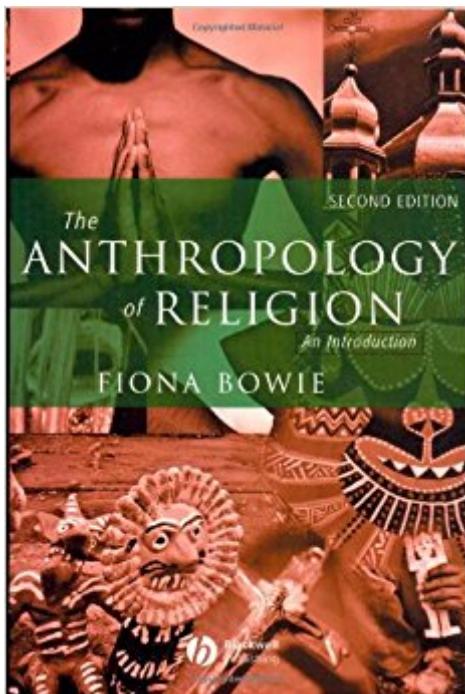


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The Anthropology Of Religion: An Introduction



Synopsis

Now available in a revised second edition, this popular introduction to the anthropology of religion combines discussion of the origin and development of debates within the field, with a look at where the subject is heading. Introduces readers to the central theoretical ideas in the anthropology of religion and illustrates them with specific case studies. Features self-contained chapters, each with its own comprehensive bibliography, so that they can be approached in any order. Contains an additional chapter on mythology and a number of new illustrations. Incorporates coverage of the following topics in the existing structure: pilgrimage, spirit possession and cargo cults. Includes a list of ethnographic films and videos that can be used to illustrate and extend discussion of particular issues.

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Customer Reviews

This bestselling introduction to the anthropology of religion is now available in a fully revised new edition. Along with comprehensive updating, it now features a new chapter on mythology, as well as coverage of topics such as pilgrimage, spirit possession and cargo cults. Illustrates central theoretical ideas with specific case studies Features self-contained chapters, each with its own comprehensive bibliography, so that they can be approached in any order Links the work of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century scholars with contemporary ideas and practices Lists ethnographic films and videos that illustrate particular issues. This accessible textbook will inspire students to explore the field further and encourage them to see that anthropology is not just about reading or doing fieldwork, but offers an enriching way of looking at world.

The second edition of this popular introduction to the anthropology of religion now features new chapters on mythology and pilgrimage, as well as coverage of topics such as spirit possession and cargo cults. The volume: Introduces readers to the central theoretical ideas in the anthropology of religion, illustrating them with specific case studies; Features self-contained chapters, each with its own comprehensive bibliography, so that they can be approached in any order; Develops ideas throughout the book, linking the work of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century scholars, and contemporary ideas and practices; Includes an appendix offering a list of ethnographic films and videos that can be used to illustrate and extend the discussion of particular issues. This accessible textbook will inspire students to explore the field further and encourage them to see that anthropology is not just about reading or doing fieldwork, but offers an enriching way of looking at the world.

Great read. Not outdated at all for being a second addition. Really walks the reader through from the basics of anthropology to the different aspects of religion and tradition.

Bowie's Introduction to The Anthropology of Religion is well written and introduces the reader to a broad spectrum of religions and worldviews. Basic and complex perspectives are presented in a format that is understandable and enlightening. I highly recommend this reading. I plan to use it as a introductory textbook in my Anthropology of Religion class.

Excellent book

Good book. Very informative text book

I am very fascinated by the anthropology of religion, but I was not a fan of the dry style of the writing in this text. I was left wanting more detail or specifics on some topics and less content in other areas. Not sure exactly what I wanted but this wasn't it. If you're looking for a book to read on this subject for a personal interest or passion, I'd look for another one.

the book is ok, better than most text books, tho im sure most people will order this for a bit of light reading... hehe

The Anthropology of Religion: An Introduction by Fiona Bowie is a fascinating textbook that takes up subjects such as "The body as a symbol", "Sex, gender and the sacred" and Shamanism to mention a few. Bowie writes with authority on all the subjects and seems to truly know what she is writing about. In fact she inspires the reader to further ones knowledge in several fields and this is indeed a tall task as many textbooks are quite difficult and taxing to read and one does it merely to finish a class. The chapters that I thought were the best where the following, "Maintaining and transforming boundaries: the politics of religious identity" and the chapter that took up gender and the sacred was also great. I highly recommend this textbook and I will definitely buy the next edition whenever that is published.

This is the main textbook for my analysis course in a Religious Studies major. As an introduction to anthropology it seems to assume quite a bit of prior knowledge. It is also unnecessarily heavy on the anthropology and light on the religion. Certain chapters offer almost no mention of religion. That said, some chapters were captivating such as the one on Ritual. To sum up, if this book were not required reading for a course I would have skipped it.

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