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Information Resource Officer, Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy,
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*Compiled and edited by Sanjay Kumar Bhagat, Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy, New Delhi, India. Email: BhagatSK@state.gov*
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ARCHITECTURE & URBAN PLANNING

1. Levy, John M.

Drawing on his own experience as a working planner, John Levy offers an insider’s perspective of urban planning. Primarily written for the beginners, it provides a good overview of the field, and furnishes a fair understanding of the various issues a planner has to deal with including the interplay of politics, law, money, and interest groups. It also looks at the underlying forces of growth and discusses candidly who benefits and loses by particular decisions. The book’s approach is balanced and non-judgmental. -- M

THE ARTS


Bryer and Davison collect exclusive and previously unpublished interviews with eighteen leading composers, lyricists, librettists, directors, choreographers, and producers who created the masterpieces of late 20th-century musical theater. Conversations with talent like Kander and Ebb, Susan Stroman, and Harold Prince shed light on the various ways to combine music and dance, which resulted in hits such as Cabaret, The Producers and Fiddler on the Roof, respectively. Each interview includes a brief bio and an appraisal of triumphs and failures, though the primary goal is to reveal the secret to successful theatrical collaboration. But that isn't really possible, according to Stephen Sondheim, since "the performing arts involve the final collaborator, the audience." Theater professionals and fans will enjoy the backstage gossip, but the real benefactors will be those who want to get into the business. -- CH/K/M/ND (Adapted from Publishers Weekly, ©2005)

   In this volume, husband and wife team Baker (*Double Fold*) and Brentano offer a gorgeous snapshot of newspaper history and Americana. Here they present reproductions of comics, advertisements, portraits, political cartoons, caricatures and other illustrations from Joseph Pulitzer’s *New York World*. Arranged chronologically from 1898 to 1911, these 144 carefully selected illustrations offer examples of reporting, fashion drawings, comic strips, society pieces, games, and activity pages. Also included are illustrations that made use of new technologies, such as the night photographs taken at the St. Louis Fair of 1904. Brentano supplies brief and helpful captions to provide the context for each page. This book will appeal to interested general readers, but will specially draw attention of the specialists in field of graphic design, journalism, and American studies. -- (For use only in the Library) CH/M/ND (Adapted from Library Journal, ©2005)


   This edition is a rich compilation of thoughts from the directors nominated for the Best Film by the Directors Guild of America between 1992 and 2005. The eminent directors talk about almost everything – from script development to pre-production and post-production. It reveals various aspects of film-directing. This edition includes personal materials from many of the directors, including storyboards, script notes, sketches and on-set photos. Both seasoned and upcoming directors would love to explore this insiders’ perspective on film-direction. -- CH/M/ND

5. Field, Syd.

   Syd Field, the legendary guru of all screenwriters, takes a focused look at the art of screenwriting. This revised edition of *Screenplay: the foundations of screenwriting* provides the basics of screenplay writing and provides step-by-
step guidelines on the subject – beginning from the concept and creation of characters to building them up, followed by setting up the story and its plot, to writing the screenplay. Field has illustrated the basics of film writing for the novices, yet he has also provided a lot of tips and techniques for more seasoned writers to improve their scripts, especially stylistic and structural elements in their scripts. It’s no wonder that *Screenplay* is one of the most authoritative books on film trade and has launched many a would-be screenwriter on the road to Hollywood. -- CH

6. **Lausen, Marcia.**

   *Design for Democracy* focuses on a host of problems and offers design solutions for improving the entire electoral process from registration to casting ballots. It offers specific suggestions regarding color palette, typography and usage of items like photos, illustrations and logos. The idea is ensure clarity of information during the entire electoral process. Poor design of ballots, registration forms, posters and signs, informational brochures and guides, and even administrative materials for poll workers could result in total confusion. For example, the infamous "butterfly ballot" of Palm Beach County, Florida is alleged to have confused Florida voters during 2000 U.S. presidential election. The book is primarily oriented towards designers, American citizens, and election officials and administrators. -- (For use only in the Library) ND

7. **Masterson, Pete.**
   Book design and production : a guide for authors and publishers / Pete Masterson. Aeonix Publishing Group, ©2005. 315 p.  REF 686 MAS

   In order to attract a wide readership, a book not only needs to have an engaging content but should also be properly designed. This book, which is mainly directed towards publishers and authors, shows how to create and design a book to enhance its appeal. The book offers both the current technologies and trends in graphic design and in the area of typography. It describes how a book ought to look and how this can be done without significantly increasing the production cost. This book will be highly useful for those pursuing their career in publishing and also

- 7 -
for authors seriously considering self-publication. -- (For use only in the Library) K

8. Wexman, Virginia Wright.

This aesthetic history of film tracks the patterns and growth of film from its beginning to the present. Thoroughly illustrated with black & white movie stills, it offers observations and insights related to films and culture surrounding major works, and notes the special contributions and preoccupations of their creators. It captures the rise of American film, great German silent films, Hollywood in the 20s, Italian neorealism, Asian film, the French New Wave, Eastern European cinema, Third World Cinema, and recent national movements in the United States. Chapters on Indian and Chinese film industries have been incorporated in this edition, improving the book’s focus and providing more balanced coverage. Also added are an examination of recent technological developments and a glossary of terms. -- (For use only in the Library) K/M (Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2006)

BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT


This anthology has been compiled is a compilation of the choicest articles that originally appeared in the Society for Human Resource Management’s HR Magazine, a reliable source of information for the HR professionals for over five decades. It focuses on the most pressing issues before today’s human resource managers who, like all other managers, are expected to “do more with less.” This anthology not just helps the HR managers to accomplish this goal but also helps them in training and educating other managers in the organization. It offers a wealth of practical guidance including tactics for recruiting talented employees, leveraging employee diversity and motivating workers to excel. Apart from these, the book provides ample hands-on tools and information to help apply the materials in the articles. The HR Magazine Guide to Managing People is a
complete tool in itself that will help make the most of organization’s workforce and would sharpen the organization’s competitive edge. -- CH/M/ND

10. McDonald, Robert L.
Derivatives markets / Robert L. McDonald. 2nd ed. Addison-Wesley, ©2006. 614 p. 332.645 MCD

*Derivatives Markets* covers its subject with more of an economic emphasis than is typical. Directed towards the advanced readers with a background in mathematical and statistical tools, this book has grown from the author’s notes on two MBA derivatives courses at Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management. The book is divided into five parts and includes appendices. The first three parts of the book deal with basic building blocks of derivatives; pricing of forward, futures, and swaps contracts; and option pricing. Part four deals with the application of these techniques and formulas. Finally, part five explores pricing and hedging in depth and details the structure and assumptions underlying the standard derivatives models. This book caters to the specific needs of business students who must understand derivates – what they are, who sells them, how they are used, and how they are priced. Two new chapters, one on volatility and the other on credit risk, add additional value to this edition. -- ND

11. Thorne, Debbie M.

The book focuses on the role that social responsibility takes in strategic business decisions and provides vital insights for organizational performance and professional success. While confidence in business has reached a new low, the public expectations for responsible behavior are increasing. -- CH/K/M/ND
COMMUNICATION

   Listening : attitudes, principles, and skills / Judi Brownell. 3rd ed.
   Pearson, ©2006. 400 p. 153.68 BRO

   Although in our daily lives we listen more than we use other methods of communication such as speaking, reading, or writing, most of us fail to appreciate listening as an art and have no idea what listening is all about. This book details this important skill and encourages everyone to improve upon their listening skills. The behavioral approach of the book enables student and readers to increase their listening effectiveness while developing an understanding and appreciation of listening related research and theory. It also explores how the culture, technology, and globalization influence the listening skills of an individual. Filled with self assessment instruments, individual and group activities, and case studies, this book provides the needed tools to improve listening behavior. -- CH/K/M/ND

   Women for president : media bias in eight campaigns / Erika Falk.
   University of Illinois Press, ©2008. 171 p. 324.973 FAL

   Despite being the Democratic front-runner at the time of bidding for the 2008 U.S. presidential election, media did not give Hillary Clinton as much coverage as it gave to Barack Obama. Falk, in this book, holds media responsible for the gender bias it has demonstrated towards women candidates since Victoria Woodhull, the first woman who ran for America’s highest office in 1872. She reviews presidential campaigns of eight women -- Victoria Woodhull, Belva Lockwood, Margaret Chase Smith, Shirley Chisholm, Patricia Schroeder, Lenora Fulani, Elizabeth Dole, and Carol Moseley Braun -- to show that media has often been partial in treating woman candidates in comparison to their male counterparts. Since media outlets are the main source of information gathering for the voters, Falk asserts that media bias can have both short- and long-term consequences on the democratic process and would discourage women from pursuing the electoral office. -- ND


This book illustrates the history of radio and its pivotal role in the emergence of American youth culture. Washington Post columnist Fisher, in this sweeping anecdotal account, traces the evolution of radio from the 1950s, when the spread and popularity of television made it almost extinct, to its rise to become "the sound track of American life" and "the mere act of listening made you feel like a part of a secret society." Built around narratives compiled from nearly 100 interviews, Fisher judiciously knits together a compelling story detailing how radio helped penetrate race barriers, created a "shared pop culture" and was the "birthing room of the counterculture." Fisher shows readers how the personalities of radio shaped America’s popular culture, from visionaries like marketing genius Todd Storz to radio artists Cousin Brucie of New York and Jean Shepherd, who was a precursor to Garrison Keillor and Ira Glass. He follows radio's decline from a medium driven by freedom and passion to one comprising wastelands of unmanned stations, prefab formats and narrow niche markets. -- CH/K/M/ND (Adapted from Publishers Weekly, ©2006)

15. Letters to the next President: what we can do about the real crisis in public education / edited by Carl Glickman; foreword by Bill Cosby. 2008 election ed. Teachers College Press, ©2007. 278 p. 371.01 LET

The 2008 election edition of the Letters to the next President offers insights about the most critical issues in the contemporary American public education. A collection of more than thirty letters, this volume stresses the need for an educated and engaged citizenry. It reiterates the role of American public education system as the bedrock of American democracy. Dangers and shortcomings of current state and federal policies also come alive in this collection. -- ND

16. Schiller, Dan.


Schiller argues that we are "living through a transition into an informationalized capitalism." The corporate world has realized the importance of information, and is now seeking to control its production, transmission, and
consumption. Schiller explores how information has increasingly been commodified and how it both resembles and differs from other commodities. He reveals this commodification of information as both dynamic and expansionary, and at the same time deeply conflicted and uncertain. He also addresses a host of other related issues including the transformative political and economic changes, new technological platforms, growth of a transnationalizing culture industry, and the role played by China as it reinserts itself into an informationalized capitalism. -- CH/M/ND

