A History of Fake Things on the Internet
Walter J. Scheirer

As all aspects of our social and informational lives increasingly migrate online, the line between what is “real” and what is digitally fabricated grows ever thinner. In this insider’s guide to the hackers, hoaxes, and myths that warped the digital world, computer scientist Walter J. Scheirer delves into the origins of fake news, conspiracy theories, reports of the paranormal, and other deviations from reality that proliferate online, breaking down the technological advances that made new developments in digital deception possible. Ultimately, Scheirer argues that problems associated with fake content are not intrinsic properties of the content itself, but rather stem from human behavior, demonstrating our capacity for both creativity and destruction.

“In this captivating book, Scheirer artfully combines the skills of a cultural critic, historian, and computer scientist to explore the many facets of technological duplicity.”
—Gabriella Coleman, author of Hacker, Hoaxer, Whistleblower, Spy: The Many Faces of Anonymous

Coca-Cola, Black Panthers, and Phantom Jets
Israel in the American Orbit, 1967–1973
Oz Frankel

In the late 1960s, Israel became more closely entwined with the United States not only as a strategic ally but also through its intensifying intimacy with American culture, society, and technology. This book shows how the emergence of an American-inflected consumer modernity profoundly shaped Israeli life in a moment of great transition, exposing social cleavages, forging a consumerist order, and transforming Jewish identities. By taking an expansive view of Israeli–American encounters, Frankel reveals their unexpected consequences, including the ripple effects that the rise of Black Power had on both extremes of Israeli politics, the consumerist ideologies that ensnared IDF soldiers and Palestinians in the newly occupied territories, and cultural performances that lured Israelis to embrace previously shunned diasporic culture. In ten topical chapters, this book demonstrates that the American presence in Israel back then, as it is today, was multi-faceted and often contradictory.
Performing Chinatown
Hollywood, Tourism, and the Making of a Chinese American Community
William Gow

In *Performing Chinatown*, historian William Gow argues that Chinese Americans in Los Angeles used performances in Hollywood films and in Chinatown for tourists to shape widely held understandings of race and national belonging during a pivotal chapter in U.S. history. Gow conceives of these racial representations as intimately connected to the restrictive immigration laws that limited Chinese entry into the U.S., beginning with the 1875 Page Act and continuing until the passage of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965. Drawing on more than forty oral history interviews, this book retells the long-overlooked history of the ways that Los Angeles Chinatown shaped Hollywood and how Hollywood, in turn, shaped perceptions of Asian American identity.

“Timely, thoughtful, and engaged historical scholarship.”
—William Deverell, University of Southern California

Dear California
The Golden State in Diaries and Letters
Edited by David Kipen

California has always been, literally, a place to write home about. In this highly anticipated follow up to his book *Dear Los Angeles*, cultural historian and California scholar David Kipen reveals this long-storied place through its diaries and letters. Running from January 1 through December 31, leaping across decades and centuries, *Dear California* reflects on the state’s shifting landscapes and the notion of place. Entries talk across the centuries, from Indigenous stories told before the Spanish arrived on the Pacific coast through to present-day tweets, blogs, and other ephemera. Weaving together the personal, the insightful, the impressionistic, the lewd, and the hysterically funny, *Dear California* presents collected writings essential to understanding the diversity, antagonisms, and abiding promise of the Golden State.

“With incisive wit, Dear California captures the ethos of a place that never stops reaching for the brass ring.”
—Michael Connelly, author of *Desert Star*

Compton in My Soul
A Life in Pursuit of Racial Equality
Albert M. Camarillo

When Al Camarillo grew up in Compton, California, racial segregation was the rule. His relatives were among the first Mexican immigrants to settle there—in the only neighborhood where Mexicans were allowed to live. The city’s majority was then White, and Compton would shift to a predominantly Black community over Al’s youth. *Compton in My Soul* weaves Al’s personal story with histories of this now-infamous place and illuminates a changing US society—the progress and backslides over half a century for racial equality and educational opportunity.

This memoir unmasks fundamental contradictions in American life—racial injustice and interracial cooperation, inequality and equal opportunity, racial strife and racial harmony. Even as legacies of inequality still haunt American society, Camarillo writes with a message of hope for a better, more inclusive America—and the aspiration that his life’s journey can inspire others as they start down their own path.

ASIAN AMERICA
272 pages, May 2024
9781503639089 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale

REDWOOD PRESS
544 pages, JU/L
9781503614697 Cloth $30.00 $24.00 sale

STANFORD STUDIES IN COMPARATIVE RACE AND ETHNICITY
336 pages, July 2024
9781503638198 Cloth $27.00 $21.60 sale
The Happiness of the British Working Class
Jamie L. Bronstein

The Happiness of the British Working Class employs and analyzes over 350 autobiographies of individuals in England, Scotland, and Ireland to explore the sources of happiness of British working people born before 1870. Drawing from careful examinations of their personal narratives, Jamie L. Bronstein investigates the ways in which working people thought about the good life as seen through their experiences with family and friends, rewarding work, interaction with the natural world, science and creativity, political causes and religious commitments, and physical and economic struggles. Informed by the history of emotions and the philosophical and social-scientific literature on happiness, this book reflects broadly on the industrial-era working-class experience in an era of immense social and economic change.

“Gripping, intriguing, and entertaining. Scholars from a range of disciplines—and more general readers—will find much of interest here.”
—Thomas Dixon, author of Weeping Britannia: Portrait of a Nation in Tears

Losing Hearts and Minds
Race, War, and Empire in Singapore and Malaya, 1915–1960
Kate Imy

Losing Hearts and Minds explores the loss of British power and prestige in colonial Singapore and Malaya from the First World War to the Malayan Emergency. During this period, British leaders relied on a growing number of Asian, European, and Eurasian allies and servicepeople, including servants, police, soldiers, and medical professionals, to maintain their empire. At the same time, British institutions and leaders continued to use racial and gender violence to wage war. As a result, those colonial subjects closest to British power frequently experienced the limits of belonging and the broken promises of imperial inclusion, hastening the end of British rule in Southeast Asia.

“A humane, nuanced, and profoundly moving history of the British empire’s wars in Asia.”
—Susan R. Grayzel, Utah State University

STANFORD BRITISH HISTORIES
344 pages, July 2024
9781503633841 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale

STANFORD BRITISH HISTORIES
300 pages, 2023
9781503633841 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale
Reading John Milton
How to Persist in Troubled Times
Stephen B. Dobranski

A captivating biography that celebrates the audacious, inspiring life and works of John Milton, revealing how he speaks to our times.

John Milton is unrivalled—for the music of his verse and the breadth of his learning. In a time of convulsive political turmoil, he justified the killing of a king, pioneered free speech, and publicly defended divorce. He was, in short, an iconoclast. Afflicted by blindness, illness, and political imprisonment, he also understood adversity. In this brisk, topical, and engaging biography, Stephen B. Dobranski brushes the scholarly dust from the portrait of the artist to reveal Milton’s essential humanity and his unwavering commitment to ideals—freedom of religion and the right and responsibility of all persons to think for themselves—that are still relevant and necessary in our times.

“Marvelous. Puts to rest the notion that Milton is just for academics.”
—Publishers Weekly

328 pages, 2022
9781503632707 Cloth $35.00 $28.00 sale

Sensitive Witnesses
Feminist Materialism in the British Enlightenment
Kristin M. Girten

This book explores the feminist materialist practice of sensitive witnessing, establishing an alternate history of the emergence of the scientific method in the eighteenth century. The author-philosophers Girten takes up asserted themselves as intimately entangled with matter—boldly embracing their perceived close association with the material world as women. Girten shows how Lucy Hutchison, Margaret Cavendish, Aphra Behn, Eliza Haywood, and Charlotte Smith took inspiration from materialist principles to challenge widely accepted “modest” conventions for practicing and communicating philosophy.

Forerunners of feminist materialism today, these thinkers recognized the kinship of human and nonhuman nature and suggested a more accessible, inclusive version of science informed by profound closeness with the natural world.

“Girten’s sensitive witness emerges as the unashamed hero of a history of scientific passions.”
—Wendy Anne Lee, New York University

216 pages, February 2024
9781503633032 Cloth $65.00 $52.00 sale

The Socialist Patriot
George Orwell and War
Peter Stansky

In this study, Stanford historian and lifelong Orwell scholar Peter Stansky incisively demonstrates how Orwell’s body of work was defined by the four major conflicts that punctuated his life: World War I, the Spanish Civil War, World War II, and the Cold War.

By carefully combing through Orwell’s published works, notably “My Country Right or Left,” The Lion and the Unicorn, Animal Farm, and his most dystopian and prescient novel Nineteen Eighty-Four, Stansky teases apart Orwell’s often paradoxical views on patriotism and socialism. The Socialist Patriot is ultimately an attempt to reconcile the apparent contradictions between Orwell’s commitment to socialist ideals and his sharp critique of totalitarianism by demonstrating the centrality of his wartime experiences, giving twenty-first century readers greater insight into the inner world of one of the most influential writers of the modern age.

“Stansky triumphs magnificently again.”
—John Rodden, author of Becoming George Orwell

284 pages, 2023
9781503635494 Paper $14.00 $11.20 sale
Adrift on an Inland Sea
Misinformation and the Limits of Empire in the Brazilian Backlands
Hal Langfur
From 1750 until Brazil won its independence in 1822, the Portuguese crown sought to extend imperial control over the colony’s immense, sea-like interior and exploit its gold and diamond deposits using enslaved labor. This book measures Portugal’s transatlantic projection of power against a particular obstacle: imperial information-gathering, which produced a confusion of rumors, distortions, claims, conflicting reports, and disputed facts. Drawing on interdisciplinary scholarship in the fields of ethnohistory, slavery and diaspora studies, and legal and literary history, Hal Langfur considers how misinformation destabilized European sovereignty in the Americas, making a major contribution to histories of empire, frontiers and borderlands, knowledge production, and scientific exploration in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

“The author’s effort is solid and provocative. Highly recommended.”
—R. M. Delson, CHOICE

456 pages, 2023
9781503633964 Paper $35.00 $28.00 sale

Unexpected Routes
Refugee Writers in Mexico
Tabea Alexa Linhard
Unexpected Routes chronicles the refugee journeys of six writers whose lives were upended by fascism in the aftermath of the Spanish Civil War and during World War II: Cuban-born Spanish writer Silvia Mistral, German-born Spanish writer Max Aub, German writer Anna Seghers, German author Ruth Rewald, Swiss-born political activist, photographer, and ethnographer Gertrude Duby, and Czech writer and journalist Egon Erwin Kisch. The literary output of these six brilliant, prolific, but also flawed individuals reflects the most salient contradictions of what it meant to escape from fascist occupied Europe. In a study that bridges history, literary studies, and refugee studies, Tabea Alexa Linhard draws connections between colonialism, the Spanish Civil War, and World War II and the Holocaust to shed light on the histories and literatures of exile and migration.

