scientific questions about religion. "

Key issues in the contemporary debates on culture seem to be accompanied by the problem of meaning and the dynamics of it. Today, the global dimension of culture is a significant factor of the problem, especially when we speak of cultural identity or intercultural communication. This book presents critical points of cultural change that we may observe in many areas of local and global ecumene. The emerging of new currents, processes, and phenomena, as well the transformation of older ones, is evidence of the fact that culture cannot be regarded as a static whole, enclosed in a tangible framework of objectified artifacts. Thus, culture is taken here as a specific narrative on the human condition, with all its imponderables. (Series: Anthropology / Ethnologie - Vol. 58) [Subject: Anthropology, Cultural Studies, Religious Studies, Education, Politics]

Religion and Culture

Primitive Culture

Image and Pilgrimage in Christian Culture

Cultural Anthropology: 101

An Anthropological Perspective

A Critical Introduction to the Anthropological Study of Religion