

mechanics, propulsion, physics, guidance and control, electronics and instrumentation, communications, computer and systems engineering, material science, fabrication and manufacturing, environmental science, noise, and emissions.

While the content of this set will be challenging for students enrolled at universities whose aerospace programs focus only on training professional pilots and airport/air traffic managers, it will be a welcome and essential resource for those with aerospace-related engineering programs. Indeed, a comparison of the thematic areas covered with coursework in the undergraduate programs at two top American aeronautical engineering universities reveals that the content matches up very nicely. Of course, this is not surprising, given that two thirds of the contributors teach aeronautical engineering-related courses at the university level.

The *Encyclopedia of Aerospace Engineering* is an outstanding resource. It is highly recommended for libraries serving aeronautical engineering students and technical libraries serving practitioners.—*R. Neil Scott, User Services Librarian, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee*

Encyclopedia of Criminological Theory. Ed. by Francis T. Cullen and Pamela Wilcox. Los Angeles, Calif.: Sage, 2010. 2 vols. acid-free \$350 (ISBN 978-1-4129-5918-6). E-book available (978-1-4129-5919-3), \$440.

Francis T. Cullen and Pamela Wilcox have delivered a subtly unique two-volume reference work to the field of criminology and its related studies. As its title implies, the *Encyclopedia of Criminological Theory* is focused on mapping out the ideological terrain of the academic discipline as it has evolved over the last two-hundred-plus years. Cullen currently holds the title of Distinguished Research Professor at the University of Cincinnati's School of Criminal Justice and with over thirty years in the field and over 275 works published, he is undoubtedly well equipped to oversee such a thorough collection. It is equally unsurprising that he is also listed as an entry in the encyclopedia for a subset of his work (as is Wilcox, his coeditor here and colleague at University of Cincinnati).

Browsing the list of entries at the beginning of each volume, one finds that a great majority of them are in fact the names of the individuals with whom various general schools of thought and particular theories are associated. This is a workable organization scheme for those who are already knowledgeable of the discipline's parameters, but it also makes the extensive index at the back of volume 2 absolutely indispensable for those who are less familiar and might therefore be more likely to browse for theoretical work regarding a keyword like "gangs" rather than to search for the work of Martin Sanchez-Jankowski or Frederick M. Thrasher from the start. This stands in fairly stark contrast to the organization of the most nearly comparable recent work, Richard A. Wright's and J. Mitchell Miller's *Encyclopedia of Criminology* (Routledge, 2005), which is largely comprised of more traditional subject headings. The difference is not necessarily a fault of either work but is an important data point in the argument that Cullen and Wilcox have successfully

filled a niche that was heretofore mostly empty. It also demonstrates that the work of Cullen and Wilcox may be more aptly suited for upper-level undergraduate and graduate students of criminal justice, sociology, and the like.

In an attempt to mitigate against any potential unfamiliarity with the principle theorists involved, Cullen and Wilcox have included a reader's guide at the beginning of the first volume, which attempts to categorize the encyclopedia's entries into twenty-one schools of thought with each school as a heading containing a list of the relevant name entries beneath. The introductory matter in volume 1 also includes detailed professional information about the individuals comprising the editorship of the work, a complete alphabetical list of all contributors with their affiliation, and an extended narrative essay authored by Cullen and Wilcox that expands on the framework of the reader's guide. Finally, the editors also include a ninety-page selection of annotated further readings near the end of volume 2, coordinated under the same established twenty-one schools of thought headings.

The work is recommended for all academic collections with accommodating budgets but especially those with higher-level undergraduate and graduate collections in relevant disciplines.—*Chris G. Hudson, Serials and Government Documents Librarian, MacMillan Law Library, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia*

Encyclopedia of Political Theory. Ed. by Mark Bevir. Los Angeles, Calif.: Sage, 2010. 3 vols. acid-free \$425 (ISBN 978-1-4129-5865-3).

How should we live together collectively? What is the nature and purpose of human associations? Where does the government fit in? What is its purpose? What are the limits of its legitimate authority? What is the best form of government? These questions have fascinated scholars and students from antiquity to the rise of modern political theory in the seventeenth century to the debate over the proper role of government today. Interest in the theory of politics, moreover, is rapidly growing as citizens are continuously asked to consider and assess their proper relationship with modern governments. At the same time, electorates are becoming increasingly disenchanted by politicians and political ideologists. Interest in political theory should continue to expand as public policy, foreign affairs, domestic politics, social and environmental issues, healthcare, immigration, demand for public services, and similar issues will require new and innovative ideas from our public officials.

Thus this new offering from Sage will be a welcome addition to any collection supporting political science and history curriculums. Edited by Mark Bevir, a professor of political science at the University of California, Berkeley, the *Encyclopedia of Political Theory* fills an important void in the reference literature: a current, comprehensive, interdisciplinary, and in-depth reference source summarizing the most significant topics in the field. Organized alphabetically in three volumes, the encyclopedia will serve many interested readers as an introduction and resource to the field. The 475 signed articles

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are written by an impressive list of scholars with expertise from a variety of subject areas. Each entry contains “see” and “see also” cross references and a bibliography for further reading. The writing is scholarly in its approach and its articles are overwhelmingly informative, engaging, and balanced. Like all encyclopedias of this nature, space limitations dictate that some readers might be disappointed by the exclusion of some topics, but Bevir’s work is unrivaled in this format, and its selections are extremely comprehensive and diverse. Both undergraduates and advanced students will find this to be an exceptional resource that covers political theory, biographies, ethics, and political thought from antiquity to modernity.