“Unexpected Routes profoundly realigns the research and writing on exile literature.”
—Doerte Bischoff, University of Hamburg

306 pages, 2023
9781503634695 Cloth $70.00 $56.00 sale

Indigenous Autocracy
Power, Race, and Resources in Porfirian Tlaxcala, Mexico
Jaclyn Ann Sumner
One of few recognizably Indigenous persons in office, Próspero Cahuantzi of Tlaxcala kept his position (1885–1911) longer than any other gubernatorial appointee under Porfirio Díaz’s transformative but highly oppressive dictatorship (1876–1911). Locally, Cahuantzi navigated between national directives aimed at modernizing Mexico, often at the expense of the impoverished rural majority, and strategic management of Tlaxcala’s natural resources—in particular, balancing growing industrial demand for water with the needs of the local population. Jaclyn Ann Sumner shows how this intermediary actor brokered national expectations and local conditions to maintain state power, challenging the idea that governors during the Porfírian dictatorship were little more than provincial stewards who repressed dissent and bringing Porfírian-era Mexico into critical conversations about race and environmental politics in Latin America.

“Sumner effectively integrates cultural, political, and environmental history to revise our understanding of Porfírian Mexico.”
—Mikael Wolfe, Stanford University
Queer Obscenity
Erotic Archives in Dictatorial Spain
Javier Fernández Galeano

Queer Obscenity takes us inside the archive to demonstrate how the incongruities of the Primo de Rivera (1923–1930) and Franco (1939–1975) regimes were manifested in the regulation of erotic material cultures. The dictators’ authorities destroyed “straight” pornographies while often curating and preserving “queer” erotica: their concern was not that obscene material was consumed, but rather by whom. Focusing on amateur pornographers and their confiscated and censored erotica, Javier Fernández Galeano adds a rich complexity to both the history and theory of pornography, demonstrating that surveillance depends entirely on documenting intimacy and preserving transgression. This book sheds new light on the production, consumption, and circulation of pornography and erotica in Spain over the course of the twentieth century, drawing connections between intimate queer desires, preservation, and erasure.

“This is undoubtedly a work destined to become a classic in the historiography of sexualities.”
—Francisco Vázquez-García, University of Cadiz

The Shadow of the Empress
Fairy-Tale Opera and the End of the Habsburg Monarchy
Larry Wolff

A beguiling exploration of the last Habsburg monarchs’ grip on Europe’s historical and cultural imagination.

The Shadow of the Empress explores how the changing circumstances of cultural production and reception before, during, and after World War I reshaped the political meanings of the fairy-tale opera Die Frau ohne Schatten. Historian Larry Wolff interweaves the story of the opera’s composition and performance history with a personal narrative of his Habsburg and Viennese family. Reflecting on the seismic cultural shifts that rocked post-imperial Europe, Wolff follows the real-life Emperor and Empress through the rise of Nazism, World War II, and the Cold War up until Empress Zita’s death in 1989, when she had herself become a fairy-tale figure.

“A silver rose of a book.”
—Michael Steinberg, Brown University

452 pages, 2023
9781503635647 Paper $26.00 $20.80 sale

The Invention of Terrorism in France, 1904–1939
Chris Millington

This book investigates the political and social imaginaries of “terrorism” in the early twentieth century. Chris Millington traces the development of how the French conceived of terrorism, from the late nineteenth-century notion that terrorism was the deed of the mad anarchist bomber, to the fraught political clashes of the 1930s when terrorism came to be understood as a political act perpetrated against French interests. Millington conceptualizes “terrorism” not only as the act itself, but also as a political and cultural construction of violence composed from a variety of discourses and deployed in particular circumstances by commentators, witnesses, and perpetrators. In doing so, he argues that the political and cultural battles inherent to perceptions of terrorism lay bare numerous concerns, not least anxieties over immigration, antiparlimentarianism, representations of gender, and the future of European peace.

“A brilliant, original and much needed piece of terrorism history.”
—Richard Jackson, The University of Otago

264 pages, July 2024
9781503639508 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale
Subcontractors of Guilt
Holocaust Memory and Muslim Belonging in Postwar Germany
Esra Özyürek

At the turn of the millennium, Middle Eastern and Muslim Germans had unexpectedly become central to the country’s Holocaust memory culture—not as welcome participants, but as obstacles to German national reconciliation with its Nazi past, and as targets for re-education and reform, so that they, too, can learn the lessons of the Holocaust and embrace Germany’s most important postwar democratic political values.

Based on ethnographic research conducted over a decade, Subcontractors of Guilt explores when, how, and why Muslim Germans have moved to the center of Holocaust memory discussions. Esra Özyürek argues that German society “subcontracts” guilt of the Holocaust to new minority immigrant arrivals, with the false promise of this process leading to inclusion into the German social contract and equality with other members of postwar German society, to explore the paradoxes of postwar German national identity.

266 pages, 2023
9781503635562 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale

Red Tape
Radio and Politics in Czechoslovakia, 1945-1969
Rosamund Johnston

In socialist Eastern Europe, radio simultaneously produced state power and created the conditions for it to be challenged. As the dominant form of media in Czechoslovakia from 1945 until 1969, radio constituted a site of negotiation between Communist officials, broadcast journalists, and audiences. In Red Tape, historian Rosamund Johnston explores the dynamic between radio reporters and the listeners who liked and trusted them while recognizing that they produced both propaganda and entertainment. Bringing together European history, media studies, cultural history, and sound studies, Red Tape shows how Czechs and Slovaks used radio technologies and institutions to negotiate questions of citizenship and rights.

“A brilliant analysis of the creation and dissemination of media under state Socialism.”
—Tara Zahra, author of Against the World: Anti-Globalism and Mass Politics between the World Wars

312 pages, March 2024
9781503638693 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale

The Afterlife of Ottoman Europe
Muslims in Habsburg Bosnia Herzegovina
Leyla Amzi-Erdogdular

This book examines how Bosnian Muslims navigated the Ottoman and Habsburg domains following the Habsburg occupation of Bosnia Herzegovina after the 1878 Berlin Congress. Amzi-Erdogdular explores the enduring influence of the Ottoman Empire during this period—an influence perpetuated by the efforts of the imperial state from afar, and by its former subjects in Bosnia Herzegovina negotiating their new geopolitical reality. Tracing transregional connections, imperial continuities, and multilayered allegiances, this book bridges Ottoman, Islamic, Middle Eastern, and Balkan studies to tell the story of Muslims who redefined their place in both empires and the modern world.

“Few works have been able to scrutinize empire’s influence on the modern world with the rigor, focus and brilliance displayed in this remarkable monograph. A model for how to think about the lasting effects of the old empires.”
—Mark Mazower, Columbia University

332 pages, December 2023
9781503636705 Cloth $75.00 $60.00 sale
The Soviet Union was one of the most secretive states that ever existed. Defended by a complex apparatus of rules and checks administered by the secret police, the Soviet state had seemingly unprecedented capabilities based on its near monopoly of productive capital, monolithic authority, and secretive decision making. But behind the scenes, Soviet secrecy was double-edged: it raised transaction costs, incentivized indecision, compromised the effectiveness of government officials, eroded citizens’ trust in institutions and in each other, and led to a secretive society and an uninformed elite. The result is what this book calls the secrecy/capacity tradeoff: a bargain in which the Soviet state accepted the reduction of state capacity as the cost of ensuring its own survival.

“National security was not a recent phenomenon in Soviet Russia, as Harrison details in this volume. Secret Leviathan is a must for all academic libraries. Essential.”

—C. S. Lovett, CHOICE

The Rise and Fall of the Italian Communist Party
A Transnational History
Silvio Pons

This book reassesses the history of Italian communism in international perspective, analyzing the Italian Communist Party as a case study in the global history of communism. Prominent Italian historian Silvio Pons focuses on the attempts of the Italian Communist Party to forge an intellectually defensible party program that combined Moscow’s international demands with the Italians’ attempts to develop their own foreign and domestic policies according to their own political circumstances. Following three leaders of the Italian Communist Party (Antonio Gramsci, Palmiro Togliatti, and Enrico Berlinguer) from the First World War to the fall of the Soviet Union, Pons considers the broader relationship between communism and Cold War history, the history of decolonization, and the rise of “Europe” as a political category.

STANFORD-HOOVER SERIES ON AUTHORITARIANISM
408 pages, July 2024
9781503638839 Cloth $70.00 $56.00 sale

Secret Leviathan
Secrecy and State Capacity under Soviet Communism
Mark Harrison

The Soviet Union was one of the most secretive states that ever existed. Defended by a complex apparatus of rules and checks administered by the secret police, the Soviet state had seemingly unprecedented capabilities based on its near monopoly of productive capital, monolithic authority, and secretive decision making. But behind the scenes, Soviet secrecy was double-edged: it raised transaction costs, incentivized indecision, compromised the effectiveness of government officials, eroded citizens’ trust in institutions and in each other, and led to a secretive society and an uninformed elite. The result is what this book calls the secrecy/capacity tradeoff: a bargain in which the Soviet state accepted the reduction of state capacity as the cost of ensuring its own survival.

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STANFORD-HOOVER SERIES ON AUTHORITARIANISM
372 pages, 2023
9781503628892 Cloth $65.00 $52.00 sale

Stalin’s Usable Past
A Critical Edition of the 1937 Short History of the USSR
Edited by David Brandenberger

At the height of the Great Terror in 1937, Joseph Stalin took a break from the purges to edit a new textbook on the history of the USSR. Appearing in million-copy print runs through 1955, the Short History of the USSR transformed how a generation of Soviet citizens were to understand the past.

This book provides a critical edition of the Short History that both analyzes the text and places it in historical context. By highlighting Stalin’s precise redactions and embellishments, historian David Brandenberger reveals the scope of Stalin’s personal involvement in the textbook’s development, documenting in unprecedented detail his plans for the transformation of Soviet society’s historical imagination.

“Brandenberger’s magisterial work demonstrates how writing about the past became a battlefield between official versions of the national myth.”

