list of the entire set’s entries opens each of these volumes, and a complete index of these volumes closes each.

Volume 5 has its own editor—Glenn Lewis of York College and the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism—and is a collection of key journalism documents. This volume’s four sections are “Journalism, Media, and the Law,” “Codes of Ethics/Newsmroom Policies and Standards,” “Journalism Education: Preparation for Change,” and “Data on the Status and Practice of Journalism.” Examples of documents included here are the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, the Society of Professional Journalists (SP)—Code of Ethics, and Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC)—Accrediting Standards.

Volume 6 contains appendixes covering awards and prizes, country ratings with regard to journalistic freedom, and a guide to recent literature about the field. The latter provides a nice jumpstart to students doing literature reviews, but it is not comprehensive, obviously, because more literature has since been published.

Unfortunately, reference books covering rapidly changing fields are often outdated before they’re published, and with dwindling acquisitions budgets, the price tags for the print and online versions of this set might scare some off. However, this is a unique resource that all academic libraries supporting communication studies and journalism programs should invest in because of its scope and high-quality information. Public and news organization libraries should seriously consider adding it if funds allow.—Samantha J. Gust, Electronic Resources Librarian, Niagara University Library, Niagara University, New York


Encyclopedia of Law and Higher Education is a nicely organized, beautifully produced single-volume work that responds to a noticeable gap in the literature on this important and timely topic. Although there has not been as much litigation in higher education law as in K–12 education, there are a number of legal issues that confront faculty members, administrators, parents, and students at colleges and universities on a regular basis on such varied topics as academic freedom, due process, religious activities, employee rights, diversity, and privacy, to name but a few. Most attorneys are not familiar with the law as it applies to higher education and may be surprised to learn of the considerable deference that courts give to decisions it believes are the purview of academe. As indicated in the introduction, the Encyclopedia of Law and Higher Education “is intended to serve as a comprehensive source on the law of higher education for undergraduate and graduate students, educators, legal practitioners, and general readers concerned with this central area of public life” (xviii). The volume fulfills this purpose admirably, giving just enough information for a solid overview of a particular topic, punctuated by excerpts of the thirty most influential cases to the law of higher education. The editor has impressive credentials that make him particularly well suited for his role in preparing this volume, and the advisory and editorial board members and contributors represent an interesting mix of faculty members and practitioners from a number of universities, schools, and law firms.

The organization of Encyclopedia of Law and Higher Education is typical of most works of its kind, with the majority of its pages devoted to entries arranged in alphabetical order. There is a short table of contents, an alphabetical list of entries, and a reader’s guide at the beginning of the volume. The reader’s guide is particularly helpful because it arranges the entries into eleven categories so that relevant material is easily located. The first category in the reader’s guide is a list of major cases that are included in the volume, also divided into categories. The introduction provides a brief history of the law related to higher education and advocates that law school students, educators, and policy makers look to the past, present, and future to craft sound educational policies. A two-page description of how to work with legal materials is also helpful, particularly the section that explains the elements of a legal citation. The volume ends with a standard index.

Individual entries within the Encyclopedia of Law and Higher Education are concise and clearly written with a minimum of legal terminology. Entries for court cases include a summary of the facts and ruling along with a brief excerpt from the case. “See also” references are provided with the entries, along with short lists of citations to cases and statutes and to additional reading material. Even though the entries were written by a number of different contributors, the writing style, organization, and flow are consistent throughout the volume and the text is accessible to readers who do not have a legal background. The Encyclopedia of Law and Higher Education also fills a gap in the book literature (as opposed to law review and journal articles). A search of WorldCat revealed very little that both is current and encompasses the entire body of work on the law in higher education. Many of the books that are available are either focused on a particular issue within the topic, such as sexual harassment, or are more in the style of a typical law school textbook, consisting primarily of the full or partial text of legal cases with minimal commentary or background information. An encyclopedia that provides a comprehensive treatment of law and higher education will be a welcome addition to the field.

