Asked recently about the future direction of scholarship, an eminent scholar replied with immediate and decisive assuredness: “Splintering, splintering, and more splintering!” He was talking about how the dual forces of scholarly specialization and technological innovation have driven academic discourse into ever more internalized microdiscussions. The drive to cross-disciplinary discourse has brought with it a thousand-and-one unanticipated subdisciplinary conversations, each unto itself.

But as this drive to specialized discourse forges ahead, knowledge continues to demand great generalization and synthesis. A whole needs to be created from the sum of the increasingly pulverized parts. More than ever, this is what great scholarly books are all about—galvanizing and guiding the larger intellectual conversation. And this is exactly what Princeton’s spring 2010 list promises.

Among the highlights, Nobel Prize–winner George Akerlof and his coauthor Rachel Kranton bring insights from throughout the social sciences to enliven the ever-evolving dismal science in *Identity Economics: How Our Identities Shape Our Work, Wages, and Well-Being*. Also making an important contribution on the topic of well-being, former Harvard president Derek Bok draws on a generation of exciting research into what makes people happy in order to outline the policy lessons for countries and communities in *The Politics of Happiness: What Government Can Learn from the New Research on Well-Being*.

When we turn from the politics of happiness to the soul of politics, we find distinguished philosopher Martha Nussbaum making a powerful case for the enduring value of humanistic education as the indispensable civilizing force in *Not for Profit: Why Democracy Needs the Humanities*. And in *Taming the Gods: Religion and Democracy on Three Continents*, Ian Buruma draws on a vast array of sources to explore the intricate relationship of faith and politics in Asia, North America, and Europe.

Finally, Pulitzer Prize–winning poet C. K. Williams’s *On Whitman* illuminates the mysterious wellsprings of *Leaves of Grass*, the “unconscious” of much of today’s poetry, while Helen Vendler, in her recent A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts, explores the phenomenon of literary production late in life in *Last Looks, Last Books: Stevens, Plath, Lowell, Bishop, Merrill*.

As ever, thanks to all the great synthesizers throughout the Press who have contributed so well to the creation of this excellent list.

Peter J. Dougherty, Director
The Politics of Happiness
What Government Can Learn from the New Research on Well-Being

Derek Bok

During the past forty years, thousands of studies have been carried out on the subject of happiness. Some have explored the levels of happiness or dissatisfaction associated with typical daily activities, such as working, seeing friends, or doing household chores. Others have tried to determine the extent to which income, family, religion, and other factors are associated with the satisfaction people feel about their lives. The Gallup organization has begun conducting global surveys of happiness, and several countries are considering publishing periodic reports on the growth or decline of happiness among their people. One nation, tiny Bhutan, has actually made “Gross National Happiness” the central aim of its domestic policy. How might happiness research affect government policy in the United States—and beyond? In The Politics of Happiness, former Harvard president Derek Bok examines how governments could use happiness research in a variety of policy areas to increase well-being and improve the quality of life for all their citizens.

Bok first describes the principal findings of happiness researchers. He considers how reliable the results appear to be and whether they deserve to be taken into account in devising government policies. Recognizing both the strengths and weaknesses of happiness research, Bok looks at the policy implications for economic growth, equality, retirement, unemployment, health care, mental illness, family programs, education, and government quality, among other subjects.

Timely and incisive, The Politics of Happiness sheds light on what makes people happy and the vital role government policy could play in fostering satisfaction and well-being.

Derek Bok is the 300th Anniversary Research Professor at Harvard University. From 1971 to 1991, he served as Harvard’s twenty-fifth president, and served again as interim president from 2006 to 2007. He is the author of The State of the Nation and The Trouble with Government, and coauthor of The Shape of the River (Princeton).

“Bok provides a lucid analysis of scientific research on human happiness, and shows how it can and should be used to shape social policy. The breadth of his knowledge is matched only by the depth of his insight. There is not a word in this book to be missed.”
—Daniel Gilbert, author of Stumbling on Happiness
Identity Economics

How Our Identities Shape Our Work, Wages, and Well-Being

George A. Akerlof & Rachel E. Kranton

In 1995, economist Rachel Kranton wrote future Nobel Prize–winner George Akerlof a letter insisting that his most recent paper was wrong. Identity, she argued, was the missing element that would help to explain why people—facing the same economic circumstances—would make different choices. This was the beginning of a fourteen-year collaboration—and of Identity Economics.

Identity economics is a new way to understand people’s decisions—at work, at school, and at home. With it, we can better appreciate why incentives like stock options work or do not; why some schools succeed and others don’t; why some cities and towns don’t invest in their futures—and much, much more.

Identity Economics bridges a critical gap in the social sciences. It brings identity and norms to economics. People’s notions of what is proper, and what is forbidden, and for whom, are fundamental to how hard they work, and how they learn, spend, and save. Thus people’s identity—their conception of who they are, and of who they choose to be—may be the most important factor affecting their economic lives. And the limits placed by society on people’s identity can also be crucial determinants of their economic well-being.

George A. Akerlof is the Koshland Professor of Economics at the University of California, Berkeley, and 2001 Nobel Laureate in Economics. Rachel E. Kranton is Professor of Economics at Duke University. Akerlof is the coauthor, with Robert Shiller, of Animal Spirits: How Human Psychology Drives the Economy, and Why It Matters for Global Capitalism (see page 57).

“Identity Economics is full of creative and interesting thoughts that will delight and intrigue those who read it. The writing is lucid and accessible with a minimum of standard economics jargon, making it possible for the book to have a wide readership across the social sciences.”

—Timothy Besley, London School of Economics and Political Science
What is identity economics and why does it matter?

The initiation ceremony at West Point; the riots in a New York State high school after judicially mandated busing; the Supreme Court case of a woman denied promotion at Price Waterhouse because of her masculine demeanor; In Identity Economics we use these and many other examples to demonstrate a basic principle. Who we are—our identity—goes hand in hand with our ideas of how we, and others, should behave.

Identity Economics introduces an easy, natural way to incorporate this principle into economic thinking. Identity economics matters because identity and norms influence the many large and small decisions we make every day—decisions that profoundly affect our work, wages, and well-being. This new economics builds a sturdier account of the economy and institutions. We understand how successful firms like Goldman Sachs operate; why U.S. education is ineffective; and why minority poverty is so persistent.

How should Identity Economics change the way economists view human behavior?

