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


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 preATORY 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 appendices. 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


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