with descriptions of natural, synthetic, and mineral fibers (e.g., glass fibers and asbestos); dyes; and the analysis of fiber evidence. Forensic Science also features an excellent sixty-five-page introduction that provides a fascinating overview of the history of forensic science.

Regarding the topic of DNA evidence, Newton's Encyclopedia of Crime Scene Investigation includes more than six pages of general information about DNA and how it is used to identify victims and criminals, solve cold cases, and exonerate the innocent. Forensic Science features a five-page entry with the sections “DNA in Forensic Science,” “DNA Databases,” and “DNA Population Frequencies.” In addition, within Tilstone, Savage, and Clark’s introduction there are two pages about the history of modern forensic DNA analysis.

If faced with selecting between these two reference sources, Tilstone, Savage, and Clark’s Forensic Science would be the better choice for general readers, with its interesting introduction tracing the history of investigative techniques.—Nancy Frazier, Instructional Services librarian, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania


Broadly defined, “cybercrimes include illicit using of information systems, computers, or other types of information technology” (xii–xiii). As system capabilities and user sophistication increases, there are more opportunities for attack. Readers who only encounter cybercrime through an occasional spam message may be shocked by the dizzying array of tactics that criminals use these days. The Encyclopedia of Cybercrime aptly demonstrates that individuals, businesses, and community groups of all kinds—and even national governments—are at risk. It describes child pornography, copyright infringement, cyberbullying, espionage, identity theft, malware, and many other illegal activities.

McQuade’s aim was to address the “information needs and interests of high school and undergraduate college students” (ix), and he has largely succeeded. Beyond basic descriptions of types of crimes, the Encyclopedia of Cybercrime introduces readers to theory, research, prevention, careers, and related organizations. Thus readers asking almost any type of question about cybercrime will find a starting point. Despite the technical nature of the topic, the Encyclopedia of Cybercrime is very understandable, typically spelling out and explaining each acronym and using current, everyday examples to explain complex phenomena. For instance, the article “Gaming Online” explains that “MMORPGs, . . . massively multiplayer online role-playing games,” are those which allow “several thousand simultaneous players,” and the author cites Everquest, Final Fantasy, and World of Warcraft as examples (79). Providing various intellectual access points in this way makes the Encyclopedia of Cybercrime understandable for young people, parents, and professionals alike. Each entry provides suggested readings as well.

McQuade is exaggerating a bit in stating that his is “the first comprehensive encyclopedia to address cybercrime” (ix). His book can be compared to Michael Newton’s Encyclopedia of High-Tech Crime and Crime-Fighting (Facts on File, 2004) and Bernadette Schell’s Cybercrime: A Reference Handbook (ABC-Clio, 2004). McQuade’s work seems to contain far fewer biographies and details about specific instances of crime than Newton’s does. Yet its list of entries, cross-referencing, and superior reading lists make the Encyclopedia of Cybercrime more user-friendly. Schell’s work offers more depth on relevant people, organizations, and criminal cases, as well as a glossary. Still, for a rapidly developing topic, libraries are wise to have the most current item on the shelf. McQuade’s work is a nice introduction and partial update to these other works. At the reference desk, I would probably advise customers to start with the Encyclopedia of Cybercrime and consult Schell’s and other resources if they would like more information.

My only significant concern about McQuade’s work involves its list of contributors. Given the practical expertise needed to identify and combat computer crime, it is not surprising that few of the twenty-five authors are academics. They are security directors and systems administrators within corporations and schools, as well as experts in law enforcement. This said, nearly all of them are connected to McQuade’s institution (Rochester Institute of Technology) or to the Monroe County, New York, area. At least thirteen of the contributors are current students, current employees, or alumni of RIT. While I have no ground to criticize RIT’s leadership in cybercrime, there seem to be many others that offer related programs and coursework. Perhaps this encyclopedia could have been broadened by other perspectives.

In summary, the Encyclopedia of Cybercrime is a recommended, additional title for any public or undergraduate library, especially those which do not own or wish to update Schell’s Cybercrime: A Reference Handbook.—Bernadette A. Lear, Behavioral Sciences and Education Librarian, Penn State Harrisburg Library, Middletown, Pennsylvania


The Encyclopedia of Environmental Ethics and Philosophy provides a broad overview of environmental philosophy and ethics that is both useful to academics and accessible to the general public. The 300+ signed articles in this set were written between 2006 and 2008, and their currency is refreshing. The authors are nearly all academics, and their contributions are well written and scholarly while at the same time readable for a wide audience. Although an effort has been made by the editors to provide an international scope, there remains a strong Anglo-American focus in both the content of the encyclopedia and the distribution of the contributors. This is acceptable, however, as the relatively new field of environmental philosophy “reflects mostly the Anglo-American philosophical approach . . . [drawn upon] ethical theory inherited from modern European and North