Let’s consider an example: Work incentives. Economists have built a theory of work incentives, which has been applied widely in the U.S. financial industry. The theory is that a company achieves high worker performance by finding the right mix of wages and bonuses. But he who rides the tiger’s back usually ends up inside: Overreliance on monetary incentives is dangerous, because workers who care only about their compensation will game the system. They will do what it takes to get the bonus, whether or not it is good for the firm.

Identity economics suggests a different key to work incentives: If employees identify with the firm, they will advance its goals even in the absence of monetary incentives. We see this in many companies and in the military, where what matters is people’s belief in their firm’s mission and goals and the camaraderie in their work groups. Identity economics gives a new focus to work incentives—on workers’ identities, and norms, and on the social situation.

What is new about identity economics, and how does it fit into the larger field of economics?

Economists today consider a wide variety of reasons for economic decisions. We no longer explain economic behavior simply as coming from fully informed rational decisions about consumption and income. Economics is evolving and getting closer to understanding real people making decisions in real time. Information economics studies who knows what and when. Behavioral economics studies how psychological factors affect decision making.

Identity economics is the next step in this evolution. It emphasizes the social context. It brings day-to-day life into economics. It examines who people are, whom they are interacting with, and in what situation. Identity economics gives economists a new understanding of why people behave as they do. Economics pervades how policymakers, the public, and the press talk and think. The new perspective provided by identity economics should lead to a richer economics, and a more useful economics, for improving institutions and society.
THE PARADOX OF RACIAL INEQUALITY IN BARACK OBAMA'S AMERICA

Praise for Thomas J. Sugrue’s *The Origins of the Urban Crisis*:

“With insight and elegance, Sugrue describes the street-by-street warfare to maintain housing values against the perceived encroachment of blacks trying desperately to escape the underbuilt and overcrowded slums.”
—Choice

“A splendid book that does no less than transform our understanding of United States history after 1940.”
—Labor History

MAY

**Not Even Past**
Barack Obama and the Burden of Race

**Thomas J. Sugrue**

Barack Obama, in his acclaimed campaign speech discussing the troubling complexities of race in America today, quoted William Faulkner’s famous remark, “The past isn’t dead and buried. In fact, it isn’t even past.” In *Not Even Past*, award-winning historian Thomas Sugrue examines the paradox of race in Obama’s America and how President Obama intends to deal with it.

Obama’s journey to the White House undoubtedly marks a watershed in the history of race in America. Yet even in what is being hailed as the post–civil rights era, racial divisions—particularly between blacks and whites—remain deeply entrenched in American life. Sugrue traces Obama’s evolving understanding of race and racial inequality throughout his career, from his early days as a community organizer in Chicago, to his time as an attorney and scholar, to his spectacular rise to power as a charismatic and savvy politician, to his dramatic presidential campaign. Sugrue looks at Obama’s place in the contested history of the civil rights struggle; his views about the root causes of black poverty in America; and the incredible challenges confronting his historic presidency.

Does Obama’s presidency signal the end of race in American life? In *Not Even Past*, a leading historian of civil rights, race, and urban America offers a revealing and unflinchingly honest assessment of the culture and politics of race in the age of Obama, and of our prospects for a postracial America.

**Thomas J. Sugrue** is the Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Professor of History and Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania. His books include *Sweet Land of Liberty: The Forgotten Struggle for Civil Rights in the North and The Origins of the Urban Crisis: Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit* (Princeton).
Taming the Gods
Religion and Democracy on Three Continents

Ian Buruma

For eight years the president of the United States was a born-again Christian, backed by well-organized evangelicals who often seemed intent on erasing the church-state divide. In Europe, the increasing number of radicalized Muslims is creating widespread fear that Islam is undermining Western-style liberal democracy. And even in polytheistic Asia, the development of democracy has been hindered in some countries, particularly China, by a long history in which religion was tightly linked to the state.

Ian Buruma is the first writer to provide a sharp-eyed look at the tensions between religion and politics on three continents. Drawing on many contemporary and historical examples, he argues that the violent passions inspired by religion must be tamed in order to make democracy work.

Comparing the United States and Europe, Buruma asks why so many Americans—and so few Europeans—see religion as a help to democracy. Turning to China and Japan, he disputes the notion that only monotheistic religions pose problems for secular politics. Finally, he reconsiders the story of radical Islam in contemporary Europe, from the case of Salman Rushdie to the murder of Theo van Gogh. Sparing no one, Buruma exposes the follies of the current culture war between defenders of “Western values” and “multiculturalists,” and explains that the creation of a democratic European Islam is not only possible, but necessary.

Presenting a challenge to dogmatic believers and dogmatic secularists alike, Taming the Gods powerfully argues that religion and democracy can be compatible—but only if religious and secular authorities are kept firmly apart.

Ian Buruma is the Henry R. Luce Professor of Democracy, Human Rights, and Journalism at Bard College. His many books include Anglomania (Random House), Inventing Japan (Modern Library), and Murder in Amsterdam (Penguin), which won a Los Angeles Times Book Award. He is a regular contributor to many publications, including the New York Review of Books, the New Yorker, the Guardian, and the Financial Times.

Praise for Ian Buruma:

“Ian Buruma addresses questions of political philosophy, moral accountability and mass psychology in the most rigorous possible way: journalistically.”
—New York Times Book Review

“Buruma is one of the planet’s wisest heads and best writers about the politics of national identity, civilization, and culture.”
—Strobe Talbott, president, Brookings Institution
Fault Lines
How Hidden Fractures Still Threaten the World Economy

Raghuram G. Rajan

Economist Raghuram Rajan warned about the global financial crisis long before it hit, but few listened. Now, as the world struggles to recover, it’s tempting to blame the crisis on just a few greedy bankers who took irrational risks and left the rest of us to foot the bill. In Fault Lines, Rajan argues that serious flaws in the economy are also to blame, and warns that a potentially more devastating crisis awaits us if they aren’t fixed. Can we risk not listening to him a second time?

Rajan shows how the individual choices that collectively brought about the economic meltdown—made by bankers, government officials, and ordinary homeowners—were rational responses to a flawed global financial order in which the incentives to take on risk are incredibly out of step with the dangers those risks pose. He traces the deepening fault lines in a system overly dependent on American consumption to power the world economy and stave off a global downturn; a system where America’s thin social safety net has created tremendous political pressure to keep job creation robust, because jobs are the primary provider of health and other benefits; and where the U.S. financial sector, with its skewed incentives, is the critical but unstable link between an over-stimulated America and an underconsuming world.

Rajan demonstrates how inequalities in U.S. incomes, education, and health care are putting all of us into deeper financial peril, and he outlines sensible reforms to ensure a more stable world economy and to restore lasting prosperity.

