

SOURCES

A user of this set can clearly and easily see how a particular area, in this case southern Pennsylvania near the Maryland border, played a crucial role in the war.

Overall, the set is well-indexed in case users do not know in which state to seek information on a person or battle. Other features are some black and white maps and illustrations. The entries clearly and concisely tie locations, events, and people to the overall war effort of each side. The level of detail and overall scholarly approach make this seem more appropriate for academic libraries; or perhaps public libraries with a strong Civil War collection.—*Mike Tosko, Associate Professor, Research and Learning Services, The University of Akron, Akron, Ohio*

American Poets and Poetry: From the Colonial Era to the Present. Ed. by Jeffrey Gray, Mary McAleer Balkun, and James McCorkle. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2015. 2 vols. Acid free \$189 (ISBN: 978-1-61069-831-3). E-book available (978-1-61069-832-0), call for pricing.

In many ways *American Poets and Poetry: From the Colonial Era to the Present* is a condensed version of *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of American Poets and Poetry* (Greenwood, 2006). They have the same editors, many of the same contributors, and there is overlap in the poets and topics covered. The earlier encyclopedia was five volumes and much more comprehensive, but this new work does cover some contemporary poets not found in the previous work, such as Natasha Trethewey, and has more recent information about some of the still living poets.

The alphabetical arrangement of the entries, along with a table of contents and an index, make it easy to use. Signed entries include some biographical information, exploration of the poets' style and themes, and very brief lists of primary and secondary sources. Frequently entries discuss individual poems or poem collections, which really helps illustrate the nature of the poet's work. This two volume work also contains a historical chronology, a bibliography (featuring anthologies of poetry, critical studies, reference works, and websites), and an introduction that provides context for the periods covered.

The topical entries are a strength of this work since they make it more than just a biographical source. A student can gain more understanding about such topics as beat poetry, imagism, Native American poetry, and postmodern poetics. Unfortunately the topical entries are not easily linked to the individual poets. There is no "see also" section in the entries, and poets discussed in a topical entry are not highlighted in any way, even if they have their own entry. The index helps solve this oversight. For example, when beat poetry appears in the index, it lists not only the page numbers for the main topical entry and other pages where beat poetry is mentioned, but it also lists under it the names of beat poets that have entries.

The target audience for this reference work is high school and college students. It's only recommended for libraries who

have not already purchased *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of American Poets and Poetry*, or perhaps for those looking for a more compact reference work on this topic to be added to their circulating collection.—*Arianne A. Hartsell-Gundy, Librarian for Literature and Theater Studies, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina*

Encyclopedia of Asylum Therapeutics, 1750–1950s. By Mary de Young. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2015. 368 pages. acid free \$55 (ISBN: 978-0-7864-6897-3). E-book available (978-0-4766-1788-6), call for pricing.

Therapeutics is defined as the treatment and care of a patient to both prevent and combat disease and injury in the online *Encyclopedia Britannica*. This encyclopedia is an attempt to gather many of the treatments applied in institutions for the mentally ill (insane), using the writings of proponents and practitioners of these treatments. While a few of the therapies described and documented in this encyclopedia appear to be humane and well intentioned (Hydrotherapy—beach bathing), many others appear to be punitive and even sadistic when compared to contradictory views at the times and definitely so in light of current modern understandings of mental illness. Some forms of hydrotherapy such as douche, drenching, mustard bath, etc. might be considered torture.

The 35 alphabetically arranged entries or categories of therapeutics include summaries of single or related groups of treatments. These may be paraphrased or quoted from the writings of proponents of the wide ranging theories of sanity and insanity that led to the treatments sometimes inflicted on patients in asylums. The categories are succinctly defined under the headings, followed by descriptions of the various ways these might be carried out. There are reference lists for each category, though the placement between the introductory discussion of each category and individual treatments falling within the category is unusual.

An example of this entry organization is Cerebral or Psychic Stimulation where temporary anoxia was induced by altering air pressure, inhalation of various carbon dioxide mixtures, continuous oxygen therapy, nitrogen inhalation, nitrous oxide inhalation, or sodium cyanide injections. Major hospitals, university research centers, state and private institutions for the insane and even the Chemical Warfare Service of the US Army were involved in using one or more of these methods.

Another questionable category was genital surgery of various kinds. Castration, clitoridectomy, ovariectomy, sterilization (tubal ligation and vasectomy), and "wiring" to cause pain when masturbating, are described along with those who practiced and promoted these therapies for various types of behaviors.

Many of the therapies have obscure names that require reading the entry to discover the underlying theories and treatments. Awakenings, Depletive Therapy, Fixing, Metallotherapy, Psychic Driving and Total Push are examples.

