

SOURCES

The articles are quite readable and should be accessible to casual readers. However, at times one can sense a density in the articles where Flinn has shortened a much longer discussion. Articles vary in length from one column to several pages. Appropriate “see also” references often are provided, and every article offers suggestions for further reading. The work includes a useful chronology, a thorough index, and occasional, appropriate, black-and-white photographs.

Encyclopedia of Catholicism provides more depth and diversity than does the *Harper Collins Encyclopedia of Catholicism* (HarperSanFrancisco, 1995), although the earlier work is more exhaustive in its coverage of significant terms. Both works seem to have laypersons and students in mind. *Encyclopedia of Catholicism* makes an excellent addition to both academic and public library reference collections.—Steven R. Edscorn, *Library Director, Memphis Theological Seminary, Tennessee*

Encyclopedia of Globalization. Ed. by Roland Robertson and Jan Aart Scholte. New York: Routledge, 2007. 4 vols. \$750 (ISBN 0-415-97314-7).

Encyclopedia of Globalization is one of several recent reference works that focus on international and global affairs. Unlike O'Connor's *Encyclopedia of the Global Economy* (Greenwood, 2006) and Griffiths' *Encyclopedia of International Relations and Global Politics* (Routledge, 2005), which focus mainly on economics and international studies, Routledge's new, multivolume encyclopedia attempts to capture a variety of the contested notions of “globalization” from theoretical and policy-based academic perspectives. At the same time, the encyclopedia presents multifaceted and historical entries that include “cultural, economic, environmental, geographical, historical, legal, literary, political, psychological, and social dimensions” (4). As a whole, the work marks a departure from traditional disciplinary boundaries. It presents knowledge from a global perspective, reflecting what is now, according to some, a global society in which the world's six billion people are interconnected and interdependent.

This four-volume work has nearly four hundred entries, from “acid rain” to “postcolonialism” to “youth culture.” Each entry, written by a scholar in the field, provides an accessible yet scholarly essay and includes cross-referencing to related topics and a bibliography for further research. Because articles are written from their author's disciplinary perspective, cross-references and contextual definitions are essential to fully comprehending many of the articles. For example, the entry on “consumption” relies heavily on a presumed understanding of neoliberal economic theories and is based largely on notions of the negative impacts of neoliberal policies. Thus, a reader must be willing to pursue multiple topics and seek alternative perspectives to fully benefit from the richness of this work. To assist readers, a companion work such as *Dictionary of Globalization* (Routledge, 2007) would be useful for quick reference to definitions and concepts noted in entries.

The scope of the work provides space for topics and concepts that would otherwise be omitted or placed within

a discipline-specific source. In addition, the broad scope provides an opportunity to explore common definitions and notions. For example, “world-systems theory” is generally tucked away in sources on political science and sociology, while “biological diversity” is left to the natural sciences. Although entries for commonly known concepts such as “education,” “poverty,” and “science” may, on the surface, appear redundant to those found in other sources, the work provides a unique perspective that focuses on these concepts with a wider lens. They are viewed as culturally bound notions that are increasingly questioned and mutable as they engage other cultures and traditions through empire, migration, trade, and international treaties. Given the multidisciplinary focus required to support research and pedagogy of topics that are increasingly globalized in perspective, it is refreshing to find these concepts together.

Also noteworthy are more than five hundred pages of reprinted primary source documents that include treaties, manifestos, and statistics. The selected bibliography provides a rich source for further research and collection development. Finally, access is enhanced by a thorough index and a list of entries that is compiled alphabetically and topically.

Encyclopedia of Globalization is highly recommended for all academic libraries. It is of particular use for libraries that support global studies and international studies programs. Its unique perspective and scope would be helpful to faculty who are engaging in interdisciplinary research and course development and of particular use to students in such courses.—Steve Witt, *Associate Director of the Center for Global Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

Encyclopedia of Health and Aging. Ed. by Kyriakos S. Markides. Los Angeles: Sage, 2007. 675p. alkaline \$150 (ISBN 978-1-4129-0949-5).

Over the past several years, a number of encyclopedias on aging have been published. Works such as Adriel Bettelheim's *Aging in America: A to Z* (CQ Pr., 2001) focus on political, social, and legislative factors affecting aging persons. Others discuss health topics at a level geared toward undergraduates and consumers and offer a multidisciplinary examination of aging, such as David Ekerdt's *The Encyclopedia of Aging* (Macmillan Reference, 2002), with its articles on “Careers in Aging” and “Visual Arts and Aging.” The *Encyclopedia of Health and Aging*, however, focuses entirely on health and medicine in aging, with writing geared toward researchers, practitioners, and students in the field of medicine and entries examining aging and geriatrics from a medical, scientific perspective.