Raghuram G. Rajan is the Eric J. Gleacher Distinguished Service Professor of Finance at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and former chief economist at the International Monetary Fund. He is the coauthor of Saving Capitalism from the Capitalists: Unleashing the Power of Financial Markets to Create Wealth and Spread Opportunity (Princeton).
An interview with Raghuram Rajan

What inspired you to write this book?

The financial crisis that started in 2008 is a wake-up call that we need to answer immediately. The angry crowd with pitchforks wants to get at bankers and mortgage brokers. But if we focus on the few bad apples, we miss the point that this was a systemic crisis, where the usual checks and balances didn’t work. And the problems are not just in the financial system. I argue that everyone played some role in bringing on this crisis—governments, politicians, regulators, bankers, academics, and, yes, we ourselves.

What needs to be reformed?

In the United States, we have to create a better safety net. There are clear improvements we must make, such as moving to a universal healthcare system that delivers quality care at much lower cost. We also need to work on improving access to quality education, especially at the elementary and secondary levels, because inequality in education sets the stage for a lifetime of inequality. Growing levels of inequality increase levels of conflict and anxiety about the rest of the world. Politicians respond with bad policies such as easy credit, which encourages consumption and obscures the lack of income growth, leaving people even less prepared to face global competition. We should tackle the problem at the source.

At the global level, countries need to become less addicted to exports, so that they can pull along with the United States in getting the global economy out of its periodic ruts. We need to revamp our global organizations completely so that they can help countries accept their international economic responsibilities. I lay out an agenda of changes, drawing on my experience as chief economist of the International Monetary Fund.

Lastly, the financial sector needs reform. I propose a set of reforms that seeks to ensure the vibrancy of the financial sector—and its support of entrepreneurship, competition, and real innovation—while discouraging its tendency to take too much risk.

The needed reforms are not easy. But they are not impossible either.

Do you think it is possible to have a financial system that is crash proof?

North Korea has a crash-proof financial system, but I am not sure we would wish it on any country. We have to recognize that crashes can happen. We can reduce their likelihood, but we also have to create better private-sector buffers to minimize their effect on Main Street and taxpayers when they do occur.
Not for Profit
Why Democracy Needs the Humanities

MARTHA C. NUSSBAUM

In this short and powerful book, celebrated philosopher Martha Nussbaum makes a passionate case for the importance of the liberal arts at all levels of education.

Historically, the humanities have been central to education because they have rightly been seen as essential for creating competent democratic citizens. But recently, Nussbaum argues, thinking about the aims of education has gone disturbingly awry both in the United States and abroad. Anxiously focused on national economic growth, we increasingly treat education as though its primary goal were to teach students to be economically productive rather than to think critically and become knowledgeable and empathetic citizens. This shortsighted focus on profitable skills has eroded our ability to criticize authority, reduced our sympathy with the marginalized and different, and damaged our competence to deal with complex global problems. And the loss of these basic capacities jeopardizes the health of democracies and the hope of a decent world.

In response to this dire situation, Nussbaum argues that we must resist efforts to reduce education to a tool of the gross national product. Rather, we must work to reconnect education to the humanities in order to give students the capacity to be true democratic citizens of their countries and the world.

Drawing on the stories of troubling—and hopeful—educational developments from around the world, Nussbaum offers a manifesto that should be a rallying cry for anyone who cares about the deepest purposes of education.

Martha C. Nussbaum is the Ernst Freund Distinguished Service Professor of Law and Ethics in the Philosophy Department, Law School, and Divinity School at the University of Chicago. She is the author of many books, including Hiding from Humanity: Disgust, Shame, and the Law (Princeton).
The Great Brain Race
How Global Universities Are Reshaping the World

Ben Wildavsky

In The Great Brain Race, former U.S. News & World Report education editor Ben Wildavsky presents the first popular account of how international competition for the brightest minds is transforming the world of higher education—and why this revolution should be welcomed, not feared. Every year, nearly three million international students study outside of their home countries, a forty percent increase since 1999. Newly created or expanded universities in China, India, and Saudi Arabia are competing with the likes of Harvard and Oxford for faculty, students, and research preeminence. Satellite campuses of Western universities are springing up from Abu Dhabi and Singapore to South Africa. Wildavsky shows that as international universities strive to become world-class, the new global education marketplace is providing more opportunities to more people than ever before.

Drawing on extensive reporting in China, India, the United States, Europe, and the Middle East, Wildavsky chronicles the unprecedented international mobility of students and faculty, the rapid spread of branch campuses, the growth of for-profit universities, and the remarkable international expansion of college rankings. Some university and government officials see the rise of worldwide academic competition as a threat, going so far as to limit student mobility or thwart cross-border university expansion. But Wildavsky argues that this scholarly marketplace is creating a new global meritocracy, one in which the spread of knowledge benefits everyone—both educationally and economically.

Ben Wildavsky is a senior fellow in research and policy at the Kauffman Foundation and a guest scholar at the Brookings Institution. Previously, he was education editor of U.S. News & World Report, economic policy correspondent for the National Journal, higher education reporter for the San Francisco Chronicle, and executive editor of the Public Interest. He has written for the Washington Post and the Wall Street Journal, among other publications.

“This interesting and provocative book is onto a key issue in contemporary higher education, as colleges and universities trip over each other in an effort to be seen as leaders in the international arena. Wildavsky knows the higher education terrain very well.”
—David W. Breneman, Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, University of Virginia
“As clear and well-informed an account as one could imagine of ancient cults involving secret initiation. Hugh Bowden puts together in a highly accessible way the literary and material evidence. Well-paced and an attractive read, this is a very welcome addition to ancient history and religious studies, and will also appeal to the general reader.”
—Robin Osborne, University of Cambridge

This is the first book to describe and explain all of the ancient world’s major mystery cults—one of the most intriguing but least understood aspects of Greek and Roman religion. In the nocturnal Mysteries at Eleusis, participants dramatically reenacted the story of Demeter’s loss and recovery of her daughter Persephone; in the Bacchic cult, bands of women ran wild in the Greek countryside to honor Dionysus; and in the mysteries of Mithras, men came to understand the nature of the universe and their place within it through frightening initiation ceremonies and astrological teachings. These cults were an important part of life in the ancient Mediterranean world, but their actual practices were shrouded in secrecy, and many of their features have remained unclear until now.

By richly illustrating the evidence from ancient art and archaeology, and drawing on enlightening new work in the anthropology and cognitive science of religion, Mystery Cults of the Ancient World allows readers to imagine as never before what it was like to take part in these ecstatic and life-changing religious rituals—and what they meant to those who participated in them. Stunning images of Greek painted pottery, Roman frescoes, inscribed gold tablets from Greek and South Italian tombs, and excavated remains of religious sanctuaries help show what participants in these initiatory cults actually did and experienced.

