SOURCES

Some examples of diseases, insects, animals and plants covered include malaria, measles, typhoid, cows, pigs, cranberries, peanuts, almonds, soybeans and tomatoes. All articles contain references, mostly to classic studies, and some important websites. An additional appendix reprints twelve major historical documents in this field—for example, Cortez on smallpox, Walter Reed on yellow fever and mosquitoes, and George Washington Carver on peanuts. A small number of sidebars, highlighting important people or a specific type of plant or pathogen appear throughout the work, as well as some black and white photographs and drawings.

Aimed at high school researchers, this title would be most useful in a public or high school library, although the high price may be a barrier. Recommended.—*Marion S. Muskiewicz, science librarian emerita, University of Massachusetts Lowell*

Religion and American Cultures: Tradition, Diversity, and Popular Expression. 2nd ed. Edited by Gary Laderman and Luis Leon. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2015. 4 vols. Acid free $399 (ISBN: 978-1-91069-109-3). E-book Available (978-1-61069-110-9), call for pricing.

The second edition of this work has been expanded to four volumes and has increased its coverage greatly. Although the editors state clearly that the work is not meant to be comprehensive, it does provide an excellent, and general, overview of religion within American culture. Each volume, in many ways, can stand alone, but together they provide a wonderful introduction to the state of religion in the United States and its influence on American culture.

Volume 1 focuses on ethnicity, institutions, and communities. The broad topics include African American religions, Asian American religious communities, Buddhism in America, Catholicism in America, Hinduism in America, Islam in America, Judaism in America, Latina/Latino religious communities, Native American religions and politics, New Age, new religious traditions, Orthodox Christianity, and Protestantism in America. Under each major topic are from four to six related articles. For example, under the section on Asian American religious communities are separate entries for Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Pacific Islander, and South Asian religious communities in America. Under New Age are shorter articles on channeling, goddess spirituality, New Age bestsellers, Raëlian Movement, Whiteshamanism, and Wicca. Thus, the full range of organized religion is covered with the exception of groups such as Unitarian-Universalists, atheists, and humanists. Many of the topics from this work, especially on specific religions, are covered in a variety of other resources such as the Encyclopedia of Religion in America (CQ Press, 2010) which provide greater historical depth. The strengths of the articles in the current set are their currency and their specificity, especially as related to popular expression of religion in the United States.

Volume 2 covers broad, general topics that are not covered in other encyclopedias of religion in the United States. These topics include the body, death, generations, material culture, popular culture, popular theodicies, public theologies and political culture, ritual and performance, sacred space, sacred time, science, sexuality, and violence. These general articles and the more specific entries associated with them are among the more interesting readings within the work. The entries are as varied as Asian body practices (such as T'ai Chi), piercing, autopsies, generation X, religion in the news, evil in the twentieth century, feminisms, tourism, shopping malls, the fourth of July—called "the most hallowed of days" in the "calendar of American civil religion," (708)—evolution, masturbation, and lynching. While providing interesting reading, there are also idiosyncrasies, such as the exclusion of yoga and Reiki from Asian body practices.

Volume 3 is the most difficult to characterize since it represents a hodgepodge of information that, while interesting, seem supplementary. It includes sections on tradition, diversity, and popular expression each of which includes articles of substantial length. Tradition includes articles such as "Religion after 9/11: An Ambiguous Legacy" and "The Sex Abuse Scandal in the Roman Catholic Church." Under Diversity are articles such as "Latina and Latino Muslim Religious Cultures," "Interfaith Marriage from Colonial Times to the Present," and "The New Atheism." In the section on Popular Expressions can be found articles on "Paranormal America," "Religion in Prison," and "Travel and Religion."

The final volume provides more than eighty primary documents from throughout American history. The first document is "Privileges and Prerogatives Granted by Their Catholic Majesties to Christopher Columbus (1492)" and the most recent is President Obama's first inaugural address. In between are a wide variety of documents from the Maryland Toleration Act to an excerpt from McGuffey's Reader, from the notice of Georgia's secession from the union to Ronald Reagan's Evil Empire speech. This volume also provides a compiled bibliography of works cited in all the entries and a comprehensive index.

Comprised of the work of over 170 contributors, this set displays a remarkable consistency of tone and style and provides a marvelous and very interesting discourse on the place and role of religion in American life and culture. It covers historically relevant overviews while also delving into specific subject areas. Thus, it will be an excellent addition to most libraries but especially for academic collections that support courses in American history, religion, and popular culture.—*Gregory A. Crawford, Interim Director, School of Humanities, Penn State Harrisburg, Middletown, Pennsylvania*

The Sage Encyclopedia of Educational Technology. Edited by J. Michael Spector. Los Angeles: Sage Reference, 2015. 2 vols. Alkaline $375 (ISBN: 978-1-4522-5822-5).