ECONOMICS

17. Goldstein, David B.
Saving energy, growing jobs : how environmental protection promotes economic growth, profitability, innovation, and competition / David B. Goldstein. Bay Tree Pub., ©2007. 333 p. 333.79 GOL

Challenging the myths that aggressive environmental protections necessarily undermine the American economy and that corporate America must oppose progressive environmental policies, MacArthur fellow Goldstein aims for the middle ground in this pragmatic book. The book's most accessible section recounts the success of energy efficiency mandates and technological advances, such as light-emitting diodes used in traffic and Christmas tree lights; smaller, more efficient air conditioning units; and refrigerator redesigns forced by regulations starting in 1977 that have cut the cost of a new fridge in half. "If business and environmentalists work together... we can improve competitiveness and growth while we make the world a place we can leave to our grandchildren with a sense of pride," Goldstein concludes. -- CH/M/ND (Adapted from Publishers Weekly, ©2006)

18. Hughes, Kent H.

Hughes traces the development of the U.S. "national competitiveness strategy," a set of policies that aimed to control inflation, stimulate productivity growth, and effectively respond to international competition. As a participant/observer in the process, he emphasizes the roles of important individuals from the public and private sectors in effecting the changes
discussed. He also offers his advice on how to improve American competitiveness in the future. -- CH/M/ND  (Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2005)

19. Hundt, Reed E.
   In China’s shadow : the crisis of American entrepreneurship / Reed E.
   Hundt. Yale University Press, ©2006. 200 p.  337.73051 HUN

   This book explores the rise of China’s economy and assesses its potential for further growth. It further explores the way it has affected American businesses and its citizens and critically challenged the American economy and their way of life. Hundt says to restore its historic culture of entrepreneurship, America has to embrace global technologies or lose the American dream. Drawing on vivid case studies, he challenges Americans to overcome this crisis and prescribes a reinvigorated entrepreneurial society based on adaptation, invention, innovation, and risk taking entrepreneurship. -- M/ND

20. Neumann, Peter J.
   Using cost-effectiveness analysis to improve health care : opportunities

   With the increasing cost of health services in the United States, it has become essential to ensure that Americans get the best value for their health services dollars. Cost-effective analysis (CEA) could be employed to establish which health care services are most worthwhile. Neumann wonders why American policy makers have avoided using CEA. The book offers a unique perspective as it traces the roots of CEA in health and medicine. It seeks to find out some common ground and practical solutions in this area of vital interest. -- ND
EDUCATION

21. Palloff, Rena M.

Palloff and Pratt, both distinguished online learning authorities, provide guidance for implementing collaborative activity in online classes. Targeted towards those faculties who are teaching online or are venturing into this arena for the first time, the book enhances understanding of collaboration and community building, providing concrete suggestions and activities. It convincingly shows how collaborative learning fosters student engagement in an online environment. Faculties, instructional designers, and academic administrators, associated with online courses and learning, and corporate audiences as well would benefit from the experience of the authors. -- CH/K/M

ENVIRONMENT

22. Cook, Christopher D.
Diet for a dead planet : how the food industry is killing us / Christopher D. Cook. New Press, 2006. 326 p. 363.19 COO

Diet for a Dead Planet takes us beyond Fast Food Nation to show how food contamination and agricultural pollution are creating a crisis in our entire food system. Christopher D. Cook offers a nauseating recap of familiar charges: factory farming serves up pesticide-laden produce; the horrifying mills of high-density feedlots and hog and poultry sheds produce meat laced with hormones and antibiotics but still tainted with lethal bacteria; pesticide, fertilizer and manure runoff pollute air and water; immigrant meatpackers are paid paltry wages and physically ruined by inhuman line speedups. Cook laments the destruction of family farms by a corporate "octopus" of agribusiness giants and parasitic middlemen who squeeze prices for farm products and inflate them for highly processed convenience foods on the store shelf, abetted by government farm subsidies that encourage overproduction and favor big producers. Cook's objections often seem to be aimed at modernity itself – to the same forces of technology-driven, mechanized productivity that have industrialized the non-farm economy. Cook effectively drives his point home and compels
readers to take a fresh look at food they eat. -- CH  (Adapted from Publishers Weekly, ©2006)

   Viking, 2007. 191 p.  REF 363.73874 GOR

   This volume is an adaptation of former Vice President of the United States, Al Gore’s best-selling book An Inconvenient Truth, directed towards young readers, mainly the middle- and high-school readers. This book calls for a timely action to stop global warming. This juvenile and teen edition contains simplified text that is supported by data, charts, illustrations, and visually stunning photographs to send message across the young audiences about the potential world crisis. He shows his concern towards the alarmingly disappearing glaciers and ice shelves, profound climate changes, and devastation that could result from the rising sea levels. This book will seriously engage the young readers and inspire them to participate actively in saving our planet. --
   (For use only in the Library)  M

24. Murphy, Priscilla Coit.
   254 p.  333.72 MUR

   Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring sparked debate on pesticide and ecology issues on its publication in 1962. More than four decades after its publication, the book still remains in print and draws readership. Priscilla Coit Murphy reviews the publishing history of Silent Spring and shows the book’s astonishing impact and Carson’s approach to her work. Murphy then investigates the role of media in promoting it beyond merely providing a forum for debate. Touching upon different perspectives, Murphy sheds new light on the dynamic between newsmaking books, the media, and the public. --  K