A fresh and accessible introduction to a fascinating subject, this is a book that will interest general readers, as well as students and scholars of classics and religion.

Hugh Bowden is senior lecturer in ancient history at King’s College London. He is the author of Classical Athens and the Delphic Oracle and general editor of “The Times” Ancient Civilizations (HarperCollins).
Makers of Ancient Strategy
From the Persian Wars to the Fall of Rome

Edited by Victor Davis Hanson

In this prequel to the now-classic Makers of Modern Strategy, Victor Davis Hanson, a leading scholar of ancient military history, gathers prominent thinkers to explore key facets of warfare, strategy, and foreign policy in the Greco-Roman world. From the Persian Wars to the final defense of the Roman Empire, Makers of Ancient Strategy demonstrates that the military thinking and policies of the ancient Greeks and Romans remain surprisingly relevant for understanding conflict in the modern world.

The book reveals that much of the organized violence witnessed today—such as counterterrorism, urban fighting, insurgencies, preemptive war, and ethnic cleansing—has ample precedent in the classical era. The book examines the preemption and unilateralism used to instill democracy during Epaminondas’s great invasion of the Peloponnesus in 369 BC, as well as the counterinsurgency and terrorism that characterized Rome’s battles with insurgents such as Spartacus, Mithridates, and the Cilician pirates. The collection looks at the urban warfare that became increasingly common as more battles were fought within city walls, and follows the careful tactical strategies of statesmen as diverse as Pericles, Demosthenes, Alexander, Pyrrhus, Caesar, and Augustus. Makers of Ancient Strategy shows how Greco-Roman history sheds light on wars of every age.

In addition to the editor, the contributors are David L. Berkey, Adrian Goldsworthy, Peter J. Heather, Tom Holland, Donald Kagan, John W. I. Lee, Susan Mattern, Barry Strauss, and Ian Worthington.

Victor Davis Hanson is the Martin and Ilie Anderson Senior Fellow in Classics and Military History at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University. He is a recipient of the National Humanities Medal. His many books include A War Like No Other and Between War and Peace (both Random House). He is a syndicated columnist for Tribune Media Services, and is the current codirector of the group on military history and contemporary conflict at the Hoover Institution.

“Though the technology has changed, the nature of war and strategy has remained constant over the chasm of the centuries and millennia. This book makes the ancient Greeks and Romans relevant to our modern conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Scholars will find much to argue about in these lively essays; lay readers much to be fascinated with.”
—Robert D. Kaplan, author of Warrior Politics: Why Leadership Demands a Pagan Ethos

APRIL
Cloth $27.95T
978-0-691-13790-2
264 pages. 6 x 9.
MILITARY HISTORY II CLASSICS

PRESS.PRINCETON.EDU
"Brenner is a proven author with a broad competence in Jewish history, which makes him one of the few Jewish historians able to handle a volume of such large scope. His book has a novel approach that sets it apart from other one-volume histories. It is intended as a first book in Jewish history for readers with little knowledge of the subject. The style is extraordinarily readable."

—Michael A. Meyer, author of *Judaism within Modernity*

---

**A Short History of the Jews**

**Michael Brenner**

Translated by Jeremiah Riemer

*A Short History of the Jews* is the story of the Jewish people told in a sweeping and powerful historical narrative. Michael Brenner chronicles the Jewish experience from Biblical times to today, tracing what is at heart a drama of migration and change, yet one that is also deeply rooted in tradition. He surveys the latest scholarly perspectives in Jewish history, making this short history the most learned yet broadly accessible book available on the subject.

Brenner takes readers from the mythic wanderings of Moses to the unspeakable atrocities of the Holocaust; from the Babylonian exile to the founding of the modern state of Israel; and from the Sephardic communities under medieval Islam to the shtetls of eastern Europe and the Hasidic enclaves of modern-day Brooklyn. This richly illustrated book is full of fascinating and often personal stories of exodus and return, from that told about Abraham, who brought his newfound faith into the land of Canaan, to that of Holocaust survivor Esther Barkai, who lived on a kibbutz established on a German estate seized from the Nazi Julius Streicher as she awaited resettlement in Israel. Brenner traces the major events, developments, and personalities that have shaped Jewish history down through the centuries, and highlights the important contributions Jews have made to the arts, politics, religion, and science.

Breathtaking in scope, *A Short History of the Jews* is a compelling blend of storytelling and scholarship that brings the history of the Jewish people marvelously to life.

**Michael Brenner** is professor of Jewish history and culture at the University of Munich. His books include *Zionism: A Brief History and After the Holocaust: Rebuilding Jewish Lives in Postwar Germany* (Princeton).

---

**JULY**

**Cloth $29.95T**

978-0-691-14351-4

472 pages. 91 color illus. 7 maps. 5 ½ x 8 ½.

**HISTORY • JEWISH STUDIES**

**PRESS.PRINCETON.EDU**
The Rebbe
The Life and Afterlife of Menachem Mendel Schneerson

Samuel Heilman & Menachem Friedman

From the 1950s until his death in 1994, Menachem Mendel Schneerson—revered by his followers worldwide simply as the Rebbe—built the Lubavitcher movement from a relatively small sect within Hasidic Judaism into the powerful force in Jewish life that it is today. Swept away by his expectation that the Messiah was coming, he came to believe that he could deny death and change history.

Samuel Heilman and Menachem Friedman paint an unforgettable portrait of Schneerson, showing how he reinvented himself from an aspiring French-trained electrical engineer into a charismatic leader who believed that he and his Lubavitcher Hasidic emissaries could transform the world. They reveal how his messianic convictions ripened and how he attempted to bring the ancient idea of a day of redemption onto the modern world’s agenda. Heilman and Friedman also trace what happened after the Rebbe’s death, by which time many of his followers had come to think of him as the Messiah himself.

The Rebbe tracks Schneerson’s remarkable life from his birth in Russia, to his student days in Berlin and Paris, to his rise to global renown in New York, where he developed and preached his powerful spiritual message from the group’s gothic mansion in Crown Heights, Brooklyn. This compelling book demonstrates how Schneerson’s embrace of traditionalism and American-style modernity made him uniquely suited to his messianic mission.

