

SOURCES

lengthy filmography that includes feature films, TV roles, and shorts concludes each biographical entry.

On reference shelves, Henry Sampson's two-volume *Swingin' on the Ether Waves: A Chronological History of African Americans in Radio and Television Programming, 1925–1955* (Scarecrow, 2005), Larry Richard's *African American Films Through 1959* (McFarland, 1998), Phyllis Klotman's *Frame by Frame II: A Filmography of the African American Image, 1978–1994* (Indiana University Press, 1997), volume 9 (covering theater arts and entertainment) of the *Facts on File Encyclopedia of Black Women in America* edited by Darlene Clark Hines (Facts on File, 1997), the second edition of Edward Mapp's *Directory of Blacks in the Performing Arts* (Scarecrow Press, 1990), and Donald Bogle's *Blacks in American Films and Television: An Encyclopedia* (Garland, 1988) cover some of the same terrain as McCann and include aspects of African American film history, such as directors and producers outside the scope of McCann's encyclopedia. McCann's work is unique in the singularity of its subject matter, African American actresses, its chronological coverage, Silents to the present, and its inclusion of television (but not radio).

Encyclopedia of African American Actresses in Film and Television is a posthumous publication. This makes it difficult to ascertain responsibility for proof reading lapses such as "Moten continued to sing professionally until the 1952. [Sic]" (243) or leaving January 16, 1979 (374) as the 1930s and 1940s actress Lillian Yarbo's birth date when surely it must have been 1879.

McCann's work concludes with a short bibliography (375–76) and an index (377–453) to names and titles. Inclusion of topics, such as "Blaxploitation," would have been useful to have had as well, especially since that topic alone would have served as a ready reference to the numerous actresses included in the encyclopedia on the basis of their work in such films. Black and white photographs illustrate the encyclopedia.

Encyclopedia of African American Actresses in Film and Television is recommended for inclusion in academic and public library reference collections. The work supports interest in film studies and in African American and women's history.—Sally Moffitt, *Reference Librarian and Bibliographer, Anthropology, History, Philosophy, Political Science; African American, Asian, Judaic, Latin American and Women's Gender and Sexuality studies; Cohen Enrichment Collection, Langsam Library, University of Cincinnati, Ohio*

Encyclopedia of African American Education. Ed. by Kofi Lomotey. Los Angeles: Sage, 2010. 2 vols. acid free \$325 (ISBN 978-1-4129-4050-4).

There are many books written on the subject of African American education, however, this set is the first to look at topics with both a historical and a contemporary angle. A total of 212 experts have written entries on 247 various topics.

The entries cover traditional topics such as academic

achievement and segregation as well as contemporary topics such as "acting white" and mainstreaming. For the more traditional topics, special care is given to include historical information. As with most specialized encyclopedias the entries are arranged alphabetically, and further readings are listed at the end of most of the entries to direct the researcher. The set also contains a table of contents and index.

A unique feature of this set is the reader's guide, which classifies entries into sixteen categories. This helps the reader navigate to other entries on topics that may be of interest to them. The sixteen categories included are alternative educational models, associations and organizations, biographies, collegiate education, curriculum, economics, gender, graduate and professional education, historically black colleges and universities, legal cases, precollegiate education, psychology and human development, publications, public policy, religious institutions and schooling, and segregation and desegregation. This section makes it very easy for the researcher to find entries on similar topics, for example the section on legal cases lists more than fifty cases dealing with African American education. The reader's guide will make it easy on the researcher to use the set efficiently when looking for items with a particular focus.

Another unique feature is the inclusion of two appendixes dealing with the *Journal of Negro Education*. The first appendix is a complete bibliographical listing of articles published in the journal from 1932 to 2008. The second appendix contains reprints of eleven articles from the *Journal of Negro Education* dealing with segregation, desegregation, and equality in education.

While there are other books on African American education, there are few comprehensive encyclopedias, the most notable is Faustine C. Jones-Wilson's *Encyclopedia of African-American Education* (Greenwood, 1996). While it is a good encyclopedia, it has limited coverage and is more than ten years old. This set by Sage surpasses other volumes in terms of the depth and breadth of the coverage. This book would be a great addition to any academic library.—Vanessa Earp, *Subject Librarian for Education, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio*

Encyclopedia of African American History. Ed. by Leslie M. Alexander and Walter C. Rucker. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 2010. 3 vols. alkaline \$295 (ISBN 978-1-85109-769-2). E-book available (ISBN 978-1-85109-774-6), call for pricing.

Despite their myriad accomplishments and contributions to this nation's past, until comparatively recently, African Americans have been largely absent from the pages of reference book publisher's offerings. The pendulum has swung markedly in the other direction of late and librarians now have the luxury of drawing from a fairly deep well. African American history seems especially popular, as evinced by this recent title. An entry in ABC-CLIO's American Ethnic Experience series, this three-volume set explores the story of blacks

in a white land and all that that story entails, or in the words of the preface, the “totality” of that experience, “from beginnings in precolonial [sic] Atlantic Africa through the dawn of the 21st century” (xxix).

