SOURCES

Sparta either civil wars or a revolution? Presumably the notion is that they were sort of cultural civil wars because both city states spoke Greek, but the argument is not made and would be hard to sustain. As for the Thirty Years War, Prof. Tucker notes it was started by a Bohemian religious revolt, but the monster became Europe’s first continental conflict.

On the plus side, the prose is straightforward, as is to be expected from this prolific author/editor. The promise to roam the world across a long span of time is fulfilled, leading to a few entries on such obscure subjects as the Boshin Civil War. (Bet you have to Google that one!) Each entry is completed with a chronology and bibliography. Maps, tables and black and white images are sprinkled throughout.

Tucker’s latest work arrives close on the heels of David Armitage’s monograph Civil Wars: A History in Ideas (Knopf, 2017), which, in part, uses history to examine the muddy relationship of the terms “civil war” and “revolution.” A much smaller but still analytical historical assessment is Jack A. Goldstone’s Revolutions: A Very Short Introduction (Oxford University Press, 2014).

Reference works comparable to Roots include James V. DeFronzo’s three-volume Revolutionary Movements in World History: From 1750 to the Present (ABC-CLIO, 2006) and Goldstone’s The Encyclopedia of Political Revolutions (Congressional Quarterly, 1998). DeFronzo’s project covers a much shorter span of time than Tucker’s, but addresses 108 post-Enlightenment revolutionary movements with chronologies, histories, assessments, and biographical sketches. Goldstone, who has made a career focusing on revolutions, used his conventionally formatted encyclopedia to address not only revolutionary movements since the Renaissance, but also revolutionary ideas and actors.

Perhaps the seemingly synchronized arrival of the Armitage and Tucker volumes is the serendipitous answer for someone seeking to understand the nature of civil wars; Armitage for the overview, Tucker for some blow-by-blow details. On its own, Roots works for a library filling gaps in accounts of certain conflicts, but as a necessary resource for its subject, it is not well realized.—Evan Davis, Librarian, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana

The Routledge Companion to Digital Journalism Studies.


Through content and scope, editors and contributors to The Routledge Companion to Digital Journalism Studies clearly conceive of digital journalism as a field distinct from traditional print journalism and broadcast journalism. This sets the work apart from virtually all other journalism reference works. For comparison, the six-volume Encyclopedia of Journalism (Sage, 2009) has discrete essays such as “Digital Media Tools” and “Social Network Websites” among topics about journalism more broadly. To be fair, the Routledge Companion represents an additional eight years of development in a rapidly changing field.

This brings up a concern about this work that is acknowledged by the editors. The Routledge Companion to Digital Journalism Studies risks becoming outdated quickly in such a quickly evolving field. Still, it is reasonable to think that digital journalism is more crystallized as a field and more standardized in practice than it was a decade ago. Franklin and Eldridge have taken the opportunity to boldly create the first work of its kind.

The essays in this work are detailed enough to provide more than a conceptual overview. They approach the ability to serve as secondary, scholarly sources rather than purely tertiary sources. Each essay provides a “further reading” section and a fairly extensive list of references. For example, the essay “Digital Journalism and Tabloid Journalism” lists thirty-five references, and this is fairly typical throughout the work.

Voice throughout is scholarly enough that it might prove moderately thick to beginning undergraduates, but is readable enough to aid in the acquisition of journalistic terminology and habituation to scholarly reading. A thorough index includes people, places, publications, and relevant topics such as “community journalism.” As usual, Routledge binds the work in an attractive, but not pretentious, hard cover. The work contains occasional figures and graphs, but not photographs.

One can imagine The Routledge Companion to Digital Journalism Studies serving as a textbook in a course about digital journalism, and it could serve as a starting point for advanced undergraduate, graduate, and professional researchers in digital journalism. It certainly belongs on the shelves of any library supporting an academic program in journalism or wherever developments in digital journalism will be of interest.—Steven R. Edscomb, Executive Director of Libraries, Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

The Routledge Handbook of Archaeology and Globalization.

Tamar Hodos, Reader in Mediterranean Archaeology at the University of Bristol, has assembled a fascinating and unique work in the Routledge Handbook of Archaeology and Globalization. Usually considered a modern-era phenomenon, Hodos and her collaborators demonstrate that