25. Tisdell, Clement A.
   Economics of environmental conservation / Clement A. Tisdell. 2nd ed.
   Edward Elgar, 2007. 288 p.  333.72 TIS

   This book concentrates on the economics of conserving the living environment. It covers the existing environmental policy issues and provides
insights for sustainable use of ecological resources especially in the developing countries. Though the fundamental environmental issues have changed little since Elsevier Science published the first edition in 1991, says Tisdell, there have been enough developments in ecological economics and in policies affecting biological conservation and environmental management to warrant a second edition. In this thoroughly updated edition, every chapter has been revised and in most cases lengthened. Tisdell’s account of environmental economics concentrates on the ecological dimensions and on living or biological resources and their life-support systems. The book would be appreciated by both non-specialists interested in ecological and environmental issues as well by the economists. -- CH/M/ND   (Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2006)

HISTORY & CIVILIZATION


   Readers familiar with Berman's primer on modernity, All That Is Solid Melts into Air (1981), will recall that he is fascinated with the concentrated energy of city streets. His latest book chronicles the incandescence of Times Square, America's most densely packed crossroads of spectacle, as reflected in 100 years of song, film, and literature. Highlighting some of Times Square's most illuminating iconography – The Jazz Singer, Sister Carrie, Taxi Driver, and Eisenstaedt’s famous V-J Day kiss – Berman reveals a place where individuals of all backgrounds have found identity through illusion, where women have been both commercial sexual objects and authentic human subjects, and where badness and goodness are fused in dazzling and perhaps transcendent light. For such profundity, however, Berman's prose is fluid and engaging, and his academic eye for the contradictions of urban modernity helps rather than hinders his explication of the Square. -- CH/K/M/ND   (Adapted from Booklist, ©2006)
27. Diner, Hasia R.

In this volume of the Jewish Communities in the Modern World series, Diner shows that, from the colonial era to the present, Jews have wanted both to "be good Jews and... full Americans." The book opens with a survey of the small Jewish community in colonial and revolutionary America. Diner then turns to the 19th-century waves of Jewish immigration. In these pages, we meet upwardly mobile peddlers, religious reformers pressing for English-language worship services and Jewish state senators. In the final section of the book, Diner charts Jewish responses to World War I, the Holocaust and the Civil Rights movement. Diner recounts the stories of female philanthropists and teachers, and examines the roles women played in political movements from Zionism to second-wave feminism. She judiciously blends both religious and secular Judaism. She traces the 18th- and 19th-century battles for religious reform, the impact of Orthodox Jewish immigration on the American Jewish landscape and so forth. -- CH (Adapted from Publishers Weekly, ©2006)

28. Grant, James.
John Adams : party of one / James Grant. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, ©2005. 530 p. 973.44 ADA

This biography by Grant gives us John Adams's life in vivid detail. In his New England childhood, the "bookish" Adams grew up in a four-room farmhouse. The heart of the book chronicles Adams's involvement in the Revolution, from his early praise of the Boston Tea Party through his stint as postwar diplomat in France. His presidency seems almost an afterthought, with almost as much space devoted to fleshing out the details of his narrow victory. This biography of John Adams by James Grant ably joins the shelves of recent books on the Founding Fathers of America. -- CH/K/ND (Adapted from Publishers Weekly, ©2005)


John Jay's writings lacked Jefferson's passionate eloquence in defense of liberty, his demeanor did not radiate the gravitas of Washington, and he
apparently did not share Madison's zest for and grasp of political theory. Yet, as this well-done biography illustrates, Jay was a vital figure in the founding of American republic, and he deserves an ample share of credit for the nurturing of the United States in its infancy. Stahr, an international lawyer, has written a fast-paced narrative account of Jay's life that stresses his deep religious connections, strength of moral character, and dedication to duty. By nature, Jay was conservative, and he was a reluctant revolutionary with the usual Federalist fears about unrestrained democracy. As an attorney and as first chief justice of the Supreme Court, he understood implicitly the need for the rule of law to prevail over the tendency to seek salvation from "great" men. He was a gifted diplomat whose negotiations in Europe helped the vulnerable America to avoid conflicts with European powers, and he was an effective governor of New York. -- CH/K  (Adapted from Booklist, ©2005)

INFORMATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY


The first digital revolution was during the late 20th century when companies began using computers and communication technology for record keeping, says Andriole, and the second is the migration of such technology to the front office and integration with basic strategies of the company. He challenges executives and managers to think differently about the relationship between business and computer and communicating technology, arguing that business is becoming more collaborative and that technology is becoming more integrated. Because of this convergence, one must think about business and technology simultaneously. -- M/ND  (Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2005)

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31. Hiraoka, Leslie S.
Underwriting the Internet: how technical advances, financial engineering, and entrepreneurial genius are building the information highway / Leslie S. Hiraoka. M.E. Sharpe, Inc., ©2005. 297 p. 025.04 HIR