The *Sage Encyclopedia of Educational Technology* is an intelligent attempt to update and contextualize knowledge about the multifarious world of educational technology. Editor J. Michael Spector has broadly defined educational technology

as "the application of knowledge to support the development of productive, thoughtful, and responsible persons" (xxvii). Three hundred scholars have contributed substantive articles that explain the diverse dynamics that contribute to our ideas about technology and learning. Learning theories, educational methods, research, and questions for future inquiry have been integrated into more than three hundred entries, covering a myriad of topics related to learners of all levels, including informal learners and learners in the workplace.

Articles vary in length from 1,500 to 3,500 words. All include "see also" references and suggestions for further reading. Articles are arranged alphabetically; but there is a detailed subject index and a helpful reader's guide that classifies the articles according to twenty-eight major themes, including "Adaptive Learning Systems," "Digital Literacy," "Evaluation, Assessment, and Testing," "Game-Based Learning," "History of Educational Technology," "Infrastructure Development,""Mobile Technologies," "Psychological and Social Issues," "Simulation and Modeling Technologies," and "Teaching and Learning with Technology." This two-volume set also includes a resource guide that identifies important refereed journals and professional magazines vital to academic study of educational technology.

This encyclopedia should be of interest to students, faculty and professionals within the fields of education and training. "Change Agency" is an example of an article that stretches beyond the scope of educational technology. James B. Ellsworth traces the history of change agency, and delivers a concise literature review that summarizes various frameworks and important research since 1962. This article includes "see also" references for: Disruptive Innovations; Early Adopters; Innovators and Risk Takers in Education; Predicting Change and Adoption of Technology Innovations; Systemic Change and Educational Technology.

There are many articles that focus specifically on technology enhanced learning, such as Zervas's and Sampson's "Metatagging of Learning Objects and Apps." This article defines "metatagging," introduces classification systems and the standardization organizations, and explains metatagging methods.

Although most entries concentrate on the twenty-first century, "History of Educational Technology" and "Appendix A: Chronology" outline educational technology developments since ancient times beginning with the Abacus.

This is the only current and the most interdisciplinary encyclopedia devoted to educational technology. Rita Richey's *Encyclopedia of Terminology for Educational Communications and Technology* (Springer, 2013) focused primarily on the terminology of the field, and while Lawrence A. Tomei's *Encyclopedia of Information Technology Curriculum Integration* (Information Science Reference, 2008) covered methodologies, applications, and best practices; it is already seven years old.

The Sage Encyclopedia of Educational Technology should retain its usefulness for the next decade because of its scholarly quality and the breadth and depth of coverage on the application of knowledge and methods to support learning. It should be in all college collections, and be added to library discovery systems.—*Valerie Mittenberg, Collection Development Librarian, Sojourner Truth Library, State University of New York*

Spirit Possession Around the World: Possession, Communion, and Demon Expulsion Across Cultures. Edited by Joseph P. Laycock. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2015. 414 pages. Acid free $89 (ISBN: 978-1-61069-589-3). E-book available (978-1-31069-590-9), call for pricing.

This book has proven a welcome addition to the reference collection at my private, Catholic, liberal arts institution. In an effort to draw a comparison between other works on the topic of spirit possession, I found myself surprised to discover that there are currently few comparable resources in our collection, the collections of libraries in our consortium, or available on Amazon. While I have encountered works addressing the spiritual, medical, psychological, religious, geographical, and cultural aspects of the phenomenon of demoniac possession at an individual level, it is rare to find all of these together.

The book consists of A-to-Z signed entries on various aspects of demoniac possession, all written by appropriately qualified scholars. Also included are suggestions for further reading, cross-referencing, and profiles on the editor and contributors. Particularly useful features include a guide to related topics that groups the entries by geography, religion and traditions, political movements, popular culture, psychological/medical and sociological interpretations and a chronology that spans from 1600 BCE to 2013 CE.

The contributors to this volume demonstrate a knowledgeable and even-handed treatment of subject matter that I feared could easily be mired in ideology. It proved refreshing that the scholarly tone has been maintained throughout the entries while still penetrating areas such as popular culture that could easily become sensational. For example, the entry addressing the film *The Exorcist* could have been easily derailed by hearsay regarding a rumored "curse" on the film that has thrived online and around campfires for decades. While abstaining from ignoring the incidents from which the urban legend has sprung, yet not becoming mired in the debate, the contributor skillfully addressed all aspects of the topic and related phenomenon while espousing no particular causative factor. Academic users of this volume will find that this treatment extends throughout the work and provides helpful information, both of popular and scholarly nature, without devolving into the recounting of urban legends and subjective hearsay about the supernatural. This encyclopedia will prove particularly useful for undergraduate students or any individual with an interest in religious studies. I expect that this will be a well-used item in Ursuline College's collection.—*Anita J. Slack, Reference and Instruction Librarian, Ursuline College, Pepper Pike, Ohio*