Samuel Heilman is Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Queens College and holds the Harold Proshansky Chair in Jewish Studies at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. His books include Sliding to the Right: The Contest for the Future of American Jewish Orthodoxy. Menachem Friedman is professor emeritus of sociology at Bar-Ilan University in Israel. His books include Society and Religion: Non-Zionist Orthodoxy in Palestine.

“Brilliant, well-researched, and sure to be controversial, The Rebbe is the most important biography of Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson ever to appear. Samuel Heilman and Menachem Friedman, two of the world’s foremost sociologists of religion, have produced a landmark study of Chabad, religious messianism, and one of the greatest spiritual figures of the twentieth century.”

—Jonathan D. Sarna, author of American Judaism: A History

JUNE
Cloth $29.95T
978-0-691-13888-6
400 pages. 27 halftones. 1 table. 6 x 9.
RELIGION ■ JEWISH STUDIES
PRESS.PRINCETON.EDU
Empire for Liberty

A History of American Imperialism from Benjamin Franklin to Paul Wolfowitz

Richard H. Immerman

How could the United States, a nation founded on the principles of liberty and equality, have produced Abu Ghraib, torture memos, Plamegate, and warrantless wiretaps? Did America set out to become an empire? And if so, how has it reconciled its imperialism—and in some cases, its crimes—with the idea of liberty so forcefully expressed in the Declaration of Independence? Empire for Liberty tells the story of men who used the rhetoric of liberty to further their imperial ambitions, and reveals that the quest for empire has guided the nation’s architects from the very beginning—and continues to do so today.

Historian Richard Immerman paints nuanced portraits of six exceptional public figures who manifestly influenced the course of American empire: Benjamin Franklin, John Quincy Adams, William Henry Seward, Henry Cabot Lodge, John Foster Dulles, and Paul Wolfowitz. Each played a pivotal role as empire builder, and, with the exception of Adams, did so without occupying the presidency. Taking readers from the founding of the republic to the war on terror, Immerman shows how each individual’s influence arose from a keen sensitivity to the concerns of his times; how the trajectory of American empire was relentless if not straight; and how these shrewd and powerful individuals shaped their rhetoric about liberty to suit their needs.

But as Immerman demonstrates in this timely and provocative book, liberty and empire were on a collision course. And in the war on terror and the occupation of Iraq, they violently collided.

Richard H. Immerman is the Edward J. Buthusiem Family Distinguished Faculty Fellow in History and the Marvin Wachman Director of the Center for the Study of Force and Diplomacy at Temple University. His books include John Foster Dulles: Piety, Pragmatism, and Power in U.S. Foreign Policy and The CIA in Guatemala: The Foreign Policy of Intervention.

“This is a superb book about a timely subject. Immerman tackles the idea of empire, a concept that Americans have preferred not to talk about and historians have shied away from. Given the importance of the topic and the ongoing debate over the future of U.S. foreign policy, this book should attract a readership beyond academia.”

—George C. Herring, author of From Colony to Superpower: U.S. Foreign Relations since 1776
The Rise and Fall of Modern American Conservatism
A Short History

David Farber

The Rise and Fall of Modern American Conservatism tells the gripping story of perhaps the most significant political force of our time through the lives and careers of six leading figures at the heart of the movement. David Farber traces the history of modern conservatism from its revolt against New Deal liberalism, to its breathtaking resurgence under Ronald Reagan, to its spectacular defeat with the election of Barack Obama.

Farber paints vivid portraits of Robert Taft, William F. Buckley Jr., Barry Goldwater, Phyllis Schlafly, Ronald Reagan, and George W. Bush. He shows how these outspoken, charismatic, and frequently controversial conservative leaders were united by a shared insistence on the primacy of social order, national security, and economic liberty. Farber demonstrates how they built a versatile movement capable of gaining and holding power, from Taft’s opposition to the New Deal to Buckley’s founding of the National Review as the intellectual standard-bearer of modern conservatism; from Goldwater’s crusade against leftist politics and his failed 1964 bid for the presidency to Schlafly’s rejection of feminism in favor of traditional gender roles and family values; and from Reagan’s city upon a hill to conservatism’s downfall with Bush’s ambitious presidency.

The Rise and Fall of Modern American Conservatism provides rare insight into how conservatives captured the American political imagination by claiming moral superiority, downplaying economic inequality, relishing bellicosity, and embracing nationalism. This concise and accessible history reveals how these conservative leaders discovered a winning formula that enabled them to forge a powerful and formidable political majority.

David Farber is professor of history at Temple University. His many books include Taken Hostage: The Iran Hostage Crisis and America’s First Encounter with Radical Islam and What They Think of Us: International Perceptions of the United States since 9/11 (both Princeton).

“A compelling book. With verve and skill, Farber offers a penetrating and persuasive concise history of modern American conservatism. This volume will prove immensely valuable to anyone interested in recent American politics.”
—Bruce J. Schulman, author of The Seventies: The Great Shift in American Culture, Society, and Politics

MAY

Cloth $24.95T
978-0-691-12915-0
216 pages. 5 ½ x 8 ½.

AMERICAN HISTORY

PRESS.PRINCETON.EDU
“This book’s argument is powerful and provocative, and Lewis is a good storyteller and scholar. Ambitious, stimulating, and thoughtful, this book makes a strong case for the value of the strategic offensive, and engages with the kind of problems that everyone should be thinking about today.”
—Barry Strauss, author of The Spartacus War

The goal of war is to defeat the enemy’s will to fight. But how this can be accomplished is a thorny issue. Nothing Less than Victory provocatively shows that aggressive, strategic military offenses can win wars and establish lasting peace, while defensive maneuvers have often led to prolonged carnage, indecision, and stalemate. Taking an ambitious and sweeping look at six major wars, from antiquity to World War II, John David Lewis shows how victorious military commanders have achieved long-term peace by identifying the core of the enemy’s ideological, political, and social support for a war, fiercely striking at this objective, and demanding that the enemy acknowledges its defeat.

Lewis examines the Greco-Persian and Theban wars, the Second Punic War, Aurelian’s wars to reunify Rome, the American Civil War, and the Second World War. He considers successful examples of overwhelming force, such as the Greek mutilation of Xerxes’ army and navy, the Theban-led invasion of the Spartan homeland, and Hannibal’s attack against Italy—as well as failed tactics of defense, including Fabius’s policy of delay, McClellan’s retreat from Richmond, and Chamberlain’s appeasement of Hitler. Lewis shows that a war’s endurance rests in each side’s reasoning, moral purpose, and commitment to fight, and why an effectively aimed, well-planned, and quickly executed offense can end a conflict and create the conditions needed for long-term peace.

Recognizing the human motivations behind military conflicts, Nothing Less than Victory makes a powerful case for offensive actions in pursuit of peace.

