

While one would expect entries on the historical aspects of the Roman Empire to be in this encyclopedia, one may not expect entries of movies and video games that are related to Julius Caesar. *AJTC* has a number of entries on movies (*Spartacus* and *Cleopatra*), television shows (HBO's *Rome*) and even video games (*Caesar I–IV*) related to Julius Caesar. These additional entries add tremendous value to this work.

Primary source documents lie at the end of *AJTC*. Their inclusion is a bonus allowing users to go straight from an article to a primary source. The value of their inclusion could be increased dramatically if more references were made to them in individual entries.

While they are several ways that *AJTC* could improve its value, its combination of being focused on a very specific topic yet providing an incredibly broad look at that topic, make it a reference set worth having in any undergraduate university library.—Garrett B. Trott, *Reference/Instruction Librarian, Corban University, Salem, Oregon*

Antarctica and the Arctic Circle: A Geographic Encyclopedia of the Earth's Polar Regions. Edited by Andres J. Hund. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2014. 2 vols. Acid free \$189 (ISBN: 978-1-61069-392-9). Ebook available (978-1-61069-393-6), call for pricing.

Although calling itself a geographic encyclopedia, the scope of this two-volume set is broader than such a designation suggests. Hund has attempted to encompass a large range of information about a vast area, perhaps a bit much for a modest two-volume set. Attempting to address in a meaningful way topics in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and applied sciences for both poles in approximately 350 entries and fewer than 800 pages is ambitious. His stated “central feature . . . the original inhabitants of the Arctic region” (xi) would, alone, merit a work of this size. John Stewart's larger, two-volume *Antarctica: An Encyclopedia*, 2nd ed. (McFarland, 2011) is more limited in both geographical and topical scope.

A significant strength of this set is as a starting place for research. The entries are significantly more in depth than those in Stewart's work or in David McDougal and Lynn Woodworth's single-volume *The Complete Encyclopedia: Antarctica and the Arctic* (Firefly, 2001). The entries most often present a cohesive and reasonably in-depth discussion of a topic, essentially reading much like journal articles, with less direct citation and a less complete list of references. Beyond this, most entries are followed immediately by a further-reading section composed largely of scholarly articles and books, government and nongovernmental organization documents, and other authoritative sources. This differs from the placement of references at the end of the two volumes, as in Stewart's set, and the seeming entire omission of citations, as in David McDougal and Lynn Woodworth's work. The latter seems almost impossible without violating intellectual integrity and undermines the substantial value of encyclopedic works as sources of research leads and direction.

In contrast to the “direct entry” organization adopted in *Antarctica: An Encyclopedia*, the signed, article-length entries in Hund's work rely on an index and cross references to enable readers to locate related topics and information on a more granular scale than the major articles, as well as under alternate terminology. The indexing is in volume 2 only and, unfortunately, is somewhat inconsistent. Animal species may be indexed by common name, scientific name, or both; common names may be indexed at different levels such as “elephant seal” versus “southern elephant seal”; and the variant or variants used in the entry do not seem to be a very good guide to what will be indexed. In notable contrast to the indication given by the subtitle, geographic locations are not described in this encyclopedia at as fine a level as in Stewart's set, nor as comprehensively.

The sparse illustrations are entirely black-and-white and often seem to do little to enhance the informational value of the content. They do add some interest and some do contribute to the entry. The set clearly lacks the impressive visual appeal of McDougal and Woodworth's work, but has more visual elements than Stewart's, which has not so much as a map or a table.

These three major reference works on the polar regions complement each other well. However, if you must limit your selections, for the most comprehensive geographical information, John Stewart's *Antarctica: An Encyclopedia* would be preferred. McDougal and Woodworth's volume would be the clear choice for visual appeal. As a broader scope research resource for undergraduate or graduate students, or for the strongest presentation in natural, social, and political sciences, Hund's work would be an excellent choice and is recommended.—Lisa Euster, *Reference Librarian, Brooks Library, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington*

The Brain, the Nervous System, and Their Diseases. Edited by Jennifer L. Hellier. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2015. 3 vols. Acid free \$294 (ISBN: 978-1-61069-337-0). Ebook available (978-1-61069-338-7).

Jennifer L. Hellier's *The Brain, the Nervous System, and Their Diseases* fulfills its purpose as a single, comprehensive resource that covers all aspects of the brain, nervous system, and the diseases effecting these organ systems. The text is easy to navigate: entries are listed alphabetically and by topic. A detailed index is also provided at the end of volume 3. The 333 entries vary in length from several paragraphs to multiple pages and include “see also” references and lists of further readings. Images, tables, charts, and graphs are provided when available. A list of recommended resources at the end of the encyclopedia provides only eight resources; however, each entry's own list of further readings makes up for the brevity of this list. The encyclopedia covers a wide range of topics, from the anatomy of the nervous system to the diagnostic tests and treatment for various diseases of the nervous system. Though the encyclopedia is easy to use, the entries are written at a level that may be challenging for