

SOURCES

fields of folklore studies, Jewish studies, anthropology, sociology, and related disciplines. Terms likely to be unfamiliar to non-Jewish readers have been defined, making articles in the encyclopedia accessible to an interested general readership and thus suitable for public libraries in addition to libraries in academic and religious institutions.—Sally Moffitt, *Reference Librarian and Bibliographer, Anthropology, History, Philosophy, Political Science; African American Studies, Asian Studies, Judaic Studies, Latin America Studies, Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies; Cohen Library Enrichment Collection, Langsam Library, University of Cincinnati, Ohio*

Encyclopedia of the Mind. Ed. by Harold Pashler. Los Angeles: Sage Reference, 2013. 2 vols. \$160 (ISBN 978-1-4129-5057-2).

This two-volume reference set exploring the human mind gets high marks for credibility and comprehensiveness. Editor Harold Pashler is a well-regarded psychologist who has gathered an impressive list of contributors providing “brief but authoritative entries covering all major disciplines concerned with the study of the mind” (xxix). The intended audience is college and university students studying cognitive science and related fields. For this reason, it fills a gap in the existing literature for this subject area. The volumes are of most use to students with a working knowledge of science.

The entries are appropriate in length and depth for reference books. The editor has presented 293 individual topics related to the human mind. Examples of topics covered are Apraxia, Cognitive Dissonance, Desirable Difficulties Perspective on Learning, Gesture and Language Processing, Placebo Effect, Development of Spatial Cognition, and Visual Imagery. The explanations are broken down into common approaches to the subject area: computational, cultural, evolutionary, philosophical perspectives, practical applications, and psychological research.

A strong point is the “Further Readings” list at the end of each entry. This can give a college student a list of additional resources to consider for their research topic. These are accessible from electronic subscription databases on most college and university campus libraries. The “See Also” list of terms after each entry provides more comprehensive information on a topic by referencing other relevant entries. There is consecutive pagination between volumes.

There is one design weakness. While there is consecutive pagination, the index for both volumes is in the back of Volume Two, making it difficult to quickly find entries in Volume One or make it easy to browse both volumes. The List of Entries found in the front matter of both volumes would have been more effective with the page number and volume number next to it for easy access.

In the ongoing struggle between print and electronic resources in libraries, print reference books will need to follow Pasler's example of credibility and comprehensiveness to survive in the marketplace.—Terry Darr is *Library Director at Loyola Blakefield in Towson, Maryland*

Encyclopedia of Trauma: An Interdisciplinary Guide. Ed. by Charles R. Figley. Los Angeles: Sage Reference, 2012. 873 pages. \$375 (ISBN 978-1-4129-7879-8).

Charles R. Figley has a long history of writing about issues related to trauma such as *Treating Traumatic Stress Injuries in Military Personnel: An EMDR Practitioner's Guide* (Routledge, 2012), *Helping Traumatized Families* (Routledge, 2012), and *Death And Trauma: The Traumatology Of Grieving* (Series in Trauma and Loss) (Routledge, 1997) to name a few. So it makes sense that Figley would publish this reference work that fully encompasses the field of trauma. This work is intended to comprise the complete understanding of trauma worldwide throughout history with contributions from scholars worldwide.

The book defines trauma as “a sudden, potentially deadly experience, often leaving lasting, troubling memories” (xxiii). It does seem to cover the breadth of the field of trauma with entries appearing alphabetically by topic that include a diverse span such as: “Abortion,” “Bearing Witness to Trauma,” “Comstock Act,” “Date Rape/Acquaintance Rape,” “EMDR Theory,” “Hate Crimes,” “Military Trauma,” “Peacekeeping Missions,” “Role of Media in Managing Disasters,” and “Slavery and Forced Servitude.”

A Reader's Guide is provided to categorize the entries with the largest sections being: “Children and Families,” “Crime and Law,” “Culture and Ethnicity,” “Ethics and Philosophy,” “Psychology and Psychiatry,” and “Traumatology and Trauma Recovery.” Each entry includes suggestions for further reading, related entries, and some include resources for victims.

Similar works by others include *The Encyclopedia of Psychological Trauma* (Ed. by Reyes, Elhai, & Ford, Wiley, 2008) and Doctor & Shiromoto's *The Encyclopedia of Trauma and Traumatic Stress Disorders* (Facts on File Library of Health & Living, 2009). There is some overlap between *The Encyclopedia of Psychological Trauma* and the *Encyclopedia of Trauma: An Interdisciplinary Guide* but the former work is focused on the field of Psychology including entries on specific mental health disorders and treatments whereas the latter includes broader entries on more than one branch of knowledge.

With its wide array of topics related to the fields of Counseling, Psychology, Psychiatry, Social Work, Medicine, Nursing, Humanities, Politics, Public Health, and Criminal Justice, this work would benefit college and university libraries as well as medical school and law school libraries.—Rachael Elrod, *Reference/Instruction Librarian, The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, Charleston, South Carolina.*

Events That Formed the Modern World: From the European Renaissance Through the War on Terror. Ed. by Frank W. Thackeray and John E. Findling. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2012. 5 vols. acid free \$488 (ISBN 978-1-59884-901-1). Ebook available (978-1-59884-902-8), call for pricing.