Hiraoka encourages investors to consider high-tech issues as investment instruments, as part of a balanced portfolio. In support of his belief, he offers an historical examination of how the Internet developed, why it has spread so rapidly and why it should be seen as an area where opportunities continue to exist for sustained growth and capital gains. Following an overview of the "boom, bust, and recovery" of the past fifteen years, the text covers ARPANET (Advanced Research Projects Agency Network) and the beginnings of the Internet, developments toward an "information superhighway" in the 1980s and 1990s, dot.com successes and failures, Microsoft's court battles, the Enron debacle, the telecom crash, and how the industry is recovering and continuing to evolve today. -- CH/K/M/ND (Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2005)

32. Weinberger, David.

Weinberger analyzes the Internet's impact on the way we look at the organization of information. The order of things, with the shift from the physical to the digital, is changing. In the physical world everything had its own place. In the digital world everything is miscellaneous, fitting into multiple categories. Weinberger describes and assesses the traditional ways of organizing information. He cites the examples of Dewey, Linnaeus, and Ranganathan, and then moves on to the new order including online digital arrangements of archival photographs from the Bettman Archive to the lists and categories of books and other products on Amazon.com. This thought-provoking book allows readers to step back and take a look at how the digital world has impacted them and the future of arrangements of objects and information. -- M/ND (Adapted from Library Journal, ©2007)
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

33. Birkland, Thomas A.

    This book assesses the role of natural disasters and terrorist attacks in shaping the course of public policies in the United States. Based on several case studies, this book shows how U.S. government has learnt lessons from previous failures and how the change in its policies was reflected in its response to Hurricane Katrina and the September 11 attacks. The author argues that despite profound and frightening attacks, the American political system would accommodate a range of policy responses. He argues that the type of disaster affects the types of lessons learned from it and every time the lessons learnt from a disaster should keep both people and the government more ready to fight similar catastrophe in future. This book updates readers on how the nation has confronted disasters in the past so as to be armed with the needed information and awareness to prevent them in future. -- CH/M/ND

34. Garcia, Denise.

    Garcia addresses the problems and issues resulting from the spread and availability of small arms. The issue is significant in international context and has profound effect on violence and crime around the world today. Studies during the previous one decade have provided the much needed information about the availability of small arms and how it has threatened the human security worldwide. Small arms and light weapons have not only become the real weapons of mass destruction, but they have also become a major obstacle in the way of development. Garcia stresses the need for international understanding and general consent on the issue. Creation of international norms and related multilateral negotiations is crucial to putting a check on the international violence and bloodshed. This book will draw the attention of anyone interested in governance, international security, and disarmament. -- K/M

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   Scholar and Washington Post columnist Kagan delivers a brief but brilliant treatise on post-Cold War politics, warning that the world's nations have again plunged into the dangers of geo-politics – "the old competition between liberalism and autocracy" is back. Writing with authority and clear-eyed passion, Kagan explains how the end of the Cold War failed to prime the international demand for democracy, as the democratic world had hoped, yielding instead emerging autocracies in Russia, China and elsewhere, as well as the increasingly dangerous and virulent ideology of militant Islam. In dense but thoughtful prose, Kagan scrutinizes the patterns of history, and predicts a grim political future – "International order does not rest on ideas and institutions alone. It is shaped by configurations of power." Kagan's well-considered message will be welcomed by the scholars of history and those updating themselves on current-affairs. -- CH/K/M/ND (Adapted from Publishers Weekly, ©2008)

LAW

36. Lambert, Josiah Bartlett.
   "If the workers took a notion" : the right to strike and American political development / Josiah Bartlett Lambert. ILR Press, ©2005. 259 p. 331.8 LAM

   This superb thought-provoking book presents the history of labor relations in the United States from the Civil War to the present with a focus throughout on the right to strike. It offers a broad treatment of the strikes in American history taking us from the early nineteenth century through the present-day labor battles. Further, it assesses the way public policy toward the right to strike has changed over the period. In this engaging book, political scientist Josiah Bartlett Lambert seeks to explore why American workers are increasingly reluctant to strike. He argues that the right to strike has become eroded by the rise of a "modern American liberal state," which transformed it from a "citizenship right into a commercial right." -- CH/K/M/ND
37. Stim, Richard.

This book by an intellectual property attorney unfolds the process of obtaining the appropriate rights to use other people’s creative rights. It provides complete guidance on the entire process – right from identifying the authority who can grant permission, when to seek permission, to even how much to pay for the permission. The book also makes clear what constitutes “fair use” and cites actual cases to illustrate legal intricacies. It also covers the issues like public domain. The book is accompanied by a CD-ROM containing various forms that presents the information in an easy to search format. The CD-ROM runs on both Windows and Macintosh. This is a very useful guide for anyone who would like to understand the intricacies of copyright, the process of seeking permission for protected work, and the consequences of violation. -- (For use only in the Library) CH/K/M/ND

38. Swanson, James L.

In this fast-paced, hour-by-hour account of the 12 days following Lincoln's assassination at Ford's Theatre on April 14, 1865, Swanson allows the reader to ride along with the Union cavalry and federal agents through the streets of the Washington, DC and the wilds of Maryland and Virginia in pursuit of John Wilkes Booth, his coconspirators, and the host of rebel enablers who constituted a viable Confederate underground railroad. Swanson's eye for detail and his excellent thumbnail sketches of the figures involved bring the chronicle alive. There was the simultaneous assassination attempt on Secretary of State William Seward, and Secretary of War Stanton's pivotal role in keeping the nation together during the unrest, stoked by an irresponsible press, following Lincoln's death. Swanson details the conditions endured by Booth while on the run and the foolish mistakes committed by him and his pursuers during the long chase until the last stand at a farm near Port Royal, VA, on April 26. Swanson concludes with discussions of the trial and execution of the four secondary conspirators, the subsequent squabbling over reward money, and the unfolding of the post-assassination lives of the drama's major personalities. -- CH/K/M/ND (Adapted from Library Journal, ©2005)
LITERATURE & LANGUAGE