—Ronald Grigor Suny, author of Stalin: Passage to Revolution

STANFORD-HOOVER SERIES ON AUTHORITARIANISM
472 pages, May 2024
9781503637863 Cloth $75.00 $60.00 sale
Our Comrades in Havana
Cuba, the Soviet Union, and Eastern Europe, 1959–1991
Radoslav Yordanov

In the immediate aftermath of its successful revolution, Cuba was heralded by socialist nations as the vanguard of communism in Latin America in the early 1960s. But by the late 1980s, Cuba’s inability to adopt the modes of socialist planning and Mikhail Gorbachev’s reforms had deeply soured the relationship between Havana and the Soviet-led Socialist Bloc. While secondary literature often highlights Cuba’s political and economic relations with Washington and Moscow, Havana’s ideological, political, and economic relations with the East European states have received considerably less attention. Analyzing firsthand accounts of East European diplomats’ experiences in Havana, historian Radoslav Yordanov reconstructs the thinking of East European diplomats and specialists in their dealings with Cuba, shedding new light on Cuba’s role in the global Cold War.

April 2024
9781503636422 Cloth $75.00
$60.00 sale

Rethinking the End of Empire
Nationalism, State Formation, and Great Power Politics
Lynn M. Tesser

Rethinking the End of Empire offers a wholly unique approach by arguing that nationalism often existed more in the perceptions of external observers than of local activists and insurgents, underscoring the need to treat nationalism relationally.

Lynn M. Tesser analyzes the decades prior to clusters of state birth to show that the transformation of pre-independence mobilization into moves toward territorial separation lay more with the politics of empires than with republican ideas. Featuring extensive insights from sociology, history, and area studies, this book adds nuance to scholarship that assumes most, if not all, pre-independence unrest was nationalist and separatist, and sheds light on why the various demands for change eventually coalesced around independence in some cases but not others.

“This book offers a fresh and thought-provoking perspective on the history of national independence across the globe.”

—Andreas Wimmer, Columbia University

240 pages, July 2024
9781503638891 Paper $30.00
$24.00 sale

Near and Far Waters
The Geopolitics of Seapower
Colin Flint

Seapower has been a constant in world politics, a tool through which powerful countries have policed the seas for commercial advantage. Political geographer Colin Flint highlights the geography of seapower as a dynamic, continual struggle to gain control of near waters—those parts of the oceans close to a country’s shoreline—and far waters—parts of the oceans beyond the horizon and that neighbor the shorelines of other countries. A forceful and clarifying challenge to conventional accounts of geopolitics, Near and Far Waters offers an accessible introduction to the combination of economic and political relations that are the reason behind, and the result of, the development of seapower to control near waters and project force into far waters. Examining the histories of three naval powers (the Netherlands, Britain, and the United States), this book distills past and present patterns of seapower and their tendency to trigger repercussive conflict and war.

240 pages, July 2024
9781503639812 Paper $28.00
$22.40 sale
The Transition
Interpreting Justice from Thurgood Marshall to Clarence Thomas
Daniel Kiel

Every Supreme Court transition presents an opportunity for a shift in the balance of the third branch of American government, but the replacement of Thurgood Marshall with Clarence Thomas proved particularly momentous. Not only did it shift the ideological balance on the Court; it was inextricably entangled with the persistent American dilemma of race. In The Transition, this most significant transition is explored through the lives and writings of the first two African American justices on Court, touching on the lasting consequences for understandings of American citizenship as well as the central currents of Black political thought over the past century. Their judicial writings richly illustrate the ways in which these two individuals embodied crucial American (and African American) debates. Daniel Kiel shows that it is their unique perspective as Black justices that makes this succession echo across generations.

376 pages, 2023
9781503630659 Cloth $30.00  $24.00 sale

Judging Insanity, Punishing Difference
A History of Mental Illness in the Criminal Court
Chloé Deambrogio

In Judging Insanity, Punishing Difference, Chloe Deambrogio explores how developments in the field of forensic psychiatry shaped American courts’ assessments of defendants’ mental health and criminal responsibility over the course of the 20th century. During this period, new psychiatric notions of the mind and its readability, legal doctrines of insanity and diminished culpability, and cultural stereotypes about race and gender shaped the ways in which legal professionals, mental health experts, and lay witnesses approached mental disability evidence, especially in cases carrying the death penalty.

Using Texas as a case-study, Deambrogio examines how these medical, legal, and cultural trends shaped psycho-legal debates in state criminal courts, while shedding light on the ways in which experts and lay actors’ interpretations of ‘pathological’ mental states influenced trial verdicts in capital cases.

THE CULTURAL LIVES OF LAW
300 pages, 2023
9781503630321 Cloth $70.00  $56.00 sale

Hereditary
The Persistence of Biological Theories of Crime
Julien Larregue

Since the 1990s, a growing number of criminal courts around the world have been using expert assessments based on behavioral genetics and neuroscience to evaluate the responsibility and dangerousness of offenders. Despite this rapid circulation, however, we still know very little about the scientific knowledge underlying these expert evaluations. Hereditary traces the historical development of biosocial criminology in the United States from the 1960s to the present, showing how the fate of this movement is intimately linked to that of the field of criminology as a whole. Julien Larregue examines what is at stake in the development of biosocial criminology, addressing the reconfiguration of expertise in contemporary societies, and in particular the territorial struggles between the medical and legal professions.

252 pages, January 2024
9781503637764 Paper $30.00  $24.00 sale
American Apocalypse
The Six Far-Right Groups Waging War on Democracy
Rena Steinzor

The war on American democracy is at a fever pitch. Such a corrosive state of affairs did not arise spontaneously up from the people but instead was pushed, top-down, by six private sector special interest groups—big business, the House Freedom Caucus, the Federalist Society, Fox News, white evangelicals, and armed militias. In American Apocalypse, Rena Steinzor argues that these groups are nothing more than well-financed armies fighting a battle of attrition against the national government, with power, money, and fame as their central motivations. This book is the first to conceptualize these groups together, as one deconstructive and awe-inspiring force. Steinzor delves into each of their histories, mapping the strategies, tactics, and characteristics that make them so powerful. She offers the most comprehensive story available about the downfall of American democracy, reminding us that only by recognizing what we are up against can we hope to bring about change.

264 pages, April 2024
9781503638648 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale

Cemetery Citizens
Reclaiming the Past and Working for Justice in American Burial Grounds
Adam Rosenblatt

Across the United States, groups of grassroots volunteers gather in overgrown, institutionally neglected cemeteries. As they rake, clean headstones, and research silenced histories, they offer care to individuals who were denied basic rights and forms of belonging in life and in death. Drawing on interviews, activist anthropology, poems, and drawings, Adam Rosenblatt takes us to gravesite reclamation efforts in three prominent American cities. The cemeteries in this book are not only sites for preserving undervalued pasts; they are also urgent places of political struggle and radical imagination. Cemetery Citizens dives into the ethical quandaries and practical complexities of cemetery reclamation, showing how volunteers build community across social boundaries, craft new ideas about citizenship and ancestry, and expose injustices that would otherwise be suppressed.

264 pages, April 2024
9781503633919 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale

The Residential Is Racial
A Perceptual History of Mass Homeownership
Adrienne Brown

In The Residential Is Racial, Adrienne Brown reveals how mass homeownership remade the rubrics of race, from the early cases realtors made for homeownership’s necessity to white survival through to the 1968 Fair Housing Act. Reading real estate archives and appraisal textbooks alongside literary works by F. Scott Fitzgerald, John Steinbeck, Lorraine Hansberry, Richard Wright, Gwendolyn Brooks, James Baldwin, Ralph Ellison, John Cheever, and Thomas Pynchon, Brown goes beyond merely identifying the discriminatory mechanisms that the real estate industry used to forestall black homeownership. Rather, she reveals that redlining and other forms of racial discrimination are perceptual modes, changing what it meant to sense race and assign it value. This book discovers that the racial honing of perception on the block—seeing race like a bureaucrat, an appraiser, and a homeowner—has become central to the functioning of the residential itself.

344 pages, July 2024
9781503638662 Cloth $32.00 $25.60 sale
Transpacific Reform and Revolution
The Chinese in North America, 1898-1918
Zhongping Chen

This book uses rich archival sources to examine how reform and revolution in North American Chinatowns influenced political change in China and the transpacific Chinese diaspora. Zhongping Chen focuses on the transnational activities of Kang Youwei, Sun Yat-sen, and other politicians, especially their mobilization of the Chinese in North America to join reformist or revolutionary parties in patriotic fights for a Western-style constitutional monarchy or republic in China. Through network analysis of the origins, interrelations, and influences of Chinese reform and revolution in North America, Chen makes a significant contribution to modern Chinese history, Asian American and Asian Canadian history, and Chinese diasporic scholarship.

“The most authoritative and excellent work in English on the dynamics of these radical transpacific movements led by Kang Youwei and Sun Yat-sen, challenging misperceptions and misinformation about this period.”

—Sue Fawn Chung, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Chinese Workers of the World
Colonialism, Chinese Labor, and the Yunnan–Indochina Railway
Selda Altan

Chinese workers helped build the modern world. They labored on New World plantations, worked in South African mines, and toiled through the construction of the Panama Canal, among many other projects. Chinese Workers of the World explores Chinese labor under colonial regimes within China thorough examination of the Yunnan–Indochina Railway, constructed between 1898–1910. Drawing on Chinese, French, and British archival accounts of day-to-day worker struggles and labor conflicts along the railway, Selda Altan argues that long before the Chinese Communist Party defined Chinese workers as the vanguard of a revolutionary movement in the 1920s, the modern figure of the Chinese worker was born in the crosscurrents of empire and nation in the late nineteenth century. Yunnan railway workers contested the conditions of their employment with the knowledge of a globalizing capitalist market, fundamentally reshaping Chinese ideas of free labor, national sovereignty, and regional leadership in East and Southeast Asia.

Seeking News, Making China
Information, Technology, and the Emergence of Mass Society
John Alekna

In China, radio first arrived in the winter of 1922–23, bursting into a world where communication was slow, disjointed, or nonexistent. But just fifty years later, at the beginning of the Cultural Revolution, news broadcasts reached hundreds of millions of people instantaneously, every day. Seeking News, Making China traces the history of news in twentieth-century China to demonstrate how large structural changes in technology and politics were heard and felt. Scrutinizing the flow of news can reveal much about society and politics—illustrating who has power and why, and uncovering the connections between different regions, peoples, and social classes. Taking an innovative, holistic view of information practices, John Alekna weaves together both rural and urban history to tell the story of rise of mass society through the lens of communication techniques and technology, showing how the news revolution fundamentally reordered the political geography of China.