The closest comparable work to *Encyclopedia of Health and Aging* is Joseph Kandel's *Encyclopedia of Senior Health and Well-Being* (Facts On File, 2003). Although it, too, looks at medicine and aging, it is written from a social point of view and “can be very helpful, particularly as a reference source for agencies” (ix). For example, the entry for “Caregivers” in *Encyclopedia of Health and Aging* examines the research on

mental and physical health problems of caregivers. The comparable entry in *Encyclopedia of Senior Health and Well-Being* discusses the feeling of empowerment that can accompany being a caregiver and includes a brief discussion on caregivers' perceptions of their own health.

Encyclopedia of Health and Aging is a single-volume work containing more than two hundred entries written by more than 250 contributors. Entries range from "Alzheimer's Disease" to "Lewy Body Dementia," and "Asian and Pacific Islander Americans" to "Normative Aging Study." Markides' inspiration for topics in this encyclopedia reflects those covered in the *Journal of Aging and Health*, a publication he founded and edits.

The encyclopedia's organization and its straightforward presentation of information strengthen the work's value to the field of medicine. In addition to the list of contributors and alphabetic list of all entries, a readers guide divides all of the entries into eleven different subject areas, aiding in the location of entries covering similar topic areas. One shortcoming of the readers guide is the lack of explanation for which topics fall under which headings. For example, it is not clear why under "Diseases and Medical Conditions" there is an entry for "Men's Health" but not "Women's Health."

Following the readers guide and introduction to the encyclopedia are the entries themselves. Entries vary in length from half a page to several pages and include the contributor's name, "see also" references, and further reading and reference lists. There are some figures, charts, and tables that enhance the content of the text. Following the entries is an appendix providing forty-five online, annotated resources regarding aging. An index also is included.

The information covered in this resource is straightforward and content-rich. One is able to locate information quickly and efficiently without having to sort through lengthy entries or pages of images or tables. With its medical focus this work fills a gap in the literature. It is recommended for hospital and academic libraries.—*Maria C. Melssen, Reference and Education Librarian, University of Toledo, Ohio.*

Encyclopedia of World Constitutions. Ed. by Gerhard Robbers. New York: Facts On File, 2007. 3 vols. acid free \$255 (ISBN 0-8160-6078-9).

Almost all countries have some form of written constitution that defines the rules that govern that state. As Gerhard Robbers, the editor of the *Encyclopedia of World Constitutions*, notes in the introduction, these rules may not always be followed by that country's leaders, but they do define expectations by which that nation may be judged by the world. Constitutions define fundamental rights, including human rights and rights of citizens; they outline the structure of the government; and they define the degree to which people can participate in governance.

This set includes entries for 194 nation-states as well as special territories and the European Union. Entries, which are generally about five to six pages in length, follow the same

basic format. The opening "At-a-Glance" section provides basic information, such as the name of the state, the capital, population, languages, religions, and type of government. This is followed by a brief introduction, a somewhat longer constitutional history, and then details about the current constitutional structure. This last portion includes sections on the "Form and Impact of the Constitution," "Basic Organizational Structure," "Leading Constitutional Principles," "Constitutional Bodies," "The Election Process," "Political Parties," "Citizenship," "Fundamental Rights," "Economy and Economic Rights," "Religious Communities," "Military Defense and State of Emergency," and "Amendments to the Constitution." In cases where it is warranted, these sections are subdivided. For instance, the section on constitutional bodies may include subsections on the presidency, the cabinet, the congress, and the judiciary. In states where it is warranted, the federal structure is outlined here as well. The entries are well-written in language understandable to high school students but still useful for more advanced users. All entries are written by constitutional scholars, who, in many cases, are from the country being described.

For readers who wish to consult the original documents, there are citations to the Internet versions of the constitutions at the end of each entry. Whenever possible, these include versions in English and native languages. The citations are followed by a brief list of secondary sources, many of which are in languages other than English, making them of questionable use for a set designed for an English-speaking high school and undergraduate audience.

Despite this minor quibble, this is a valuable set that all types of libraries will wish to acquire. It is much more comprehensive than Robert L. Maddex's single-volume *Constitutions of the World* (2d ed., CQ Pr., 2001), which contains entries for only one hundred countries. And, because constitutions are constantly evolving, the currency of *Encyclopedia of World Constitutions* is important.—*Michael Levine-Clark, Collections Librarian, Penrose Library, University of Denver, Colorado*

The Fourth of July Encyclopedia. By James R. Heintze. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 2007. 360p. alkaline \$55 (ISBN 0-7864-2777-9).

James Heintze, librarian emeritus at the American University Library in Washington, D.C., has written extensively on American music, history, and culture. His most recent books include a bibliography on Igor Stravinsky and *Reflections on American Music: The Twentieth Century and the New Millennium* (Pendragon Pr., 2000, co-edited with Michael Saffle). His latest book, *The Fourth of July Encyclopedia*, is the first comprehensive reference text on Fourth of July celebrations and origins.

The Fourth of July Encyclopedia consists of a broad range of entries, from the origins of America's independence, to notable events throughout American history on and around July Fourth (including events that had an impact on the holiday), to notable aspects of July Fourth celebrations, such as fireworks displays, social movements, and civic projects.