John David Lewis is visiting associate professor of philosophy, politics, and economics at Duke University, and senior research scholar in history and classics at the Social Philosophy and Policy Center at Bowling Green State University. He is the author of Solon the Thinker: Political Thought in Archaic Athens and Early Greek Lawgivers.
**The Tyranny of Guilt**

An Essay on Western Masochism

**Pascal Bruckner**

Translated by Steven Rendall

Fascism, communism, genocide, slavery, racism, imperialism—the West has no shortage of reasons for guilt. And, indeed, since the Holocaust and the end of World War II, Europeans in particular have been consumed by remorse. But Pascal Bruckner argues that guilt has now gone too far. It has become a pathology, and even an obstacle to fighting today’s atrocities. Bruckner, one of France’s leading writers and public intellectuals, argues that obsessive guilt has obscured important realities. The West has no monopoly on evil, and has destroyed monsters as well as created them—leading in the abolition of slavery, renouncing colonialism, building peaceful and prosperous communities, and establishing rules and institutions that are models for the world. The West should be proud—and ready to defend itself and its values. In this, Europeans should learn from Americans, who still have sufficient self-esteem to act decisively in a world of chaos and violence. Lamenting the vice of anti-Americanism that grips so many European intellectuals, Bruckner urges a renewed transatlantic alliance, and advises Americans not to let recent foreign-policy misadventures sap their own confidence. This is a searing, provocative, and psychologically penetrating account of the crude thought and bad politics that arise from excessive bad conscience.

**Pascal Bruckner** is the award-winning author of eighteen books of fiction and nonfiction, including the novel *Bitter Moon*, which was made into a film by Roman Polanski. His other books include *The Temptation of Innocence* and *The Tears of the White Man* (Free Press) and the novels *The Divine Child* (Little, Brown) and *Evil Angels* (Grove).

“With eloquence, relish, and confidence, Pascal Bruckner confronts those whose morbid addiction to self-blame has begun to flirt with the suicidal. It’s not necessary to concur with him about what constitutes faith or the lack of it. More useful and surprising (and educational) is to compare his authentic quotations from Fanon with the currently received opinion of that author. This is a book that issues a challenge in every chapter, and in some chapters on every page.”

—Christopher Hitchens

---

**MARCH**

**Cloth** $26.95T

978-0-691-14376-7

264 pages. 5 ½ x 8 ½.

**CURRENT AFFAIRS ♦ POLITICS**

PRESS.PRINCETON.EDU
In *Last Looks, Last Books*, the eminent critic Helen Vendler examines the ways in which five great modern American poets, writing their final books, try to find a style that does justice to life and death alike. With traditional religious consolations no longer available to them, these poets must invent new ways to express the crisis of death, as well as the paradoxical coexistence of a declining body and an undiminished consciousness. In *The Rock*, Wallace Stevens writes simultaneous narratives of winter and spring; in *Ariel*, Sylvia Plath sustains melodrama in cool formality; and in *Day by Day*, Robert Lowell subtracts from plenitude. In *Geography III*, Elizabeth Bishop is both caught and freed, while James Merrill, in *A Scattering of Salts*, creates a series of self-portraits as he dies, representing himself by such things as a Christmas tree, human tissue on a laboratory slide, and the evening/morning star. The solution for one poet will not serve for another; each must invent a bridge from an old style to a new one. Casting a last look at life as they contemplate death, these modern writers enrich the resources of lyric poetry.

Helen Vendler is the A. Kingsley Porter University Professor at Harvard University. Her many books include *Invisible Listeners: Lyric Intimacy in Herbert, Whitman, and Ashbery* (Princeton), as well as studies of Shakespeare, Keats, Yeats, Stevens, and Heaney. She is a frequent reviewer for the *New Republic*, the *New York Review of Books*, and other publications.

APRIL

Cloth $19.95
978-0-691-14534-1
176 pages. 5 ½ x 8 ½.

LITERATURE II POETRY

Published in association with the National Gallery of Art, Washington

PRESS.PRINCETON.EDU
In this book, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet C. K. Williams sets aside the mass of biography and literary criticism that have accumulated around the work and person of Walt Whitman, and attempts to go back to *Leaves of Grass* as he first encountered it, to explore why Whitman’s epic “continues to inspire and sometimes daunt” him. The result is a personal reassessment and appreciation of one master poet by another, as well as an unconventional and brilliant introduction—or reintroduction—to Whitman.

In brief, thematic chapters with many quotations from *Leaves of Grass*, Williams explores the innovations, originality, and sheer genius of the poetry that has become, as he puts it, “the unconscious” of much of the poetry of America and the world. Williams pays particular attention to the music of Whitman’s poetry, its blazing perception and enormous human sympathy, its affecting anecdotes, and its vast cast of characters, as well as to the radical nature of Whitman’s first-person speaker, his liberating attitude toward sex, and his unconventional ideas about death. While conveying the singularities of Whitman’s work, Williams also shows what Whitman had in common with other great poets of his time, such as Baudelaire, and the powerful influence Whitman had on later poets such as Eliot and Pound.

Beautifully written and rich with insight, this is a book that refreshes our ability to see Whitman in all his power.

C. K. Williams’s books of poetry have won the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award, and the Ruth Lilly Lifetime Achievement Award. His *Collected Poems* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux) appeared in 2006. His other books include an essay collection, *Poetry and Consciousness*, and a memoir, *Misgivings* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux). He teaches creative writing and translation at Princeton University, and is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Writers on Writers
“This is an extremely important book. Günter Eich is a highly significant German poet and Michael Hofmann is the master translator of contemporary German literature—both poetry and prose—into English. These pieces of Eich’s are powerful, bitter, and compressed poems in English, and they will enlarge the landscape of postwar German poetry for Anglophone readers. Eich and Hofmann meet in blessed conjunction.”
—Rosanna Warren, author of Departure: Poems

Michael Hofmann is an award-winning poet and translator. His Selected Poems (Farrar, Straus and Giroux) appeared in 2009.