Drawing on current theoretical movements in literary criticism, this anthology examines Asian American literature from the earliest to the most recent writers. The contributors discuss the work of specific authors, such as Jade Snow Wong, Bharati Mukherjee and Chang-rae Lee. They also engage in larger issues concerning Asian America’s relation to mainstream America and the ways in which this relation shapes the formation of Asian American literary traditions. The volume also provides a theoretical and critical examination of Asian American criticism and seeks to extend the scholarship in this field to new areas. -- CH/K (Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2006)


This anthology is an informative introduction to the works of eight influential African-American writers from North Carolina during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The authors included are Harriet Jacobs, Charles Chesnutt, Anna Julia Cooper; George Moses Horton, David Walker, Moses Roper, Lunsford Lane, and David Bryant Fulton. Each chapter begins with a brief introduction of the writer and it also provides a list of suggested readings for further exploration. The volume is arranged in a chronological sequence. Andrew explores the reason why black North Carolinians have contributed so significantly to African American literature, both in qualitative and quantitative terms, in comparison to other southern states with larger African American populations. -- CH/M

41. Sandler, Martin W.
Island of hope : the story of Ellis Island and the journey to America / Martin W. Sandler. Scholastic, ©2004. 144 p. 304.873 SAN

This winning history of Ellis Island relies wherever possible on the voices and recollections of the immigrants themselves, giving a personal tone to the writing. Sandler ably captures the lure of America and the hardship and
sacrifice required for the journey. He also describes the arduousness of navigating the circuitous and sometimes arbitrary bureaucracies of Ellis Island including the handing back and forth of the currency required to enter, humorous stories behind some of the infamous name changes, and agonizing decisions about who to send back if a family needed to separate. He also describes the often disappointing and challenging experiences of immigrants once they landed in America, from tenements to child labor to westward expansion. As one immigrant recalled, "We thought the streets were paved with gold. Most weren't even paved. We paved them." Black-and-white photographs support the text and compelling sidebars delve more deeply into such topics as beloved New York mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, who worked at Ellis Island, mail-order brides and child labor laws. The narrative also emphasizes the role of children and teens, who often learned the language and customs more quickly than their parents and assumed great responsibility in families. This is an inspiring portrait of a seminal generation of Americans. -- CH/K/M/ND (Adapted from Publishers Weekly, ©2004)

42. Stowe, Harriet Beecher.

Celebrated when it was published in 1852 and later vilified, Uncle Tom's Cabin unquestionably changed American history and has had an enduring impact on American literature. In this annotated version of the novel, college professors Gates and Robbins explore changes in perspective on race, sex, and literature since the publication of the novel and its subsequent critique in the 1950s by James Baldwin. Throughout the book are illustrations of Uncle Tom across the years, including posters, postcards, woodcuts, and advertisements, all reflecting changing images of Uncle Tom and black Americans. Gates and Robbins explore images of heroism and subservience, contrasting the unctuous sentimentality of the novel with the implicit sexual tension between Uncle Tom and Little Eva, and explore the reason the novel remains so strong in the public imagination. Both new readers and those familiar with the work will appreciate the scholarly insight into the culture and social conventions that directed Stowe's writing. -- (For use only in the Library) CH/ND (Adapted from Booklist, ©2007)
PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

43. Pragmatism old & new : selected writings / edited by Susan Haack ; with associate editor Robert Lane. Prometheus Books, ©2006. 741 p. 144.3 PRA

This anthology opens with the story of the evolution of pragmatism. It begins with C.S. Peirce’s efforts to make philosophy more scientific. It then catches the glimpse of radical literary-political neo-pragmatism lately popularized by Richard Rorty. Finally, it concludes with her famous interview with Peirce and Rorty, which reveals their fundamental disagreements on virtually every important philosophical topic. -- ND

POLITICAL SCIENCE

44. Brams, Steven J.
The presidential election game / Steven J. Brams. 2nd ed. A K Peters, Ltd., ©2008. 194 p. 324.973 BRA

This book brings alive all the excitement and hoopla of U.S. presidential campaigns and elections. The election game, as the author calls it, symbolizes the competitive character of presidential elections and the strategic interdependence of decisions made by the players at each state in a presidential campaign. The book uses the modern decision theory and game theory to analyze U.S. presidential campaigns and elections. The book mostly follows a mathematical approach and calls for a good knowledge of basic mathematics to fully appreciate its analyses. The book provides a sound understanding of the U.S. presidential game and also offers solutions to some of its problematic features. -- CH/K/ND

45. Buchanan, Patrick J.

This book is an alert to Americans on illegal immigration. New York Times bestselling author Pat Buchanan reveals frightening truths about uncontrolled immigration and anticipates an end to contemporary American
culture. He cites that more than four million illegal immigrants have crossed American borders since 9/11. Buchanan also maintains that President Bush has failed to halt the invasion and secure America’s borders. He finally lays out a sweeping immigration reform and border-security plan that aims to halt the flood of illegal immigrants. -- CH/M