Others like Bed Therapy, Diet, Forced Feeding, Isolation, Mechanical Restraints and Phototherapy offer a few clues to the category but still may surprise readers when more fully described. There are also descriptions of various surgeries, body manipulations and psychological practices. An example of physical force is Ovarian Compression to start or stop hysteria.

This encyclopedia's vocabulary assumes a high reading level partly because of the scholarly approach to the subject and partly because there are many very formal quotes and paraphrased sections from the writings of practitioners and observers from the past. Sentences are long and sometimes quite complex.

One will find other works describing some of the history of treatments for the mentally ill, including de Young's earlier book: *Madness: an American History of Mental Illness and its Treatment* (McFarland, 2010). This current encyclopedic collection appears to be unique in gathering and categorizing many of the ways in which the insane were treated over for over 200 years in Europe, North America and some other locales. Public and academic libraries should consider it for its accounts of many of the medical treatments of the mentally ill before the rise of scientific psychopharmacology.—Linda Loos Scarth, *Cedar Rapids, Iowa*

Encyclopedia of Education Economics & Finance. Ed. by Dominic J. Brewer and Lawrence O. Picus. Los Angeles: Sage Reference, 2014. 2 vols. alkaline \$340 (ISBN: 978-1-4522-8185-8).

Comprehensive studies of educational systems in an economic and social sciences context are relatively recent. The 1966 Equality of Educational Opportunity report (also known as the Coleman Report) addressed the availability of equal educational opportunities to children of different races, religions, and national origins in response to the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This was an early example of social science research being used to influence national policy. Since then, educational finance research has blossomed into an area of study that influences decision makers at the national, state and local levels in resource allocation, assessment, and school organizational and restructuring policies.

The Encyclopedia of Education Economics & Finance is a two-volume reference work featuring nearly 350 background and topical entries on primarily American educational economics from elementary to adult levels, including privatization, legislation, financing, and key economic concepts. While topics are arranged in the alphabetical order typical of encyclopedias, they are also grouped into 11 thematic areas such as “revenue and aids for schools,” “statistical methods,” and “education markets, choice, and incentives” in the prefatory Reader's Guide, a useful way to identify related topics. Each entry concludes with see also references and further readings.

Particularly useful for navigating the complicated terrain of educational economics is this work's set of appendixes. The first is a resource guide of major journals in education

economics and finance, as well as a historical and current bibliography of seminal books, articles and reports. Appendix B traces the chronology of key events related to the finance of education from 1647's interestingly named “Old Deluder Satan Act” (which required Massachusetts municipalities to finance local public schools) to 2014's Gannon vs. Kansas case, which highlights the issue of separation of powers between the state legislature and judicial systems. The glossary in Appendix C is limited to financial and economic terms, but is nonetheless useful; however, the inclusion of entries covering the “alphabet soup” of education organizations, initiatives, and terminology would be valuable. These include, for example, NCLB (No Child Left Behind), the NELS (National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988), CBA (Curriculum-Based Assessment), and SBM (School-Based Management).

Although the topic of education and finance in education is addressed in various entries in the excellent, although now dated *Encyclopedia of Education* (Macmillan Reference USA, 2003), this title is the first reference work to cover the topic in more depth. As such, it joins other special topics-based encyclopedias in education, including the *Encyclopedia of Diversity in Education* (Sage, 2012), and the *Encyclopedia of Educational Theory and Philosophy* (Sage, 2014). Recommended primarily for college and university libraries.—Jennifer A. Bartlett, *Head of Reference Services, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky*

Germany at War: 400 Years of Military History. Ed. by David T. Zabecki. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2015. 4 vols. acid free \$415 (ISBN: 978-1-59884-980-6). E-book available (978-1-59884-981-3), call for pricing.

This 4 volume set seeks to explain and define 400 years of German military history. Early on the editor explains what he means by “Germany,” stating “for our purposes, Germany is defined as the Federal Republic of Germany today, its predecessor states, and the component kingdoms and principalities that combine to form Imperial Germany” (xxxvii). This was an important distinction to make given the unique history of Germany as a united nation. There are many books that cover German military history, however, many of those only focus on specific periods or states of Germany.

Germany at War contains over 300 entries in alphabetical order that seek to provide the reader with a comprehensive understanding of the individuals, events, places, and equipment relevant to German military history. These entries cover events from the “Thirty Years War through today's *Bundeswehr*” (xxxvii). The 300+ entries are reference entries typically between 5 and 7 paragraphs. At the end of each entry is an additional reading suggestion, which is very beneficial to this series. These suggestions do a good job of introducing the reader to material that goes more in-depth on the topic. Each volume contains an index and table of contents.

This set does not offer anything new to the field of Germany military history; however, it does a good job of