From Angina Days
REPORT FROM A SPA
I haven’t tried the water yet,
that can wait.
But the redecorated station
implies future,
which makes me mulish.
Corpuscle count and forest ozone,
suspicion of the spa doctors.
Nature
is a form of negation.
Better to stick to
the ditties in the spa newsletter.
Pen of Iron
American Prose and the King James Bible

Robert Alter

The simple yet grand language of the King James Bible has pervaded American culture from the beginning—and its powerful eloquence continues to be felt even today. In this book, acclaimed biblical translator and literary critic Robert Alter traces some of the fascinating ways that American novelists—from Melville, Hemingway, and Faulkner to Bellow, Marilynne Robinson, and Cormac McCarthy—have drawn on the rich stylistic resources of the canonical English Bible to fashion their own strongly resonant styles and distinctive visions of reality. Showing the radically different manners in which the words, idioms, syntax, and cadences of this Bible are woven into Moby-Dick, Absalom, Absalom!, The Sun Also Rises, Seize the Day, Gilead, and The Road, Alter reveals the wide variety of stylistic and imaginative possibilities that American novelists have found in Scripture. At the same time, Alter demonstrates the importance of looking closely at the style of literary works, making the case that style is not merely an aesthetic phenomenon but is the very medium through which writers conceive their worlds.

Robert Alter has taught Hebrew and comparative literature at the University of California, Berkeley, since 1967. The author of more than twenty books, he has also published four volumes of Bible translation, most recently The Book of Psalms: A Translation with Commentary (Norton). In 2009, Alter received the Robert Kirsch Award from the Los Angeles Times for lifetime contribution to American letters.

“Alter’s remarkable book breathes new life into a long-neglected topic, the study of style. With the finesse that is his trademark, Alter shows the importance of all that is lost in translation. As it delineates the surprising ways in which the King James Bible has shaped American prose, Pen of Iron redirects current literary criticism and theory.”
—Gary Saul Morson, Northwestern University
The unique historical relationship between capitalism and the Jews is crucial to understanding modern European and Jewish history. But the subject has been addressed less often by mainstream historians than by anti-Semites or apologists. In this book Jerry Muller, a leading historian of capitalism, separates myth from reality to explain why the Jewish experience with capitalism has been so important and complex—and so ambivalent.

Drawing on economic, social, political, and intellectual history from medieval Europe through contemporary America and Israel, *Capitalism and the Jews* examines the ways in which thinking about capitalism and thinking about the Jews have gone hand in hand in European thought, and why anticapitalism and anti-Semitism have frequently been linked. The book explains why Jews have tended to be disproportionately successful in capitalist societies, but also why Jews have numbered among the fiercest anticapitalists and communists. The book shows how the ancient idea that money was unproductive led from the stigmatization of usury and the Jews to the stigmatization of finance and, ultimately, in Marxism, the stigmatization of capitalism itself. Finally, the book traces how the traditional status of the Jews as a diasporic merchant minority both encouraged their economic success and made them particularly vulnerable to the ethnic nationalism of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Providing a fresh look at an important but frequently misunderstood subject, *Capitalism and the Jews* will interest anyone who wants to understand the Jewish role in the development of capitalism, the role of capitalism in the modern fate of the Jews, or the ways in which the story of capitalism and the Jews has affected the history of Europe and beyond, from the medieval period to our own.

Jerry Z. Muller is professor of history at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. His previous books include *The Mind and the Market: Capitalism in Modern European Thought* (Knopf) and *Adam Smith in His Time and Ours* (Princeton). His writing has appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New Republic*, and the *Times Literary Supplement*, among other publications.
The Wind from the East
French Intellectuals, the Cultural Revolution, and the Legacy of the 1960s

Richard Wolin

Michel Foucault, Jean-Paul Sartre, Julia Kristeva, Phillipe Sollers, and Jean-Luc Godard. During the 1960s, a who's who of French thinkers, writers, and artists, spurred by China’s Cultural Revolution, were seized with a fascination for Maoism. Combining a merciless exposé of left-wing political folly and cross-cultural misunderstanding with a spirited defense of the 1960s, The Wind from the East tells the colorful story of this legendary period in France. Richard Wolin shows how French students and intellectuals, inspired by their perceptions of the Cultural Revolution, and motivated by utopian hopes, incited grassroots social movements and reinvigorated French civic and cultural life.

Wolin’s riveting narrative reveals that Maoism’s allure among France’s best and brightest actually had little to do with a real understanding of Chinese politics. Instead, it paradoxically served as a vehicle for an emancipatory transformation of French society. French student leftists took up the trope of “cultural revolution,” applying it to their criticisms of everyday life. Wolin examines how Maoism captured the imaginations of France’s leading cultural figures, influencing Sartre’s “perfect Maoist moment”; Foucault’s conception of power; Sollers’s chic, leftist intellectual journal Tel Quel; as well as Kristeva’s book on Chinese women—which included a vigorous defense of foot-binding.

Recounting the cultural and political odyssey of French students and intellectuals in the 1960s, The Wind from the East illustrates how the Maoist phenomenon unexpectedly sparked a democratic political sea change in France.

Richard Wolin is Distinguished Professor of History, Comparative Literature, and Political Science at the City University of New York Graduate Center. His books, which include Heidegger’s Children and The Seduction of Unreason (both Princeton), have been translated into ten languages. His articles and reviews have appeared in Dissent, the Nation, and the New Republic.

“How Maoism Captured the Imagination of French Intellectuals During the 1960s

“August

Cloth $35.00T
978-0-691-12998-3
400 pages. 6 halftones. 6 x 9.
EUROPEAN HISTORY

press.princeton.edu
Chasing Stars
The Myth of Talent and the Portability of Performance

Boris Groysberg

It is taken for granted in the knowledge economy that companies must employ the most talented performers to compete and succeed. Many firms try to buy stars by luring them away from competitors. But Boris Groysberg shows what an uncertain and disastrous practice this can be.

After examining the careers of more than a thousand star analysts at Wall Street investment banks, and conducting more than two hundred frank interviews, Groysberg comes to a striking conclusion: star analysts who change firms suffer an immediate and lasting decline in performance. Their earlier excellence appears to have depended heavily on their former firms’ general and proprietary resources, organizational cultures, networks, and colleagues. There are a few exceptions, such as stars who move with their teams and stars who switch to better firms. Female stars also perform better after changing jobs than their male counterparts do. But most stars who switch firms turn out to be meteors, quickly losing luster in their new settings.

Groysberg also explores how some Wall Street research departments are successfully growing, retaining, and deploying their own stars. Finally, the book examines how its findings apply to many other occupations, from general managers to football players.

Chasing Stars offers profound insights into the fundamental nature of outstanding performance. It also offers practical guidance to individuals on how to manage their careers strategically, and to companies on how to identify, develop, and keep talent.

Boris Groysberg is associate professor in the organizational behavior unit at Harvard Business School.