46. Dobbs, Lou. 
Independents day : awakening the American spirit / Lou Dobbs. 
Viking, ©2007. 237 p. 323.65 DOB

CNN anchor, magazine columnist, and syndicated radio news host Lou Dobbs cracks down heavily on the public policy choices of the U.S. government over past couple of decades. He presents a critical review of where the U.S. government stands today and how a century of misguided policy and misplaced value have brought the United States to this juncture. Uncontrolled illegal immigration, attempt to create a North American Union, politicization of churches, terrible conditions of public schools, issues of national security, mass media’s obsession with celebrity, President Bush’s policies are among the concerns raised by Dobbs. His independent populist view of the critical issues and challenges before the United States came at a time when the nation was fast approaching current presidential election. -- ND


Writers and editors of The New Republic did a great job in bringing out this book at the time when the fever of 2008 U.S. presidential election was catching on. This lively guide to the 2008 presidential election contains basic information for every American for effective participation in the 2008 presidential election. Apart from offering rich profiles of the 2008 presidential candidates from the two major parties, it also presents the pressing issues of 2008. -- CH/K/M/ND
48. Guelzo, Allen C.
Lincoln and Douglas : the debate that defined America / Simon & Schuster, ©2008. 383 p. 973.68 GUE

Guelzo presents this gracefully written account of the celebrated Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858. These seven debates between two powerful attorneys and statesmen, Abraham Lincoln and Sen. Stephen A. Douglas, starkly defined the stakes between sharply different positions on slavery and union on the eve of civil war and offered examples of serious, deeply reasoned exchanges of views rarely seen in American politics. As Guelzo wisely shows, the debates did not stand alone but were part of a larger Illinois senatorial campaign. Douglas won re-election that year, but Lincoln gained national recognition and then defeated Douglas three years later for the presidency. Perhaps more important, the views that Lincoln enunciated in 1858 – that the government, heeding the majority’s will, should halt slavery’s further spread – laid the foundation for emancipation and a new era in American history. -- ND (Adapted from Publishers Weekly, ©2007)

49. McGovern, George S.

McGovern, the man who has come to epitomize liberalism in American politics, offers a perspective on the tradition of liberalism as the bedrock of American political traditions. He cites the Founding Fathers as well as more recent political history, in much of which he was personally engaged, for examples of American moral spirit and ideals. He asserts that the nation has gone astray with a domestic policy that favors the wealthy and an international policy that relies on military might. Acknowledging the national trauma of the terrorist attack of 9/11, McGovern nonetheless asks the question: "Is it possible that preponderant military power and earth-shaking aerial bombardment are not the best antidotes to the terrorist zealot?" He denounces the preemptive war in Iraq and tax breaks for the wealthy. Noting his 1972 presidential campaign theme, "Come Home America," McGovern appeals for a return to progressive politics. He specifically calls for using American power and influence to resolve the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians and for reducing military spending in favor of solving domestic ills. -- ND (Adapted from Booklist, ©2005)
50. Minow, Newton N.
Inside the presidential debates: their improbable past and promising future / Newton N. Minow and Craig L. LaMay. University of Chicago Press, ©2008. 219 p. 324.7 MIN

Part history, part memoir, part advocacy and part apologia – this book is the latest collaborative effort of Minow and LaMay. Minow, an early organizer of the televised debates and the current vice chairman of the nonprofit, nonpartisan Commission on Presidential Debates, is the debates' greatest champion and most clear-eyed critic. Minow and LaMay readily admit to the debates' imperfections: the frequent omissions of third-party candidates and the inquiries from the public. The authors suggest that in order for the debates to be more useful for voters, candidates must be more spontaneous, present fewer canned speeches and be open to answering questions from the audience and from each other. Furthermore, the authors urge radio and television broadcasters to provide affordable public-service time to presidential candidates and that the information be made available on the Internet to supplement comments during the debates. -- ND (Adapted from Publishers Weekly, ©2008)

51. Poundstone, William.
Gaming the vote: why elections aren't fair (and what we can do about it) / William Poundstone. Hill and Wang, ©2008. 338 p. 324.973 POU

Behind the standard one man-one vote formula lies a bizarre dysfunction, according to this engaging study of the science of voting. America's system is "the least sensible way to vote," argues Poundstone, prone to vote-splitting fiascoes like the 2000 election. Unfortunately, according to the author, a famous "impossibility theorem" states that no voting procedure can accurately gauge the will of the people without failures and paradoxes. Poundstone contends that important problems are solved by "range voting," in which voters score each candidate independently on a 1-10 scale. Poundstone provides a lucid survey of the American electoral systems and their eccentric proponents, studded with colorful stories of election skullduggery. -- CH/K/M/ND (Adapted from Publishers Weekly, ©2007)

The U.S. presidential election of 2000 increased interest in the role of the Electoral College in U.S. presidential elections. The Electoral College became the foundation for the Supreme Court to appoint George W. Bush as president. That decision was almost immediately followed by demand for a constitutional amendment for changing the way United States elects its chief executives. This book analyses the stakes for abolition of the college and admits that it is a unique constitutional institution where each state is given a number of electors who in turn vote in each state for the president and in most cases on a winner take all basis. Candidates actually need to win states. In this system it is very much possible that a candidate, like Al Gore, can win the popular vote and still lose the presidency. However, the scholars in this book share a common platform in defending the role of the Electoral College, arguing that it has done much good and very little ill in American society. It actually gives the states a greater voice in national affairs. The included essays offer a good sketch of the origin of the Electoral College and credit it for maintaining the two-party system and keeping the U.S. federal and constitutional procedures intact. -- CH/K/M/ND