224 pages, June 2024
9781503638235 Cloth $65.00 $52.00 sale

352 pages, March 2024
9781503638570 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale
Birth of the Geopolitical Age
Global Frontiers and the Making of Modern China
Shellen Xiao Wu

From the 1850s until the mid-twentieth century—a period marked by global conflicts, anxiety about dwindling resources, and closing opportunities after decades of expansion—the frontier became a mirror for historical and geographical hopes and fears. From Asia to Europe and the Americas, countries around the world engaged with new interpretations of empire and the deployment of science and technology to aid frontier development. Through a century of political turmoil and war, China nevertheless is the only nation to successfully navigate the twentieth century with its imperial territorial expanse largely intact. In this book, Shellen Xiao Wu shows how Chinese geopolitical ambitions in the twentieth century continues to reorder global power dynamics in East Asia and the wider world to this day.

“A marvel of scholarly ambition, erudition, and compression.”
—Fa-ti Fan, Binghamton University

328 pages, 2023
9781503636842 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale

The Master in Bondage
Factory Workers in China, 1949–2019
Huaiyin Li

Drawing on a rich set of original oral histories conducted with retired factory workers from industrial centers across the country, this book provides a bottom-up examination of working class factory life during socialist and reform-era China, as well as a series of new interpretations that challenge, revise, and enrich the existing scholarship on factory politics during the Maoist years.

Huaiyin Li argues that Maoist era state-owned enterprises operated effectively to turn factory workers into a well-disciplined labor force. The enterprise reforms of the 1980s and 1990s catalyzed the transformation of the industrial workforce from predominantly privileged workers in state-owned enterprises to precarious migrant workers of rural origins hired by private firms. Ultimately, this history provides an analytically astute new picture of factory life in the world’s largest manufacturing powerhouse.

“A treasure trove of oral history.”
—Marc Blecher, Oberlin College

330 pages, 2023
9781503635289 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale

Civil War in Guangxi
The Cultural Revolution on China’s Southern Periphery
Andrew G. Walder

Guangxi, a region on China’s southern border with Vietnam, has a large population of ethnic minorities and a history of rebellion and intergroup conflict. In 1968, during the high tide of the Cultural Revolution, it became notorious as the site of the most severe and extensive violence observed anywhere in China, as more than one hundred thousand died in a few short months.

With evidence from a vast collection of classified materials compiled during an investigation by the Chinese government in the 1980s, this book reveals mass killings as the byproduct of an intense top-down mobilization of rural militia against a stubborn factional insurgency. Moving methodically through the evidence, Andrew G. Walder provides a groundbreaking new analysis of one the most shocking chapters of the Cultural Revolution.

“The world’s leading expert on China’s Cultural Revolution has written another breathtaking book.”
—Yuhua Wang, author of The Rise and Fall of Imperial China

296 pages, 2023
9781503635227 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale
The Opium Business
A History of Crime and Capitalism in Maritime China
Peter Thilly

From its rise in the 1830s to its pinnacle in the 1930s, the opium trade was a guiding force in the Chinese political economy. In this book, Peter Thilly narrates the dangerous lives and shrewd business operations of opium traffickers in southeast China, situating them within a global history of capitalism and demonstrating how the modernizing Chinese state was infiltrated, manipulated, and profoundly transformed by opium profiteers.

Opium merchants carried the drug by sea, over mountains, and up rivers, with leading traders establishing monopolies over trade routes and territories, assembling “opium armies” to protect their businesses. Over time, these organizations became more bureaucratized and militarized, mimicking—and then eventually influencing, infiltrating, or supplanting—the state.

“An invaluable addition to the rapidly growing literature on the nineteenth century opium trade.”
—Amitav Ghosh, author of Sea of Poppies

316 pages, 2022
9781503634107 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale

One and All
The Logic of Chinese Sovereignty
Pang Laikwan

One and All analyzes the historical roots of Chinese sovereignty. Surveying the four different political structures of modern China—imperial, republican, socialist, and post-socialist—and the dramatic ruptures between them, Pang Laikwan argues that the ruling regime’s sovereign anxiety cuts across the long twentieth century in China, providing a strong throughline for the state-society relations during moments of intense political instability.

Focusing on political theory and cultural history, the book demonstrates how concepts such as popular sovereignty, territorial sovereignty, and economic sovereignty were constructed, and how sovereign power in China was both legitimized and subverted by intellectuals and the ordinary people through a variety of media from painting and literature to internet-based memes. With the possibility of a new Cold War looming large, globalization disintegrating, and populism rising, Pang provides a timely reevaluation of the logic of sovereignty in China as power, discourse, and a basis for governance.

264 pages, April 2024
9781503638815 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale

Wombs of Empire
Population Discourses and Biopolitics in Modern Japan
Sujin Lee

The “population problem (jinko mondai)” became a buzzword in Japan in the 1910s, with a growing call among Japanese social scientists and social reformers to solve what were seen as existential demographic issues. Wombs of Empire traces the trajectory of population discourses in interwar and wartime Japan, and positions them as critical sites where competing visions of modernity came into tension. Sujin Lee destabilizes the essentialized notions of motherhood and population by dissecting gender norms, modern knowledge, and government practices, showing how anxieties over demographics have undergirded justifications for ethnonationalism and racism, colonialism and imperialism, and gender segregation for much of Japan’s modern history.

“Lee provides a brilliant analysis of interwar and wartime Japan’s biopolitics. A tour de force.”
—Katsuya Hirano, University of California, Los Angeles

258 pages, 2023
9781503637009 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale
City of Sediments
A History of Seoul in the Age of Colonialism
Se-Mi Oh

Drawing from and analyzing a wide range of materials, from architecture and photography to print media and sound recordings, City of Sediments traces how, during Japanese colonial rule, the Korean capital of Seoul became a site that defined the place of the colonized in accordance with the progression of history, and how the underbelly of the city, latent places of darkness filled with chatters of the alleyway, challenged this visual language of power.

Se-Mi Oh builds an inventive new model of history where discrete events do not unfold one after the other, but rather one in which histories layer atop each other like sediment, with vibrant residues of earlier times defiantly visible among the superimposed signs of modernity and colonial domination.

“Bold and ambitious, beautifully written and rigorously argued.”
—Namhee Lee, author of Memory Construction and the Politics of Time in Neoliberal South Korea

280 pages, 2023
9781503635524 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale

Resistance as Negotiation
Making States and Tribes in the Margins of Modern India
Uday Chandra

“Tribes” appear worldwide today as vestiges of a pre-modern past at odds with the workings of modern states. Tribal resistance and rebellion are held to be tragic yet heroic political acts by “subaltern” groups confronting omnipotent states. By contrast, this book draws on fifteen years of archival and ethnographic research to argue that statemaking is intertwined inextricably with the politics of tribal resistance in the margins of modern India.

Uday Chandra demonstrates how the modern Indian state and its tribal or adivasi subjects have made and remade each other throughout the colonial and postcolonial eras, historical processes of modern statemaking shaping and being shaped by myriad forms of resistance by tribal subjects. Accordingly, tribal resistance is better understood vis-à-vis negotiations with the modern state, rather than its negation. Ultimately, the empirical material unearthed in this book requires rethinking and rewriting the political history of modern India from its “tribal” margins.

SOUTH ASIA IN MOTION
304 pages, June 2024
9781503638112 Cloth $75.00 $60.00 sale

The Political Outsider
Indian Democracy and the Lineages of Populism
Srirupa Roy

Tracking the shift from postcolonial nation-building to democracy-rebuilding, Srirupa Roy shows how the political outsider came to be a valorized figure of late twentieth-century Indian democracy, tasked with the urgent mission of curing a broken democratic system—what Roy terms “curative democracy.” Drawing attention to an ambivalent political field that folds together authoritarian and democratic forms and ideas, Roy argues that the long 1970s were a crucial turning point in Indian politics, when democracy was suspended by the declaration of a national emergency and then subsequently restored. By tracing the crooked line that connects the ideals of curative democracy and the political outsider to the populist antipolitics and strongman authoritarian rule in present times, this book revisits democracy from India, and asks what the Indian experience tells us about the trajectory of global democratic politics.

“Bold, creative, and beautifully written.”
—Amrita Basu, Amherst College

SOUTH ASIA IN MOTION
376 pages, March 2024
9781503637986 Paper $35.00 $28.00 sale
Labors of Division
Global Capitalism and the Emergence of the Peasant in Colonial Panjab
Navyug Gill

Focused on the transformation of Panjab during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, this book accounts for the colonial origins of global capitalism through a radical history of the concept of “the peasant,” demonstrating how seemingly fixed hierarchies were in fact produced, legitimized, and challenged within the preeminent agricultural region of South Asia. Navyug Gill uncovers how and why British officials and ascendant Panjabis disrupted existing forms of identity and occupation to generate a new agrarian order in the countryside. Far from archaic relics, this book ultimately reveals both the landowning peasant and landless laborer to be novel political subjects forged through the encounter between colonialism and struggles over culture and capital within Panjabi society.

SOUTH ASIA IN MOTION
376 pages, January 2024
9781503637498 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale

Qaum, Mulk, Sultanat
Citizenship and National Belonging in Pakistan
Ali Usman Qasmi

After the trauma of mass violence and massive population movements around the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947, both new nation states faced the enormous challenge of creating new national narratives, symbols, and histories, as well as a new framework for their political life. While leadership in India claimed the anti-colonial movement, Gandhi, and a civilizational legacy in the subcontinent, the new political elite in Pakistan were faced with a more complex task: to carve out a distinct Muslim history and political tradition from a millennium long history of cultural and religious interaction, mixing, and coexistence.

Drawing on a rich archive of diverse sources, Ali Usman Qasmi traces the complex development of ideas of citizenship and national belonging in the postcolonial Muslim state, offering a nuanced history of the country’s formative period.

“One of the liveliest cultural and conceptual histories of Pakistan to date.”
—Faisal Devji, University of Oxford

SOUTH ASIA IN MOTION
444 pages, December 2023
9781503637788 Paper $35.00 $28.00 sale

Boats in a Storm
Law, Migration, and Decolonization in South and Southeast Asia, 1942–1962
Kalyani Ramnath

For more than a century before World War II, traders, merchants, financiers, and laborers steadily moved between places on the Indian Ocean. This all changed as India, Burma, Ceylon, and Malaya wrested independence from the British empire. Set against the tumult of the postwar period, Boats in a Storm centers on the legal struggles of migrants to retain their traditional patterns of life, illustrating how they experienced citizenship and decolonization.

Kalyani Ramnath narrates how former migrants battled legal requirements in a postwar context of rising ethno-nationalisms that accused migrants of stealing jobs and hoarding land. Ultimately, Ramnath shows how decolonization was marked not only by shipwrecked empires and nation-states assembled and ordered from the debris of imperial collapse, but also by these forgotten stories of wartime displacements, their unintended consequences, and long afterlives.