Encyclopedia of Law and Higher Education would be an appropriate purchase for academic and public libraries as well as for nonprofit organizations and agencies that serve higher education constituencies. It would also be a useful addition for libraries in law firms. As faculty members, staff members, students, and others connected with higher education begin to assert their rights with greater frequency, it may no longer be unusual for a lawyer to be asked to represent someone seeking redress against a college or university or for a law firm to be in the role of advisor or outside counsel for the institution’s own legal department. The cost of the volume is

The Encyclopedia of Motherhood is the first reference work dedicated to the interdisciplinary study of motherhood. While other reference works, such as Charles A. Smith's Encyclopedia of Parenting Theory and Research (Greenwood, 1999) or Barbara Katz Rothman’s Encyclopedia of Childbearing: Critical Perspectives (Oryx, 1993) might share some common entries, the current work uses the unique lens of motherhood studies to examine in a new light what might have previously been covered elsewhere.

The editor, Andrea O’Reilly, has a long record of motherhood scholarship and activism and is thus exceptionally well qualified to edit this work. She is “founder and director of the Association for Research on Mothering, founder and editor-in-chief of the Journal of the Association for Research on Mothering, and founder and editor of Demeter Press, the first feminist press on motherhood. She is cofounder of the Museum of Motherhood . . . and is cofounder of the International Mothers Network, the first international consortium of motherhood organizations” (vi). She is also the editor or coeditor of fourteen books on motherhood and author of two books on motherhood thus far.

The purpose of the encyclopedia, which it clearly satisfies, is “to introduce readers to and provide information on the central terms, concepts, topics, issues, themes, debates, theories, and texts of this new discipline of motherhood studies as well as to examine the topic of motherhood in various contexts such as history and geography and by academic discipline” (viii). The encyclopedia in its coverage also pays special attention to “geographical, cultural and ethnic diversity” (ix).

The entries are written by appropriately credentialed academics, as well as experts outside of academia, such as Diana Lynn Barnes of the Center for Postpartum Health, who wrote “Infanticide.” The entries are filled with useful statistics and references, yet are very readable.

Special features of the work include a reader’s guide, which is helpful in tying concepts gathered from a wide variety of disciplines together. The work also includes a chronology of motherhood, a glossary, a resource guide, and an appendix of motherhood statistics around the world. All of these sections serve to further contextualize and explicate the standard entries. While many of the topics covered in The Encyclopedia of Motherhood are also covered in other reference sources, the distinct perspective of motherhood studies makes these entries unique. Even topics familiar to most readers will have something new to offer, which makes this a fascinating and highly browsable work.

This encyclopedia is recommended for larger public libraries and most academic libraries.—Emily Dill, Associate Librarian, University Library of Columbus, Columbus, Indiana


Covering the entire span of humanity’s written history, the four volumes in this set include primary documents arranged in chronological order beginning with the Reform Edict of Urakagina (ca. 2350 BCE) and ending with the Constitutive Act of the African Union, which was signed at Lomé, Togo, on July 11, 2000. From this span of over 4,000 years, the editors and the advisory board selected 125 major documents that represent all inhabited geographical regions of the earth, although the selection excludes primary sources from the United States that are covered in three other titles in the series. This set does include a few documents drawn from world religions, but many more religious primary sources are covered in Milestone Documents of World Religions (Schlager, November 2010). One main weakness of the set, however, is the lack of clarity on the selection process. For example, why is Plato’s allegory of the cave included, but not his Apology of Socrates or a selection from his Republic, which have also had enormous impact on Western civilization?

The seventy-five contributors, primarily historians from the United States, although almost twenty are based at foreign universities, follow a standard format for the article on each document. Coverage includes an overview of the document and its importance in history, the context of the document, a time line of key events surrounding the document, a biographical profile of the author or authors, an explanation and analysis of the document, the intended audience, the historical impact of the document, questions for further study, essential quotes from and about the document, further readings, the actual text of the document in English translation, and a glossary of important terms in the text. Thus a student who uses this resource will be able to both read the document and immediately have access to information that will help in understanding its importance to world history. Almost 250 photographs and illustrations accompany the articles. Although most of the illustrations are superfluous, several, such as the photograph of the stele of Hammurabi, are helpful in that they visibly illustrate the actual document. Other features of the set include activity guides for teachers, a list of documents by category (such as laws and legal codes or treaties and agreements), a list of documents by region, and a subject index.

For teachers and students in world history survey courses, especially those in high school and lower division college classes, this will be a useful resource. Not only does it provide access to the text of important documents, it also provides a wealth of contextual information that will assist in understanding the documents themselves. Other titles cover similar grounds, but there is little overlap between them. For