

SOURCES

a glossary, a master bibliography, a section covering HCI in popular culture, and a more straightforward listing of entries that communicates well to a broad public.

The editor indicates a desire for the *Encyclopedia of Human Computer Interaction* to be used “not only as a reference to HCI professionals and researchers, but also as a resource for those working in various fields, where HCI can make significant contributions and improvements” (xvi). However, the poor organization of entries, the lack of a reader’s guide, and the questionable indexing may leave researchers puzzled. Recommended only for university settings with significant interest in human-computer interaction issues.—*Pam Sukalski, Distance Learning Librarian, Minnesota West Community and Technical College, Granite Falls*

Encyclopedia of Human Development. Ed. by Neil J. Salkind. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage, 2006. 3 vols. acid free \$795 (ISBN 1-4129-0475-7).

According to the preface of the *Encyclopedia of Human Development*, “The field of human development focuses on the growth and development of the human being, including physical, social, psychological, and emotional development from conception through death” (xli). This ambitious reference work sets out to be a comprehensive overview of the seemingly disparate topics that fall under the cross-disciplinary study of human development. It accomplishes that goal quite successfully. It also does an excellent job of linking the disciplines involved, such as developmental psychology, medicine, and sociology, as few if any reference works have done to date. Indeed, one of the great strengths of this three-volume set is in providing a larger context for all of the events, people, theories, and research that make up the fascinating field of human development.

The impressive group of more than six hundred contributors from a variety of disciplines brings a wealth of professional experience and knowledge to the work. The volumes are clearly arranged and include useful supplementary material. Especially helpful is the “Reader’s Guide,” which appears at the beginning of all three volumes. The guide serves to group the encyclopedia’s entries into thematic headings. These thematic headings connect the work’s larger concept entries (for example “Families, Family Development, and Parenting”) with their associated subtopics (such as “Adoption,” “Deadbeat Dads,” and “Spanking”). One caveat to the otherwise helpful supplementary material is the limited usefulness of “Appendix 1: Tables and Figures on Selected Aspects of Human Development.” Although this section contains some interesting browseable statistics, the information comes outside of the rich context that so successfully ties the encyclopedia’s entries together.

The encyclopedia’s six-hundred-plus entries range from a few paragraphs to a few pages in length and cover equally well the overarching concepts and narrower topics. The entries are appropriately concise and use subject jargon judiciously. The “Further Readings and References” lists that follow each

entry often include both freely available Internet resources and scholarly publications. This reinforces the work’s value not only for researchers and students, but also for anyone interested in human-development topics.

Because its coverage is so expansive, it is difficult to compare the present work with other reference sources. Some of the content might be replicated in subject encyclopedias that cover the various disciplines under the human-development umbrella, but this source is truly unique in its breadth and readability. This reference work is highly recommended for any academic library or larger public library that can afford it.—*Emily Dill, Assistant Librarian, Indiana University–Purdue University Columbus*

Encyclopedia of International Sports Studies. Ed. by Roger Bartlett, Chris Gratton, and Christer Rolf. New York: Routledge, 2006. 3 vols. acid free \$615 (ISBN 0-415-27713-2).

This new work is the product of more than 150 contributors from around the world and contains roughly one thousand entries. It is targeted primarily at researchers and teachers, but is written at the level of the undergraduate. In the introduction, the editors note that the closest equivalent to this multivolume set is the American College of Sports Medicine’s long out-of-print *Encyclopedia of Sports Sciences and Medicine* (Macmillan, 1971).

Entries come in four types: lengthy ones that run from four to five pages on disciplines such as sociology, sports technology and engineering, or sports injuries; moderate ones that run from two to three pages on broader topics such as socialism or muscles of the thoracic region; shorter ones that run about a page on specific topics such as medial-collateral ligament tear or Marxism; and brief overviews of less than a page on topics such as martial arts or attention and performance.

The scope of the entries is largely keyed to sports-medicine topics that deal with anatomy, kinesiology, and injuries. There also is coverage of the academic disciplines of sports science and of the social-science issues of sport, but this work is mostly devoted to sports medicine. Its international flavor is shown in the entry on football, which is about the sport referred to as soccer in the United States. Also, there are no entries on American football or baseball. Instead there are entries on the professional leagues for such sports (for example, NFL, MLB, NBA, NHL, and NASCAR).

Most articles come with short bibliographies, and there are figures, tables, and cross-references. An index is also provided. This expensive set fills a small niche and will be of interest to some academic libraries that are particularly interested in sports medicine, but is not an essential purchase.—*John Maxymuk, Reference Librarian, Rutgers University, Camden, New Jersey*

Encyclopedia of New Religious Movements. Ed. by Peter B. Clarke. New York: Routledge, 2006. 686p. acid free \$225 (ISBN 0-415-26707-2).

“It is not possible even in an encyclopedia to convey all the variation and variety of NRMs (New Religious Movements) that now exist,” (vi) editor Peter B. Clarke writes. It is likely that many librarians and library users have little idea that NRMs are so numerous and so varied (I didn’t). The book’s stated purpose is to provide examples of the multifarious NRMs now in existence around the world, in order to demonstrate the universality of the phenomenon.