SOUTH ASIA IN MOTION
308 pages, 2023
9781503636095 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale
Colonizing Kashmir
State-building under Indian Occupation
Hafsa Kanjwal

The Indian government, touted as the world’s largest democracy, often repeats that Jammu and Kashmir—its only Muslim-majority state—is “an integral part of India.” The region, which is disputed between India and Pakistan, has been occupied by India for over seventy-five years. In this book, Hafsa Kanjwal interrogates how Kashmir was made “integral” to India through a study of the decade long rule (1953–1963) of Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad, the second Prime Minister of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Kanjwal reveals how the Kashmir government tailored its policies to integrate Kashmir’s Muslims while also showing how these policies were marked by inter-religious tension, corruption, and political repression. Challenging the binaries of colonial and postcolonial, she urges us to question triumphalist narratives of India’s state formation, as well as the sovereignty claims of the modern nation-state.

SOUTH ASIA IN MOTION
384 pages, 2023
9781503636033 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale

Dust on the Throne
The Search for Buddhism in Modern India
Douglas Ober

Received wisdom has it that Buddhism disappeared from India, the land of its birth, between the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. Its full-fledged revival, so the story goes, only occurred in 1956, when the Indian civil rights pioneer Dr. B.R. Ambedkar converted to Buddhism along with half a million of his Dalit (formerly “untouchable”) followers. This, however, is only part of the story. Through an extensive examination of disparate materials held at archives and temples across South Asia, Douglas Ober reframes discussions about the place of Buddhism in the subcontinent from the early nineteenth century onwards, uncovering the numerous ways that Buddhism gave powerful shape to modern Indian history.

While Buddhism in contemporary India is often disparaged as being little more than tattered manuscripts and crumbling ruins, Dust on the Throne opens new avenues for understanding its substantial socio-political impact and intellectual legacy.

SOUTH ASIA IN MOTION
394 pages, 2023
9781503635036 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale

The Vulgarity of Caste
Dalits, Sexuality, and Humanity in Modern India
Shailaja Paik

This book offers the first social and intellectual history of Dalit performance of Tamasha—a form of popular, secular, traveling theater. Shailaja Paik argues that Dalit performers, activists, and leaders negotiated the violence, brutality, exploitation, and stigma in Tamasha as they struggled to claim manuski (human dignity) and transform themselves from ashlil (vulgar) to assli (authentic) and manus (human beings). In doing so, Paik illuminates how Dalit Tamasha women bent patriarchal pressures both inside and outside the Dalit community and became foundational actors in conflicts over caste, class, culture, gender, and sexuality. Placing Dalit Tamasha women at the heart of modernization in India, Paik illustrates how the choices that communities make about culture speak to much larger questions about inclusion, inequality, and structures of violence of caste within Indian society.

SOUTH ASIA IN MOTION
422 pages, 2022
9781503634084 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale
India Is Broken
A People Betrayed, Independence to Today
Ashoka Mody

When Indian leaders first took control of their government in 1947, they proclaimed the ideals of national unity and secular democracy. Through the first half century of nation-building, leaders could point to uneven but measurable progress on key goals. But today, many Indians live in a state of underemployment, and are one crisis away from despair. Public goods—like health, education, and the judiciary—are in woeful condition. And good jobs will remain scarce as long as that is the case. The lack of jobs will further undermine democracy, which will further undermine job creation. *India Is Broken* provides the most persuasive account available of this economic catch-22.

Combining statistical data with strong, people-driven narratives, this book is a meditation on the interplay between democracy and economic progress, with lessons extending far beyond India. Mody proposes a path forward that is fraught with its own peril, but which nevertheless offers something resembling hope.

My Brother, My Land
A Story from Palestine
Sami Hermez, with Sireen Sawalha

In 1967, Sireen Sawalha’s mother, with her young children, walked back to Palestine against the traffic of exile. This book is the story of Sireen’s family in the decades that followed and their lives in the Palestinian village of Kufr Ra’i. From Sireen’s early life growing up in the shadow of the ’67 War, to the involvement of her brother in armed resistance in the First and Second Intifada, Hermez crafts a rich story of intertwining voices, mixing genres of oral history, memoir, and creative nonfiction. This book confronts readers with the politics and complexities of armed resistance and the ethical tensions and contradictions that arise, as well as with the dispossession and suffocation of people living under occupation and their ordinary lives in such times.

“A breathtaking display of literary prowess that tells the story of an entire homeland through the frame of one woman’s life.”
—Hala Alyan, author of *Salt Houses*

Empire of Refugees
North Caucasian Muslims and the Late Ottoman State
Vladimir Hamed-Troyansky

This book reframes late Ottoman history through mass displacement and reveals the origins of refugee resettlement in the modern Middle East. Hamed-Troyansky offers a historiographical corrective: the nineteenth-century Ottoman Empire created a refugee regime, predating refugee systems set up by the League of Nations and the United Nations. Grounded in archival research in over twenty public and private archives across ten countries, this book contests the boundaries typically assumed between forced and voluntary migration, and refugees and immigrants, rewriting the history of Muslim migration in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

“Magnificent and magisterial. *Empire of Refugees* not only reveals the emergence of a new template for refugee flows in the modern world, but captures the human experiences of the refugees themselves: their sorrows, hopes, failures, and successes. A prodigious achievement.”
—Michael A. Reynolds, Princeton University
Remnants
Embodied Archives of the Armenian Genocide
Elyse Semerdjian

Foremost among the images of the Armenian Genocide is the specter of tattooed Islamized Armenian women. Among Armenians, the tattooed survivor was seen as a living ethnomartyr or a national stain, and the bodies of women and children figured centrally within humanitarian imaginary. In Remnants, these tattooed and scar-bearing bodies reveal a larger history, as the lived trauma of genocide is understood through bodies, skin, and—in what remains of those lives a century afterward—bones. Semerdjian writes a deeply personal history, exploring how the Ottoman Armenian communal body was dis-membered, disfigured, and ultimately re-membered by the survivor community.

“A very ethical book, demonstrating to all of us how one can recover a violent past with professionalism and grace instead of rhetoric and partisanship. Remnants recovers and gives agency to women who were silenced in history.”

—Fatma Muge Gocek, University of Michigan

398 pages, 2023
9781503636125 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale

Famine Worlds
Life at the Edge of Suffering in Lebanon’s Great War
Tylor Brand

The Great Famine was a catastrophe for the lands that would become Lebanon. The crisis reshaped society, killing untold thousands and transforming how people lived. Brand draws on memoirs, diaries, and correspondence to explore how people negotiated the famine and its traumas. But more than simply a chronicle of the event, this book offers a profound meditation on what it means to live through collective trauma. A crisis like the Great Famine not only reshapes the lives and social worlds of those who suffer, it creates a particular rationality that touches the most fundamental parts of our being, down to the ways we interact with each other.

“A tour de force. Tylor Brand recovers the silenced cultural and economic history of the famine of Lebanon and makes it speak vitally to current debates on mass trauma in Lebanon and beyond.”

—Elizabeth Thompson, American University

276 pages, 2023
9781503636163 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale

The Persian Prince
The Rise and Resurrection of an Imperial Archetype
Hamid Dabashi

With a title borrowed from Machiavelli, Dabashi articulates a bold new idea of the Persian Prince—a metaphor of political authority, a figurative ideal deeply rooted in the collective memories of multiple nations, and a literary construct that connected Muslim empires across time and space. Drawing on works from Classical Antiquity and the vast Persianate worlds from India to the Mediterranean, as well as the Hebrew Bible and European medieval mirrors for princes, Dabashi reveals the construction of the Persian Prince as a potent archetype. He traces this archetype through its varied historic gestations and finds it resurfacing in postcolonial political thought as a rebel, a prophet, a poet, and a nomad.

“A unique and formidable text that encapsulates the brilliance, vivacity, and political ferocity of Dabashi’s mind.”

—Jeanne Morefield, University of Oxford

352 pages, 2023
9781503636231 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale
Afterlives of Revolution
Everyday Counterhistories in Southern Oman
Alice Wilson
This book considers the “social afterlives” of revolutionary values and networks in Oman where veteran militants have used kinship and daily socializing to reproduce networks of social egalitarianism and commemorate the revolution in unofficial ways. These afterlives highlight lasting engagement with revolutionary values, the agency of former militants in postwar modernization, and the limitations of government patronage for eliciting conformity. Recognizing that those typically depicted as co-opted can still reproduce counterhegemonic values, this book considers a condition all too common across Southwest Asia and North Africa: the experience of defeated revolutionaries living under the authoritarian state they once contested.

“Advances a brilliant critique of reductionist perceptions that often define revolutions merely with references to their success or failure. Ethnographically rich and theoretically sophisticated.”
—Behrooz Ghamari-Tabrizi, Princeton University

336 pages, 2023
9781503635784 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale

Bedouin Bureaucrats
Mobility and Property in the Ottoman Empire
Nora Elizabeth Barakat
This book examines how tent-dwelling, seasonally migrating Bedouin engaged in processes of Ottoman state transformation on local, imperial, and global scales. As the “tribe” became a category of Ottoman administration, Bedouin in the Syrian interior used this category both to gain political influence and to organize community resistance to maintain control over land. Narrating the lives of Bedouin individuals, Barakat brings this population to the center of modern state-making, while also placing the Syrian interior in a global context of imperial expansion. She illuminates Ottoman state formation attempts and the unique trajectory of Bedouin in Syria, who maintained their control over land.

“Bedouin Bureaucrats is a marvel. It is necessary reading for anybody interested in the complexities of state-building, governance, and sovereignty. Nora Barakat has given us a book that will be debated and admired for years to come.”
—Pekka Hämäläinen, University of Oxford

374 pages, 2023
9781503635623 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale

In the Shadow of the Wall
The Life and Death of Jerusalem’s Maghrebi Quarter, 1187–1967
Vincent Lemire, Translated by Jane Kuntz
This book offers the first history of the Maghrebi Quarter—spanning 800 years from its founding in 1187 through to its destruction in 1967. To bring this vanished district back to life, Lemire gathers its now-scattered documentation in the archives of Muslim pious foundations in Jerusalem and the Red Cross in Geneva, in Ottoman archives in Istanbul and Israeli state archives. He engages testimonies of former residents and looks to recent archaeological digs that have resurfaced household objects buried during the destruction. Today, the Western Wall Plaza extends over the former Maghrebi Quarter. It is one of the most identifiable places in the world—yet one of the most occluded in history. This book offers a new point of entry to understand this consequential place.