Produced on high-quality paper with durable and attractive bindings, the encyclopedia provides a number of user-friendly features, including a list of entries, a reader’s guide, a list of contributors, and two appendixes providing a chronology and a bibliography of web resources. In addition, the set contains an excellent general index, subdivided by topic; although it does not provide a general bibliography or illustrations. Nonetheless, this is a first-rate production that will appeal to a wide variety of political science and history students, scholars and researchers, and the interested general reader. It is highly recommended for any library that serves these patrons.

This crowded field has many excellent reference sources that may serve as valuable companion volumes. Sage’s major handbook on the subject, *The Handbook of Political Theory*, by Gerald F. Gaus and Chandran Kukathas (Sage, 2004), is comprehensive and authoritative, and focuses on a thematic, conceptual, and historical approach to political philosophy. Michael Curtis’s *Great Political Theories* (Harper, 2008) is a two-volume set and an expansion of his earlier work that includes excerpts from the great political thinkers from the fifth century. This book will serve as a superb introduction to the field. Miller et al.’s *The Blackwell Encyclopaedia of Political Thought* (Blackwell Reference, 1991) is a one-volume reference that encompasses political theory from Socrates to Rawls in 350 scholarly entries. While less in-depth and current than the *Encyclopedia of Political Theory*, it is a good introduction to the field, especially for undergraduate libraries. At less than sixty dollars, the paperback version is a bargain. Two additional works worth mentioning are Strauss and Cropsey’s *History of Political Philosophy* (University of Chicago Press, 1987), an authoritative and engaging collection of essays, and Dryzek, Honing, and Phillips’s *The Oxford Handbook of Political Theory* (Oxford University Press, 2008), another good source for introductory students.—*Vincent P. Tinerella, Public Services Librarian, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, Arkansas*

Encyclopedia of Religion in America. Ed. By Charles H. Lippy and Peter W. Williams. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press, 2010. 4 vols. alk.-line \$600 (ISBN 978-0-87289-5). E-book available, call for pricing.

The *Encyclopedia of Religion in America*, edited by Charles H. Lippy and Peter W. Williams, stands out as the first comprehensive encyclopedia dedicated to religion in North America. Reference titles with similar subject headings include the

following: J. Gordon Melton’s sixth edition of *Encyclopedia of American Religions* (Gale Research, 1999), Edward L. Queen II, Stephen R. Prothero, and Gardiner H. Shattuck Jr.’s *Encyclopedia of American Religious History* (Facts on File, 1996), and Charles H. Lippy and Peter W. Williams’s *Encyclopedia of the American Experience: Studies of Traditions and Movements* (Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1988). Focusing on the history of religious groups, Melt’s *Encyclopedia of American Religions* spans 1,243 pages and is similar in length to *Encyclopedia of Religion in America*. However, the 2,100 entries in *Encyclopedia of American Religions* are very short, ranging from a single paragraph to, in rare instances, a few pages, placing the entries in sharp contrast to the in-depth multi-page entries found in the title under review. Queen, Prothero, and Shattuck’s two volume *Encyclopedia of American Religious History* also contains shorter entries but more illustrations than other comparable reference titles. Yet Queen, Prothero, and Shattuck place less emphasis on social and popular culture issues. For example, *Encyclopedia of American Religious History* contains one entry on education, and *Encyclopedia of Religion in America* contains eleven articles on this topic.

Certainly Lippy and Williams’s reference titles offer some overlap, as evidenced by the bibliographies and alternate thematic table of contents in *Encyclopedia of Religion in America*. However, Lippy and Williams’s most recent reference title is arranged alphabetically and clearly provides more detailed coverage. For example, *Encyclopedia of the American Religious Experience: Studies of Traditions and Movements* contains a two-sentence honorable mention of John Witherspoon, the only clergy member to sign the Declaration of Independence (501), whereas *Encyclopedia of Religion in America* contains a substantial paragraph (1757–58).

The breadth and depth of coverage seen in *Encyclopedia of Religion in America* is unsurpassed and quickly emerges as the title’s greatest asset. Lippy and Williams intentionally cast a broad net, covering the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean, beginning in the colonial period and continuing to the present. Both prolific writers, Lippy and Williams decided to embark on this publishing adventure due to the drastic changes in the North American “religious landscape” (xvii), and the entries “The Electronic Church” and “Unaffiliated” indicate this shift. Entries explore the relationship between religion and the following topics: politics and social issues, popular culture, geography and ethnicity, art and literature, and science and the environment. Authors do an amazing job connecting religion to various subjects, such as explaining in the “Abolitionism and Antislavery” article that certain denominations took a definitive stand and forbade members to own slaves (1).

Overall, the articles are objective and inclusive. For example, the entry “Education: Parochial and Private Religious Day Schools” has many diverse subheadings including the following: “Seventh-day Adventist Schools,” “Old Order Amish and Mennonite Schools,” “Academies of the Latter-day Saints (Mormans),” and “Muslim Schools.” Contributors also explain terms, making it easy for the novice to understand.