This book profiles two of the most significant political figures, Ronald Reagan and Boris Yeltsin. Both are known for the political transformations they led, but the political systems which they transformed are at opposite ends of the political band. Based on extensive research and interviews, the book reveals how these two great leaders changed the politics of their times. Both the leaders overcame early defeat in their political careers and went on to hold the highest elected offices in their respective countries. The book is a great read that unfolds lessons of political leadership. -- ND
This well laid out book is based on author’s unique personal collection of presidential election memorabilia, which includes objects ranging from posters and paper dresses to ice-cream bars, sunglasses, and buttons. Richly illustrated with nicely reproduced photos, this book unfolds the colorful story of how U.S. presidents have wooed voters since America was founded. It brings to life the artifacts of past presidential elections and inaugurations. The book provides an insight into the American history and its democratic system.

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**PSYCHOLOGY**

55. Gardner, Howard.
Changing minds : the art and science of changing our own and other people’s minds / Howard Gardner. 244 p. 153.85 GAR

Gardner, a psychologist and professor at Harvard, synthesizes studies in cognitive psychology to investigate how and when people change their minds. He examines the factors involved in changing minds on significant issues in politics, science, business and art. He identifies seven key elements, including reason, research and real world events that are part of the decision-making process. Certain facets are more heavily weighted in some fields than others. While driving his point home, Gardner analyzes the behavior of several individuals including President Bush, Britain's Margaret Thatcher and Tony Blair, and South Africa's Nelson Mandela. Gardner doesn't limit his examination to politicians because he also believes that artists, writers, musicians and teachers can change people's minds. -- CH/ND

56. Schelling, Thomas C.
Strategies of commitment and other essays / Thomas C. Schelling. Harvard University Press, ©2006. 341 p. 320.6 SCH

This anthology of essays by Nobel laureate Thomas Schelling conveys his unique perspective on individuals and society. Schelling argues that an important part of people’s behavior is motivated by the thought of influencing other people’s expectations. He assumes the mind is separable into two or more
parts like rational/irrational, present-minded/future-minded. Also, Schelling’s argument is motivated by policy concerns and accepts basic assumptions of economics. -- CH/K

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

57. Banham, Russ.

The Ford Model T changed the way America lived – almost everyone could now own a car. And when Henry Ford devised the assembly line method of car building so that more Fords could be produced, American industry was also changed. This hundredth anniversary large-format book presents the fascinating visual history of a company that has come to be known as an American icon. Banham, a business journalist and book author, writes engaging text that is certainly not overshadowed – but, instead, supported – by many illustrations. More than 500 photos have been taken from private collections and the Ford archives, and they are used to great effect as Banham charts the growth of one of the most significant companies in the world. Of particular delight is the "Special Collectors Section," which profiles 25 "vehicles that have generated excitement and inspired passion," from the 1914 Model T to the 1991 Explorer. -- (For use only in the Library) CH/K/M/ND (Adapted from Booklist, ©2002)

SOCIOLOGY

58. Erkulwater, Jennifer L.

This book on disability rights for the Americans mainly focuses on Disability Insurance (DI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Erkulwater looks at the factors that have significantly influenced the disability rights adding to our understanding of the U.S. social policy. The book offers historically
informed political analysis examining how entitlements for the disabled have fared in the wake of the disability-rights movement. -- CH/M/ND

59. McWilliams, James E.

Meticulously researched and packed with fascinating detail, this book provides an excellent account of the culinary development of Colonial America. Positing that "the agrarian values that colonists fought the Revolution to protect and preserve became the very values that Americans would use to frame their new foodways," McWilliams reveals how the evolution of distinct and varying processes of the cultivation and preparation of food, the development of relationships with Native Americans, and the presence (or absence) of a slave culture reflected and affected the economic, ethnic, racial, and social development of the English West Indies, New England, the Chesapeake Bay region, the Carolinas, and the Middle Colonies. The extensive use of primary sources captures the immediacy of the Colonists' experiences, both humorous and sobering. -- CH/M (Adapted from Library Journal, ©2005)


Under the Constitution of the United States, the U.S. government is expected to promote the general welfare of the people. This book assesses how far the government has succeeded in its endeavors. It brings together the leading political scientists and economists in evaluating the status quo on this important subject. What comes out is there is a general feeling that modern American government has missed the opportunity to promote the common good. But the authors seem enthusiastic and optimistic and are hopeful that the government performance can be improved. They suggest that finding solutions to the problems created by weak incentives, poor information, and inadequate institutional capacity could enhance the government’s performance. -- M/ND
61. Stiles, Paul.  
Is the American dream killing you? : how “the market” rules our lives / 

This passionate and provocative treatise reveals the pressures of the 
market and the way it governs the economy and affects the lives of Americans, 
often resulting in undue stress in their lives. Paul Stiles explains why there is so 
little trust in companies and why there is a feeling of insecurity in people. Stiles 
puts forward a strong case for the unscrupulous nature of the marketplace. He 
highlights different ways in which market pressure is influencing people’s 
choices leading to a society that is shaped by market forces. -- CH
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