“Lemire re-establishes the long-forgotten Maghrebi Quarter of the Old City to its rightful place in history. A fascinating and timely narrative.”
—Roberto Mazza, University of Limerick

400 pages, 2023
9781503634206 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale
Losing Istanbul
Arab-Ottoman Imperialists and the End of Empire
Mostafa Minawi
This book offers an intimate history of empire, following the rise and fall of a generation of Arab-Ottoman imperialists. Minawi shows how these men and women negotiated their loyalties and guarded their privileges through a microhistorical study of the changing social, political, and cultural currents. He narrates lives lived in these turbulent times, while focusing on the complex dynamics of ethnicity and race in an increasingly Turco-centric imperial capital. An alternative history of the last decades of the Ottoman Empire, Losing Istanbul frames global pivotal events through the experiences of Arab-Ottoman imperial loyalists who called Istanbul home.

“A masterful and captivating account. Losing Istanbul teaches us how to rescue late Ottoman history from Turkish nationalist narratives and gain a much richer understanding of global intellectual and political history of the high age of imperialism.”
—Cemil Aydin, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

326 pages, 2022
9781503634046 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale

Practicing Sectarianism
Archival and Ethnographic Interventions on Lebanon
Edited by Lara Deeb, Tsolin Nalbantian, and Nadya Sbaiti
This book explores the imaginative and contradictory ways that people live sectarianism, and reveals the many ways sectarianism is used to exhibit, imagine, or contest power. Essays analyze how people experience sectarianism, sometimes pushing back, sometimes evading it, sometimes deploying it strategically, to a variety of effects and consequences. The collection advances an understanding of sectarianism simultaneously constructed and experienced. Even as the book’s focus is Lebanon, its analysis fractures the association of sectarianism with the nation-state and suggests possibilities that can travel to other sites.

“Provocative, incisive, grounded in lived realities, the book delivers a powerful antidote to those who see Lebanon simplistically through the lens of religion. A necessary read.”
—Suad Joseph, University of California, Davis

258 pages, 2022
9781503633865 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale

Monuments Decolonized
Algeria’s French Colonial Heritage
Susan Slyomovics
“Statuomania” overtook Algeria beginning in the nineteenth century as the French affinity for monuments placed thousands of war memorials across the French colony. Following Algeria’s hard-fought independence in 1962, these monuments took on different meaning. This book follows the afterlives of French-built war memorials in Algeria and those taken to France. Drawing on extensive fieldwork in both countries and interviews with French and Algerian heritage actors and artists, Slyomovics analyzes the colonial nostalgia, dissonant heritage, and ongoing decolonization and iconoclasm of these works of art. Monuments emerge here as objects with a soul, offering visual records of the colonized Algerian native, the European settler colonizer, and the contemporary efforts to engage with a dark colonial past. Richly illustrated with more than 100 color images, Monuments Decolonized offers a fresh aesthetic take on the increasingly global move to fell monuments that celebrate settler colonial histories.

368 pages, July 2024
9781503639485 Paper $35.00 $28.00 sale
Making Space for the Gulf
Histories of Regionalism and the Middle East
Arang Keshavarzian

This book offers a new history of the Gulf that places Iran, Iraq, and the Arab Peninsula together within global processes. Keshavarzian connects moments more often treated as ruptures—the discovery of oil, the Iranian Revolution, the rise and decline of British empire, the emergence of American power—and crafts a narrative populated by a diverse range of people—migrants and ruling families, pearl divers and star architects, striking taxi drivers and dethroned rulers, protectors of British India and stewards of globalized American universities. Tacking across geographic scales, he reveals how the Gulf has been globalized through transnational relations, regionalized as a geopolitical category, and cleaved along national divisions and social inequalities. When understood as a process, not an object, the Persian Gulf reveals much about how regions and the world have been made in modern times.

WORLDING THE MIDDLE EAST
312 pages, April 2024
9781503638877 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale

Maghreb Noir
Paraska Tolan-Szkilnik

This book divies into the personal and political lives of the militant-artists who collectively challenged the neo-colonialist structures and authoritarianism of African states. Militant-artists argued for the creation of a new ideology of continued revolution—one that was transnational, trans-racial, and in defiance of the emerging nation-states. Drawing on Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese, French, and English sources, as well as interviews with the artists themselves, Tolan-Szkilnik expands our understanding of Pan-Africanism geographically, linguistically, and temporally. She establishes the importance of North Africa in nurturing global connections—and uncovers a lost history of grassroots collaboration among militant-artists from across the globe.

“Maghreb Noir takes us from Rabat to Algiers to Tunis to demonstrate how 1960s North Africa was an epicenter of pan-African thought and Black radicalism. A meticulously researched, effortlessly transnational work.”
—Hisham Aidi, Columbia University

WORLDING THE MIDDLE EAST
272 pages, 2023
9781503633759 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale

The Lives and Deaths of Jubrail Dabdoub
Or, How the Bethlehemites Discovered Amerka
Jacob Norris

This book tells the fantastical, yet real, story of Jubrail Dabdoub, from his childhood in rural Bethlehem to his travels as a merchant across Europe, East Asia, and the Americas, culminating in a recorded miracle: in 1909, Jubrail was brought back from the dead. To tell such a tale is to delve into realms the historian rarely treads. Through the story of Jubrail’s life, Norris explores the porous lines between history and fiction, the normal and the paranormal, the everyday and the extraordinary. Drawing on aspects of magical realism combined with elements of Palestinian folklore, Norris recovers the atmosphere of late nineteenth-century Bethlehem as scores of young men set off for faraway lands, and offers an original approach to historical writing, capturing a fantastic story of global encounter and exchange.

“A most original treatise on local knowledge. Norris weaves an astute combination of historical discourse and magical realism.”
—Salim Tamari

WORLDING THE MIDDLE EAST
290 pages, 2023
9781503633759 Paper $25.00 $20.00 sale
The Order and Disorder of Communication
Pamphlets and Polemics in the Seventeenth-Century Ottoman Empire
Nir Shafir

The seventeenth-century Ottoman Empire was rife with polemical debate. Fueling these debates was a new style of writing circulating the empire—the pamphlet. Shafir investigates the political and cultural institutions used to navigate, regulate, and encourage the circulation of information. He sketches an ecology of books, examining how books were produced, the movement of texts regulated, education administered, reading conducted, and publics cultivated. Pamphlets invited both the well and poorly educated to participate in public debates, thus expanding the Ottoman body politic. They also spurred an epidemic of fake authors and popular forms of reading. Based on years of research in Islamic manuscript libraries worldwide, this book illuminates a vibrant and evolving premodern manuscript culture.

Island and Empire
How Civil War in Crete Mobilized the Ottoman World
Üğur Zekeriya Peçе

In the 1890s, conflict erupted on the Ottoman island of Crete. At the heart of the Crete Question, as it came to be known around the world, were clashing claims of sovereignty between Greece and the Ottoman Empire. Peçе narrates a connected history of international intervention, mass displacement, and popular mobilization. The conflict drove a wedge between the island’s Muslims and Christians, quickly acquiring a character of civil war. Civil war in turn unleashed a humanitarian catastrophe with the displacement of more than seventy thousand Muslims from Crete. In years following, many of those refugees took to the streets and became the engine of protest across the empire from Salonica to Libya, sending ripples farther afield beyond imperial borders. This history that begins within an island becomes a story about the end of an empire.

States of Cultivation
Imperial Transition and Scientific Agriculture in the Eastern Mediterranean
Elizabeth R. Williams

The final decades of the Ottoman Empire and the period of the French mandate coincided with a critical period of transformation in agricultural technologies and administration. This book examines the processes and effects of agrarian transformation as Ottoman, Syrian, Lebanese, and French officials grappled with these new technologies, albeit with different end goals. Williams offers the first comprehensive account of the shared technocratic ideals that animated these policies and the divergent imperial goals that not only reshaped the region’s agrarian institutions, but produced representations of the region with repercussions well beyond the mandate’s end.

“A new lens not simply on the Eastern Mediterranean, but on land itself as the site where politics and ecology are intimately bound.”

—Sherene Seikaly, University of California, Santa Barbara
Unruly Labor
A History of Oil in the Arabian Sea
Andrea Wright

In the mid-twentieth century, the Arabian Peninsula emerged as a key site of oil production. International companies recruited workers from across the Middle East and Asia to staff their expanding oil projects. This book considers the working conditions, hiring practices, and worker actions and strikes at these oil projects. Wright highlights the increasing associations between oil, governance, and racialized management practices to map how labor was increasingly depoliticized. From the 1940s to 1971, citizenship became both an avenue for workers to advocate for their rights, while simultaneously, a way to limit other solidarities. Examining the interests of workers, government officials, and oil company managers alike, Wright offers a new history of Middle Eastern oil and twentieth-century capitalism—a history that illuminates how labor management and national security concerns have shaped state governance and economic policy priorities.

The Incarcerated Modern
Prisons and Public Life in Iran
Golnar Nikpour

The prison system is a foundational institution of Iranian political modernity. This book traces the transformation of Iran from a decentralized empire with few imprisoned persons into a modern nation-state with over a quarter million prisoners today. Nikpour explores the interplay between the concrete space of the Iranian prison and the role of prisons in producing new public cultures and political languages—from prison writings of 1920s leftist prisoners and communiqués of 1950s militant Islamists, to paintings of 1970s revolutionary guerrillas and mapping projects organized by contemporary dissident prisoners. In policing the line between “bad criminal” and “good citizen,” the carceral system has reshaped Iranian understandings of citizenship, freedom, and political belonging.

“The Incarcerated Modern is one of those exceptionally rare, original books that transcends academic disciplines and opens up myriad terrains of inquiry.”
—Shahla Talebi, Arizona State University

Colonizing Palestine
The Zionist Left and the Making of the Palestinian Nakba
Areej Sabbagh-Khoury

Based on extensive empirical research in local colony and national archives, this book offers a microhistory of frontier interactions between Zionist settlers and Indigenous Palestinians. Even as left-wing kibbutzim of Hashomer Hatzair helped lay the groundwork for settler colonial Jewish sovereignty, its settlers did not conceal the prior existence of the Palestinian villages and their displacement, which became the subject of enduring debate. Examining events in their actual time and as they were later remembered, Sabbagh-Khoury demonstrates that the dispossession and replacement of the Palestinians in 1948 was not a singular catastrophe, but rather a protracted process instituted over decades.

“A must-read for anyone who wants to understand exactly how tensions between socialism and Zionism played out on the ground.”
—Maha Nassar, University of Arizona
Undesirables
A Holocaust Journey to North Africa
Aomar Boum, Illustrated by Nadjib Berber

This graphic novel follows one man’s journey, telling a story of the traumas wrought by the Holocaust. Hans Frank is a Jewish journalist who flees Germany and lands in French Algeria. The Vichy regime soon designates all foreign Jews as “undesirables,” and Hans is detained by Vichy authorities and interned in camps in the deserts of Morocco and Algeria. Through bold storytelling and illustrations that convey the tension of the coming war and the grimness of the camps, Boum and Berber capture the experiences of thousands of refugees in the fictional Hans, and chronicle how the traumas of the Holocaust extended far beyond the borders of Europe.