As might be expected, slavery and its ramifications take up a significant portion of the approximately 650 essays. On the whole, however, the set is well rounded with coverage of personalities past and present (Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. Du Bois, Jesse Jackson, Angela Davis), geographic locations (Gold Coast), music (jazz, hip-hop), stereotypes (Jim Crow), folklore (black folk culture) and a wide ranging assortment of other subjects that relate either directly or indirectly to this particular minority. Each article is signed by its writer and concludes with cross-references and a short bibliography. Writing style is jargon free and straightforward, as the intended audience is high school/undergraduate college students, although literate readers of all stripes will find much of use here. While illustration is not profuse, it is certainly adequate, with black and white photographs, drawings, and sketches nicely amplifying the text.

Editors Alexander and Rucker both hold doctoral degrees and both are employed as associate professors at The Ohio State University at Columbus, the former teaching history and the latter teaching African American and African studies. Furthermore, both have previously published works regarding African American issues. They have together assembled an impressively long list of contributors, for the most part academics and independent scholars, but including a sprinkling of individuals from state historical societies and the like.

Overall, this is a solidly written and well researched mid-level set of reference books on this topic. Collection development and reference librarians should be aware, however, that options abound. Those with ample budgets and the urge to splurge might consider Oxford University Press' similarly titled *Encyclopedia of African American History* (Paul Finkelman, ed.). For sheer volume of material and comprehensive scope, this is the one to have. Curiously enough, the work is divided into two sets. The first is the three-volume *1619–1895: From the Colonial Period to the Age of Frederick Douglass* (Oxford, 2006), while the second set continues the saga in five volumes, *1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century* (Oxford, 2009). All told, this combined set contains nearly two thousand articles. Also noteworthy is the second edition of Collin Palmer's *Encyclopedia of African-American History and Culture* (Macmillan Reference USA/Gale Group, 2006) and likewise the second edition of *Africana: The Encyclopedia of the African and African American Experience* by editors Kwame Anthony Appiah and Henry Louis Gates, Jr., (Oxford University Press, 2005). A lower cost alternative, but one still perfectly suitable to the high school and undergraduate crowd would be Carl L. Blankston's *African American History* (Salem Press, 2005).—Michael F. Bemis, Assistant Librarian, Washington Cty. Lib., Woodbury, Minnesota

Encyclopedia of Case Study Research. Ed. by Albert J. Mills, Gabrielle Durepos, and Elden White. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage, 2010. 2 vols. acid free \$375 (ISBN 978-1-4129-5670-3). E-book available (ISBN 978-1-4129-5739-7), \$435.

As a librarian serving part-time students in applied behavioral sciences programs, I am always seeking research methods information that is intellectually accessible. Since Sage is such a prolific publisher, one may wonder whether its *Encyclopedia of Case Study Research* (ECSR) adds to what is already on-shelf. Fortunately, only about 80 (or 20 percent) of the 357 topics in the ECSR appear in *The Sage Encyclopedia of Qualitative Research Methods* (2008) and far fewer have counterparts in *The Sage Encyclopedia of Social Science Research Methods* (2004). Moreover, the ECSR contains information on fiction analysis (395–96), method of agreement and method of disagreement (555–59), and other subjects that I have not seen in reference sources by any publisher. Nearly every entry includes an application section which connects the topic to practical concerns. This feature is especially helpful for students who have difficulty grasping theoretical concepts. For instance, the applications section for the entry on dasein, Martin Heidegger's idea that being human is a “relation—a form of being in the world,” explains how this intangible notion influences case study participants' “perspective on knowledge” and requires researchers to consider the “mutual understanding” of people existing together in a “social world” (271–73). Thus the ECSR is exceptional in bridging high-level theory to project design.

Having established the uniqueness of the ECSR, an equally important question is what kind of library needs this title. Could this work help anyone besides the qualitative methods junkies? Oddly, the editors claim that there are “only a few texts” which “deal directly with case study as a central subject” (xxxi). Sage itself seems to offer plenty, including Robert Yin's *Case Study Research: Design and Methods* (Sage, 4th ed., 2009), his *Applications of Case Study Research* (Sage, 2003), as well as books pertaining to specific contexts, such as Renee Campoy's *Case Study Analysis in the Classroom: Becoming a Reflective Teacher* (Sage, 2005). Despite an entry on “The Case Study as a Methodological Approach” (which might have been better placed at the beginning of volume 1), I do not see the ECSR as a more efficient way of finding the step-by-step information that many students request. In addition, the case study is only one of many methods that qualitative researchers can use. Thus, unless one's library supports graduate-level courses in case study methodology, or a significant number of students and faculty are doing such research, the more general *The Sage Encyclopedia of Qualitative Research Methods* may be adequate. Recommended for graduate-level or specialized collections.—Bernadette A. Lear, Behavioral Sciences and Education Librarian, Penn State Harrisburg, Middletown, Pennsylvania