A global scope and wide-ranging scholarship are two of this encyclopedia’s many strengths. The editor’s learned introduction will be of use to both scholars of the subject and those with little knowledge of it. While most entries deal with particular movements, others explore broad classifications and themes, as well as key topics, thinkers, and ideas. The entries are alphabetically arranged, with an index at the end and an extensive, nine-page list of entries at the beginning of the work, ranging from movements as large as Reform Judaism to the little-known “Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn.” A point to consider is that the “accessibility” of this book—not in terms of clarity of arrangement but in terms of content and style—will be questionable for some undergraduates.

The recent publication *New Religious Movements: A Documentary Reader*, edited by Dereck M. Daschke and W. Michael Ashcraft (New York Univ. Pr., 2005), will be an important companion to the *Encyclopedia of New Religious Movements*. Comparable in quality though not in scope, its primary documents, gleaned from the movements themselves, will surely shed light and encourage further study. Used in conjunction with *Encyclopedia of New Religious Movements*, the *Documentary Reader* can flesh out and contextualize many NRMs.

Another work that can be compared to *Encyclopedia of New Religious Movements* is John Wolffe’s *Global Religious Movements in Regional Context* (Ashgate, 2002). It is the fourth monograph in the textbook series, *Religion Today: Tradition, Modernity, and Change*. The function of this book in an academic collection might be to introduce undergraduates to NRMs as a field of study. It includes an introduction to the key issues and controversies, amplified with some case studies from around the world. It has illustrations and extensive references. It is a very useful volume, if less erudite and comprehensive than the other two covered here.

The purpose that Clarke puts forth for *Encyclopedia of New Religious Movements* is modestly stated in comparison to the wealth of information and educational potential that the work offers. The purpose is most certainly achieved, and the quality of the book is excellent. It is desirable for seminars and larger academic libraries, especially religion, comparative religion, and theology collections.—*Benedette Palazzola, Librarian, University of Michigan English Language Institute, Ann Arbor*

Encyclopedia of Social Theory. Ed. by Austin Harrington, Barbara L. Marshall, and Hans-Peter Müller. New York: Routledge, 2006. 723p. acid free \$225 (ISBN 0-415-29046-5).

If you are a regular reader, you may be wondering if *RUSQ* is reprinting earlier reviews. Yes, we critiqued an *Encyclopedia*

of *Social Theory* in spring 2005. However, that was a different work, edited by George Ritzer (Sage, 2005).

This latest offering is published by Routledge. Each of its three editors has made important scholarly contributions. Harrington, a professor at the University of Leeds (United Kingdom), has authored works on the history of social thought, while Marshall (Trent University, Canada) has explored feminism, gender, and sexuality. Over the past twenty years, Müller (Humboldt University, Berlin) has written numerous books and articles on social inequality and political sociology, mainly in German. Most of the volume’s two hundred contributors are university faculty in Europe and the United States.

While the Sage title is especially notable for its treatment of contemporary theorists (biographical articles account for about 40 percent of that work), the Routledge volume concerns itself more with drawing linkages between schools of thought. Though about 20 percent of the entries relate to major figures such as Jacques Derrida, such entries are typically brief, providing few personal details. The most extensive essays (up to 2,500 words) cover themes such as “consumption” and “queer theory.” Boldface type (used extensively in the text to cross-reference other entries) enables users to explore and recall connections between terms.

Approximately 140 of the 479 items in Routledge’s encyclopedia are covered by main entries in Sage’s. However, the Routledge work does a finer job of teasing out concepts. For instance, related ideas like “domination,” “freedom,” “race,” and “slavery” are each identified and discussed, helping students develop greater precision in their thinking and writing. Looking in its index, the Sage encyclopedia does not seem to address any of these terms discretely. Unfortunately, a major drawback of the Routledge title is that it generally assumes an extensive vocabulary of its readership. For instance, the article on “deconstruction” uses unexplained terms like “aporetic” and “discursive,” words unknown to the typical undergraduate. In contrast, Sage’s encyclopedia is quite readable.

In sum, Routledge’s encyclopedia is useful for advanced students, faculty, and serious readers, and would be a helpful addition to an academic collection on social theory. Yet given the steep price of such works, many libraries can only afford one title. Those primarily serving the general public or lower-division undergraduates will probably be satisfied with the Sage title. Purchase Sage first, then Routledge if you have sufficient funds.—*Bernadette A. Lear, Behavioral Sciences and Education Librarian, Penn State Harrisburg, Middletown, Pennsylvania*

Encyclopedia of the Blues. Ed. by Edward Komara. New York: Routledge, 2006. 2 vols. acid free \$295 (ISBN 0-415-92699-8).

This two-volume set focuses on the blues in America from its roots in African and American traditional music up to the present contemporary style. It is well organized and complete, covering all the essentials of this genre in more than 2,100 entries. Included are not only the major artists, but also the historians and songwriters, the musical forms and