“Connects the histories of Jews and North Africans, of antisemitism and racism, of the Holocaust and colonialism in innovative and surprising ways. An eye-opening book in the literal sense of the word.”
—Michael Brenner, American University

Nakam
The Holocaust Survivors Who Sought Full-Scale Revenge
Dina Porat

Nakam (Hebrew for “vengeance”) tells the story of “the Avengers” (Nokmim), a group of young Holocaust survivors who undertook a mission of revenge against Germany following the Holocaust. Motivated by the atrocities they had endured and the realization that murderous antisemitic attacks on survivors continued long after the Nazi surrender, the group sought retaliation at a level commensurate with the devastation caused by the Holocaust, making clear to the world that Jewish blood would no longer be shed with impunity. Drawing on rich archival sources and in-depth interviews with the Avengers in their later years, historian Dina Porat examines the group’s formation and the clash between the formative humanistic values held by its members and their unrealized plans for violent retribution.

“Completely engrossing, Nakam reads like the best detective novels, while also being a first-class work of historical research.”
—Saul Friedländer, author of Nazi Germany and the Jews, 1939–1945

Diary of a Black Jewish Messiah
The Sixteenth-Century Journey of David Reubeni through Africa, the Middle East, and Europe
Alan Verskin

This book offers the first English translation of Reubeni’s diary, detailing his travels and personal travails. In 1524, Reubeni appeared in Venice, claiming to be the ambassador of a powerful Jewish kingdom that looked to deliver Jews to the Holy Land. He spent a decade shuttling between European rulers seeking support. Reubeni’s grand ambitions were halted when he was turned over to the Inquisition and, in 1538, likely burned at the stake. Reubeni’s diary reveals the dramatic desperation of Renaissance Jewish communities and the struggles of the diplomat, trickster, and dreamer who wanted to save them.

“Verskin has once again proven himself to be a master translator with this rendering of the Hebrew diary and no less a master storyteller who vividly recreates the historical setting of Reubeni’s activity in his detailed introduction, which is eminently scholarly yet fully accessible.”
—Norman A. Stillman, University of Oklahoma

STANFORD STUDIES IN JEWISH HISTORY AND CULTURE
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394 pages, 2022
9781503630314 Cloth $40.00 $32.00 sale
No Longer Ladies and Gentlemen
Gender and the German-Jewish Migration to Mandatory Palestine
Viola Alianov-Rautenberg

Drawing on archival materials in German, English, and Hebrew, including administrative records, personal documents, newspapers, and oral history interviews, this book follows Jewish migrants along their journey from Germany and into the workplaces, living rooms, and kitchens of their new homeland to provide a new perspective on everyday life in Mandate Palestine. Alianov-Rautenberg tells the story of German-Jewish migration as gender history. She argues that migration was shaped and structured by gendered policies and ideologies and experienced by men and women in a gendered form—from the decision to immigrate and the anticipation of change through the outcomes for family life, body, self-image, and sexuality.

“An innovative examination of the historical saga of German-Jewish immigration to Palestine. Emphasizing the gender perspective, this book is one of the best new works on the history of immigration.”
—Guy Miron, Open University of Israel

Daughter of History
Traces of an Immigrant Girlhood
Susan Rubin Suleiman

A photograph with faint writing on the back. A traveling chess set. A silver pin. In her new memoir, noted scholar and author Susan Rubin Suleiman uses such everyday objects and the memories they evoke to tell the story of her early life as a Holocaust refugee and American immigrant. In this coming-of-age story that probes the intergenerational complexities of immigrant families and the inevitability of loss, Susan looks to her own life as an example of how historical events shape our private lives.

At once an intellectual autobiography and a reflection on the nature of memory, identity, and home, Daughter of History invites us to consider how the objects that underpin our lives become gateways to our past.

“A memoir of heart and soul, of ideas and intimations. Compelling, sophisticated, accessible—it’s a gift.”
—Sherry Turkle, author of Reclaiming Conversation and The Empathy Diaries: A Memoir

The Jews of Summer
Summer Camp and Jewish Culture in Postwar America
Sandra Fox

In the decades directly following the Holocaust, American Jewish leaders grew fearful that growing affluence and suburbanization threatened the future of authentic Jewish life. Many communal educators and rabbis pinned their hopes on residential summer camps for Jewish youth: institutions that sprang up across the U.S. postwar as places for children and teenagers to socialize, recreate, and experience Jewish culture. But despite adult plans, children and teenagers also shaped these sleepaway camps to mirror their own desires and interests and decided whether to accept or resist the ideas and ideologies their camp leaders promoted. Focusing on the lived experience of campers and camp counselors, The Jews of Summer demonstrates how a cultural crisis birthed a rite of passage that remains a significant influence in American Jewish life.

“Rare is the book that is scholarly and entertaining, but The Jews of Summer is just that.”
—Lila Corwin Berman, Temple University
German Jews in Love
A History
Christian Bailey

This book explores the dynamic role of love in German–Jewish lives, from the birth of the German Empire in the 1870s, to the 1970s, a generation after the Shoah. During a remarkably turbulent hundred-year period when German Jews experienced five political regimes, rapid urbanization, transformations in gender relations, and war and genocide, the romantic ideals of falling in love and marrying for love helped German Jews develop a new sense of self. By incorporating novel approaches from the history of emotions and life-cycle history, Christian Bailey moves beyond existing research into the sexual and racial politics of modern Germany and approaches a new frontier in the study of subjectivity and the self.

“This profound and moving study of how and why German Jews clung to their understanding of love amidst many brutal historical shifts bears witness to human emotional resilience—and its breaking points.”
—Barbara H. Rosenwein, Loyola University Chicago

Jewish Culture between Canon and Heresy
Immanuel Etkes

The Gaon of Vilna was the foremost intellectual leader of non-Hasidic Jewry in eighteenth-century Europe. In the mid-twentieth century, Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Rivlin wrote several books advancing the myth that the Gaon was an early progenitor of Zionism. Following the 1967 War in Israel, messianic sentiments spread in some circles of the national-religious public in Israel, who embraced this myth and made it a central component of the historical narrative they advanced. In this book, Israeli scholar Immanuel Etkes explores how the “Rivlinian myth” took hold and demonstrates that it has no basis in historical reality. Etkes argues that proponents of the Rivlinian myth seek to blur the distinction between Zionism as a modern national movement and a religious one—a distinction that underlies many central conflicts of contemporary Israeli politics.

“An exceptional work that makes a real difference in our understanding of the contemporary world.”
—Allan Nadler, Drew University

The Invention of a Tradition
The Messianic Zionism of the Gaon of Vilna
Immanuel Etkes

This career-spanning anthology from prominent Jewish historian David Biale brings over a dozen of his key essays together for the first time. These pieces, written between 1974 and 2016, are all representative of a method Biale calls “counter-history”: “the discovery of vital forces precisely in what others considered marginal, disreputable and irrational.” Exemplary essays in this volume argue for the dialectical relationship between modernity and its precursors in the older tradition, working together to “brush history against the grain” to provide a sweeping look at the history of the Jewish people. This volume of work by one of the boldest and most intellectually omnivorous Jewish thinkers of our time will be essential reading for scholars and students of Jewish studies.

“Intellectually exciting and a pleasure to read, the essays in this collection are a fine introduction to many important thinkers in the Jewish tradition.”
—Bob Goldfarb, Jewish Book Council

German Jews in Love
A History
Christian Bailey

Jewish Culture between Canon and Heresy
David Biale

The Invention of a Tradition
The Messianic Zionism of the Gaon of Vilna
Immanuel Etkes
Laws of the Spirit
Ritual, Mysticism, and the Commandments in Early Hasidism
Ariel Evan Mayse

This book grapples with one of Hasidism’s most vexing questions: how did a religious movement known for its radical views about immanence, revelation, and the imperative to serve God with joy simultaneously produce strict adherence to the structures and obligations of Jewish law? Exploring the movement from its emergence in the mid-1700s until 1815, Ariel Evan Mayse argues that the exceptionality of Hasidism lies not in whether its leaders broke or upheld rabbinic norms, but in the movement’s vivid attempt to rethink the purpose of Jewish ritual and practice. He turns to the methods and vocabulary of ritual studies to reckon with the contradictions and tensions of this religious movement as well as its remarkable intellectual vitality. Laws of the Spirit is a sweeping attempt to rethink the meaning and significance of religious practice in early Hasidism.

“A groundbreaking contribution to religious studies.”
—Jonathan Garb, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

STANFORD STUDIES IN JEWISH HISTORY AND CULTURE
400 pages, May 2024
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Interiority and Law
Bahya ibn Paquda and the Concept of Inner Commandments
Omer Michaelis

Interiority and Law presents a groundbreaking reassessment of a medieval Jewish classic, Bahya ibn Paquda’s Guide to the Duties of the Hearts. Michaelis reads this work anew as a revolutionary intervention in Jewish law, or halakha. Overturning perceptions of Bahya as the shaper of an ethical-religious form of life that exceeds halakha, Michaelis offers a pioneering historical and conceptual analysis of the category of “inner commandments” developed by Bahya. Interiority and Law reveals that Bahya’s main effort revolved around establishing a new legal formation—namely, the “duties of the hearts”—which would deal entirely with human interiority. With an integrative approach that puts Bahya in dialogue with other medieval Muslim and Jewish religious thinkers, this work offers a fresh perspective on our understanding of the interconnectedness of the dynamic, neighboring religious traditions of Judaism and Islam.

“Interiority and Law is a masterful achievement.”
—Michael Fishbane, University of Chicago

STANFORD STUDIES IN JEWISH MYSTICISM
222 pages, December 2023
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The Reeducation of Race
Jewishness and the Politics of Antiracism in Postcolonial Thought
Sonali Thakkar

After World War II, the UN and UNESCO initiated a project of racial reeducation. This book tells the story of how UNESCO’s race project directly influenced anticolonial thought and made Jewish difference and the Holocaust enduring preoccupations for anticolonial and postcolonial writers. Drawing on UNESCO’s rich archival resources and shifting between the scientific, social scientific, literary, and cultural, Sonali Thakkar offers new readings of a varied collection of texts from the postcolonial, Jewish, and Black diasporic traditions. Anticolonial thought and postcolonial literature critically recast liberal scientific antiracism, Thakkar argues, and the concepts central to this new moral economy were the medium for postcolonialism’s engagement with Jewishness.