The consequential and often lasting impact of major events over the past 500 years has helped to shape the

modern world. Not isolated to any one geographic region, these formative events took place in all corners of the world. *Events That Formed the Modern World: From the European Renaissance through the War on Terror* highlights 62 significant events from across the globe, each of which contributed to the modern world. A five volume thematic reference set, *Events That Formed the Modern World* provides readers with introductory and interpretative essays for all of the 62 events each with a bibliography and shorter entries detailing significant people or occurrences related to the major event. Each volume also contains a glossary of terms and a timeline. Edited by Frank W. Thackeray and John E. Findling, professor emeriti of history at Indiana University Southeast, this reference work is intended for the general public and high school and undergraduate students.

Events That Formed the Modern World represents a novel and noteworthy approach to the encyclopedia. Arranged chronologically, each volume covers approximately one century, with the first volume being an exception as it begins with an entry on the Reconquista (c.711) and ends with the Spanish Armada (1588). The events covered in this set of volumes are characterized largely by a top-down approach with relatively standard historical periodizations. While following an easy to comprehend chronological layout, this set diverges from the traditional encyclopedia formula, which often provides an overview of a topic with little critical analysis or interpretation. Thackeray and Findling's work provides readers with a brief introductory essay for each event grounding the reader in the event's historical context. However, the strength and distinctive feature of this reference work rests with the interpretive essays, each written by experts and averaging about eight pages in length. These highly accessible essays provide thought provoking analyses and examine the reasons why the event has had a lasting impact on the modern world.

While not limited to covering topics of the past 500 years, other works approaching Events subject matter include Hardy McNeill and Jerry Bentley's *Berkshire Encyclopedia of World History* (Berkshire, 2005), Alfred J. Andrea's *World History Encyclopedia* (ABC-CLIO, 2011), and, to a lesser degree, William Keylor and Michael McGuire's *Encyclopedia of the Modern World: 1900 to the Present* (Facts on File, 2007). However, with the exception of Andrea's *World History Encyclopedia*, these works are more traditional, have little thematic structure, and provide only basic, fact-driven, entries. *Events That Formed the Modern World* is a relatively unique reference work and stands out for its critical, yet accessible analysis, which makes this a useful and important work. Although *Events* is targeted to the general public and students, it can be a valuable asset for high school teachers and college professors assigned to teaching the second half of world history courses. Not only can the interpretive essays in these volumes work well as assigned readings, they can also serve as a much needed resource for history instructors new to teaching world history.

Thackeray and Findling's *Events That Formed the Modern World* stands alone among the world/global history

encyclopedia landscape and represents a new type of encyclopedia that promotes critical thought and comprehensive understanding. While some readers may not be used to this work's format and interpretive essays, there are plenty of traditional reference works on the shelves of libraries with basic entries that cover many themes in this set. This reference work is designed to promote broad historical understanding and achieves this goal in ways that are unmatched by most encyclopedias. *Events That Formed the Modern World* is recommended for high school and public libraries as well as academic libraries at institutions that offer world history courses.—Joseph A. Hurley, *Data Services, Geosciences, Gov't Info, Maps and GIS Librarian, Georgia State University Library, Atlanta, Georgia*

Icons of the American Comic Book: From Captain America to Wonder Woman. Ed. by Randy Duncan and Matthew J. Smith. Greenwood Icons. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2013. 2 vols. acid free \$189 (ISBN 978-1-313-39923-7). Ebook available (978-0-313-39924-4), call for pricing.

Icons of the American Comic Book: From Captain America to Wonder Woman gives a comprehensive look into the world of comics that even the non-comic book lover can appreciate. As the editors state in the preface, this book "...explores how these significant characters and creators, these icons of our culture, reflect the American experience out of which they sprang and how they have achieved relevance by adapting to, and perhaps influencing, the evolving American character" (xiii).

Set up in two volumes, the book lists each of its one hundred icons alphabetically. From Neal Adams to Zap Comics, each entry is comprised of the history of the icon, the impact on the comic genre, the impact that icon has had on American culture and a summary of all of the information listed. Many of the entries also include a list of materials for further reading. The entries themselves range from two to ten pages. Some entries do include images however; all are in black and white.

When reviewing this title, a few things caught my attention. I enjoyed the break-down of each entry into categories. If the reader was only looking for the impact of the icon on comics, he or she could go directly to the labeled passage. However, I would have liked to have seen the icons themselves categorized by date instead of alphabetically. I think it would have given the reader an interesting look into the evolution of comics over time. Another thing that caught my attention was that all the images were in black and white. In Ron Goulart's *Comic Book Encyclopedia: The Ultimate Guide to Characters, Graphic Novels Writer's and Artists in the Comic Book Universe*, the author chose to use color images which I feel enhanced the readers experience especially when discussing aspects of the genre related to costumes and illustration (It Books, 2004). Goulart's comic book encyclopedia is also condensed into one volume and includes not only comic book icons, but icons from the world of graphic novels as well. When comparing the two texts, it would seem that although