“Thakkar’s confident and lucid voice rethinks race and plasticity forever.”
—Yogita Goyal, University of California, Los Angeles

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288 pages, 2023
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The Unknowable in Early Modern Thought
Natural Philosophy and the Poetics of the Ineffable
Kevin Killeen
Ranging from *Paradise Lost* to thinkers in and around the Royal Society and commentary on the Book of Job, Killeen explores how the era of the scientific revolution was in part paralyzed by and in part energized by the paradox it encountered in thinking about the elusive nature of God and the unfathomable nature of the natural world. Looking at writers with scientific, literary and theological interests, from the shoemaker mystic Jacob Boehme to John Milton, from Robert Boyle to Margaret Cavendish, and from Thomas Browne to the fiery prophet Anna Trapnel, the book shows how seventeenth-century writings redeployed the rich resources of the ineffable and the apophatic—what cannot be said, except in negative terms—to think about natural philosophy and the enigmas of the natural world.

“Brims with smart scholarship, sharp writing, and surprising discoveries.”
—Jess Keiser, Tufts University

The Paradoxes of Ignorance in Early Modern England and France
Sandrine Parageau
With close textual analysis of hitherto neglected sources and a reassessment of canonical philosophical works by Montaigne, Bacon, Descartes, Locke, and others, Parageau examines the role of ignorance in the production of knowledge, identifying three common virtues of ignorance as a mode of wisdom, a principle of knowledge, and an epistemological instrument, in philosophical and theological works. How could an essentially negative notion be turned into something profitable and even desirable? Taken in the context of Renaissance humanism, the Reformation and the “Scientific Revolution”—which all called for a redefinition and reaffirmation of knowledge—ignorance, Parageau finds, was not dismissed in the early modern quest for renewed ways of thinking and knowing. On the contrary, it was assimilated into the philosophical and scientific discourses of the time.

“Parageau has assembled a rich set of texts, and she reads them with care and nuance.”
—Paula Findlen, Stanford University

What Pornography Knows
Sex and Social Protest since the Eighteenth Century
Kathleen Lubey
Lubey offers a new history of pornography based on forgotten bawdy fiction of the eighteenth century, its nineteenth-century republication, and its appearance in 1960s paperbacks. Through close textual study, Lubey shows how these texts were edited across time to become what we think pornography is—a genre focused primarily on sex. Originally, they were far more variable, joining speculative philosophy and feminist theory to sexual description. Lubey’s readings show that pornography always had a social consciousness—that it knew, long before anti-pornography feminists said it, that women and nonbinary people are disadvantaged by a society that grants sexual privilege to men. Rather than glorify this inequity, Lubey argues, the genre’s central task has historically been to expose its artifice and envision social reform.

“Nothing short of astonishing.”
—Frances Ferguson, University of Chicago

312 pages, 2022
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264 pages, 2023
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The Antechamber
*Toward a History of Waiting*
Helmut Puff

From literature, memoirs, manuals, chronicles, visuals, and other documents, Helmet Puff presents a history of waiting anchored in antechambers—interior rooms designated and designed for people to linger. In early modern continental Western Europe, antechambers became standard in the residences of the elites. As a time-space infrastructure these rooms shaped encounters between unequals. By imposing spatial distance and temporal delays, antechambers constituted authority, rank, and power. Puff explores both the logic and the experience of waiting in such formative spaces, showing that time divides as much as it unites. Situated at the intersection of history, literature, and the history of art and architecture, this wide-ranging study demonstrates that waiting has a history that has much to tell us about social and power relations in the past and present.

“This beautiful book provides new historical insight into early modern mentalités.”
—Annabel Wharton, Duke University

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Hegel
*The Philosopher of Freedom*
Klaus Vieweg

In this landmark biography, the philosopher Klaus Vieweg paints a new picture of the life and work of the most important representative of German idealism. Vieweg draws on extensive archival research that has brought to light a wealth of hitherto undiscovered documents and handwritten notes relating to Hegel’s work, touching on Hegel’s engagement with the leading thinkers and writers of his age: Kant, Fichte, Schelling, Hölderlin, and others. Highly praised upon its release in Germany as having set the new biographical standard, this monumental work emphasizes Hegel’s relevance for today, depicting him as a vital figure in the history of philosophy.

“Vieweg’s biography of Hegel is more than the best work in its field—it sets new standards for a book on Hegel and for a philosopher’s biography as such.”
—Slavoj Žižek, author of *Hegel in A Wired Brain*

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Organizing Color
*Toward a Chromatics of the Social*
Timon Beyes

We live in a world that is saturated with color, but how should we make sense of color’s force and capacities? This book develops a theory of color as fundamental medium of the social. Constructed as a montage of scenes from the past two hundred years, *Organizing Color* demonstrates how the interests of capital, management, governance, science, and the arts have wrestled with color’s allure and flux. Contributing to a more general reconsideration of aesthetic capitalism and the role of sensory media, this book seeks to pioneer a theory of social organization—a “chromatics of organizing”—that is attuned to the protean and world-making capacity of color.

“Inventive, brilliantly written, and very readable, *Organizing Color* recovers and explicates the relevance of color to social form—be that chromatic or racialized color.”
—Esther Leslie, Birkbeck, University of London

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**Sensing Media: Aesthetics, Philosophy, and Cultures of Media**
292 pages, March 2024
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Epidemic Orientalism
Race, Capital, and the Governance of Infectious Disease
Alexandre I. R. White

A series of little-known regulations have aimed to protect the global north from epidemic threats for the last two centuries, starting with International Sanitary Conferences in 1851 and culminating in the present with the International Health Regulations, which organize epidemic responses through the World Health Organization. In this book, Alexandre White reveals the Western capitalist interests, racism and xenophobia, and political power plays underpinning the regulatory efforts that came out of the project to manage the international spread of infectious disease. Proposing a modified reinterpretation of Edward Said’s concept of orientalism, White invites us to consider “epidemic orientalism” as a framework within which to explore the imperial and colonial roots of modern epidemic disease control.

“A remarkable and necessary re-thinking of medical history through the lens of ‘epidemic orientalism.’”
—Hollie Sherwood-Martin, The Lancet Infectious Diseases

322 pages, 2023
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Programming Language Cultures
Automating Automation
Brian Lennon

In this book, Brian Lennon demonstrates the power of a philological approach to the history of programming languages and their usage cultures. In chapters focused on specific programming languages such as SNOBOL and JavaScript, as well as on code comments, metasyntactic variables, the very early history of programming, and the concept of DevOps, Lennon emphasizes the histories of programming languages in their individual specificities over their abstract formal or structural characteristics, viewing them as carriers and sometimes shapers of specific cultural histories. The book’s philological approach to programming languages presents a natural, sensible, and rigorous way for researchers trained in the humanities to perform research on computing in a way that draws on their own expertise.

240 pages, August 2024
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Theses on the Metaphors of Digital-Textual History
Martin Paul Eve

In this book, Martin Paul Eve calls attention to the digital-textual metaphors that condition our experience of digital space, and traces their history as they interact with physical cultures. Eve posits that digital-textual metaphors move through three life phases. Initially they are descriptive. Then they encounter a moment of fracture or rupture. Finally, they go on to have a prescriptive life that conditions future possibilities for our text environments—even when the metaphors have become untethered from their original intent. Over a series of theses, Eve addresses questions of digital-textual history to understand the moments when digital-textual metaphors break and to show us how it is that our textual softwares become locked into paradigms that no longer make sense.

Contributing to book history, literary studies, new media studies, and material textual studies, Theses on the Metaphors of Digital-Textual History provides generative insights into the metaphors that define our digital worlds.

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Mixed-Sex Dancing and Jewish Modernity
Sonia Gollance

While traditional Jewish law prohibits men and women from dancing together, Jewish mixed-sex dancing was understood as the very sign of modernity—and the ultimate boundary transgression. In Jewish literature of the long nineteenth century, dance scenes become a charged and complex arena for understanding the limits of acculturation, the dangers of ethnic mixing, and the implications of shifting gender norms and marriage patterns.

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Susan A. Crane

What does it mean to look at the past and to remember that “nothing happened”? Why might we feel as if “nothing is the way it was”? This book transforms these utterly ordinary observations and redefines “Nothing” as something we have known and can remember. Susan A. Crane moves effortlessly between different modes of seeing Nothing, drawing on visual analysis and cultural studies to suggest a new way of thinking about history.

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In the Nation’s Service
The Life and Times of George P. Shultz
Philip Taubman

This book, from longtime New York Times Washington reporter Philip Taubman, restores the modest Shultz to his central place in American history. Based on exclusive access to Shultz’s personal papers, housed in a sealed archive at the Hoover Institution, In the Nation’s Service offers a remarkable insider account of the behind-the-scenes struggles of the statesman who played a pivotal role in unwinding the Cold War.

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Three Gender Stories from Nineteenth-Century France
Rachel Mesch

In Before Trans, Rachel Mesch recovers a more complex history of gender identity by examining the lives of three French writers who expressed their gender in ways that did not conform to nineteenth-century notions of femininity: Jane Dieulafoy, Rachilde, and Marc de Montifaud. Their intricate, personal stories provide vital historical context for our own efforts to understand the nature of gender identity and the ways in which it might be expressed.

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**The City as Anthology**  
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Kathryn Babayan

This book tells a new history of Isfahan at the transformative moment it became a cosmopolitan center of imperial rule. Babayan reimagines an archive of anthologies to recover how residents shaped their communities and crafted their urban, religious, and sexual selves. Through them, we see the gestures, manners, and sensibilities of a shared culture that configured their relations and negotiated the lines between friendship and eroticism.

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*The Rise, Demise, and Revival of Arms Control*  
Michael Krepon

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**Tiger, Tyrant, Bandit, Businessman**  
*Echoes of Counterrevolution from New China*  
Brian DeMare

The rural county of Poyang, lying in northern Jiangxi Province, goes largely unmentioned in the annals of modern Chinese history. Yet records from the Public Security Bureau archive hold a treasure trove of data on the everyday interactions between locals and the law. Drawing on these largely overlooked resources, *Tiger, Tyrant, Bandit, Businessman* follows four criminal cases that together uniquely illuminate the dawning years of the People’s Republic.

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1368  
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Ali Humayun Akhtar

A century before Columbus, Beijing sent a series of diplomatic missions across the South China Sea and Indian Ocean that paved the way for China’s first modern global era. In 1368, Ali Humayun Akhtar provides a new picture of world history in which China’s current rise evokes an earlier epoch. This book provides much-needed context for understanding China’s rise and to see into its future of its connections with the West and a resurgent Asia.

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