“This is a thoughtful and highly readable book with interesting and provocative implications.”
—Will Mitchell, Duke University’s Fuqua School of Business
Love it or hate it, celebrity is one of the dominant features of modern life—and one of the least understood. Fred Inglis sets out to correct this problem in this entertaining and enlightening social history of modern celebrity, from eighteenth-century London to today’s Hollywood. Vividly written and brimming with fascinating stories of figures whose lives mark important moments in the history of celebrity, this book explains how fame has changed over the past two-and-a-half centuries.

Starting with the first modern celebrities in mid-eighteenth-century London, including Samuel Johnson and the Prince Regent, the book traces the changing nature of celebrity and celebrities through the age of the Romantic hero, the European fin de siècle, and the Gilded Age in New York and Chicago. In the twentieth century, the book covers the Jazz Age, the rise of political celebrities such as Mussolini, Hitler, and Stalin, and the democratization of celebrity in the postwar decades, as actors, rock stars, and sports heroes became the leading celebrities.

Arguing that celebrity is a mirror reflecting some of the worst as well as some of the best aspects of modern history itself, Inglis considers how the lives of the rich and famous provide not only entertainment but also social cohesion and, like morality plays, examples of what—and what not—to do.

This book will interest anyone who is curious about the history that lies behind one of the great preoccupations of our lives.

Fred Inglis is Honorary Professor of Cultural History at the University of Warwick and a former member of the School of Social Science at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. He is the author of more than twenty books, including The Cruel Peace: Everyday Life in the Cold War (Basic). Inglis is also the editor of Clifford Geertz’s Life among the Anthros and Other Essays (see page 39).

“This is a fascinating, remarkable, and thought-provoking book. Its great value is that it doesn’t begin with Survivor, Big Brother, or Oprah. Instead, Fred Inglis extends his study back to the eighteenth century and gives attention to painting, gossip columns, and wartime dictators, among much else. Inglis is a powerful and engaging writer and this book is a pleasure to read.”
—Tara Brabazon, University of Brighton
Climate Change Justice

Eric A. Posner, David Weisbach

Climate change and justice are so closely associated that many take it for granted that a global climate treaty should—indeed, must—directly address both issues together. But, in fact, this would be a serious mistake, one that, by dooming effective international limits on greenhouse gases, would actually make the world’s poor and developing nations far worse off. This is the provocative and original argument of Climate Change Justice. Eric Posner and David Weisbach strongly favor both a climate change agreement and efforts to improve economic justice. But they make a powerful case that the best—and possibly only—way to get an effective climate treaty is to exclude measures designed to redistribute wealth or address historical wrongs against underdeveloped countries.

In clear language, Climate Change Justice proposes four basic principles for designing the only kind of climate treaty that will work—a forward-looking agreement that requires every country to make greenhouse-gas reductions but still makes every country better off in its own view. This kind of treaty has the best chance of actually controlling climate change and improving the welfare of people around the world.

Eric A. Posner and David Weisbach teach at the University of Chicago Law School.
How Enemies Become Friends
The Sources of Stable Peace

Charles A. Kupchan
Is the world destined to suffer endless cycles of conflict and war? Can rival nations become partners and establish a lasting and stable peace? How Enemies Become Friends provides a bold and innovative account of how nations escape geopolitical competition and replace hostility with friendship. Through compelling analysis and rich historical examples that span the globe and range from the thirteenth century through the present, foreign policy expert Charles Kupchan explores how adversaries can transform enmity into amity—and he exposes prevalent myths about the causes of peace.

Kupchan contends that diplomatic engagement with rivals, far from being appeasement, is critical to rapprochement between adversaries. Diplomacy, not economic interdependence, is the currency of peace; concessions and strategic accommodation promote the mutual trust needed to build an international society. The nature of regimes matters much less than commonly thought: countries, including the United States, should deal with other states based on their foreign policy behavior rather than on whether they are democracies. Kupchan demonstrates that similar social orders, and similar ethnicities, races, or religions help nations achieve stable peace. He considers many historical successes and failures, including the onset of friendship between the United States and Great Britain in the early twentieth century, the Concert of Europe, which preserved peace after 1815 but collapsed following revolutions in 1848, and the remarkably close partnership of the Soviet Union and China in the 1950s, which descended into open rivalry by the 1960s.

In a world where conflict among nations seems inescapable, How Enemies Become Friends offers critical insights for building lasting peace.

Charles A. Kupchan is professor of international affairs at Georgetown University and senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. He served on the National Security Council during the Clinton presidency and is the author of The End of the American Era (Knopf).

“Theoretically ambitious and historically audacious, How Enemies Become Friends is an invaluable and timely contribution to our understanding of the causes of war and peace. Grounded in international relations scholarship and informed by an intimate knowledge of the actual practice of international security, Kupchan’s book deserves to be read by scholars and practitioners alike.”
—Michael Barnett, University of Minnesota

MARCH

Cloth $29.95T
978-0-691-14265-4
448 pages. 10 line illus. 6 tables. 6 x 9.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
POLITICAL SCIENCE

PRESS.PRINCETON.EDU
How to Find a Habitable Planet

James Kasting

Ever since Carl Sagan first predicted that extraterrestrial civilizations must number in the millions, the search for life on other planets has gripped our imagination. Is Earth so rare that advanced life forms like us—or even the simplest biological organisms—are unique to the universe? How to Find a Habitable Planet describes how scientists are testing Sagan’s prediction, and demonstrates why Earth may not be so rare after all.

James Kasting has worked closely with NASA in its mission to detect habitable worlds outside our solar system, and in this book he introduces readers to the advanced methodologies being used in this extraordinary quest. He addresses the compelling questions that planetary scientists grapple with today: What exactly makes a planet habitable? What are the signatures of life astronomers should look for when they scan the heavens for habitable worlds? In providing answers, Kasting explains why Earth has remained habitable despite a substantial rise in solar luminosity over time, and why our neighbors, Venus and Mars, haven’t. If other Earth-sized planets endowed with enough water and carbon are out there, he argues, chances are good that some of those planets sustain life. Kasting describes the efforts under way to find them, and predicts that future discoveries will profoundly alter our view of the universe and our place in it.

This book is a must-read for anyone who has ever dreamed of finding other planets like ours—and perhaps even life like ours—in the cosmos.

James Kasting is Distinguished Professor of Geosciences at Pennsylvania State University. He is a renowned expert in planetary atmospheric evolution and is actively involved in the search by NASA for habitable planets outside our solar system. He is the coauthor of the introductory textbook The Earth System.
The Little Book of String Theory

Steven S. Gubser

The Little Book of String Theory offers a short, accessible, and entertaining introduction to one of the most talked-about areas of physics today. String theory has been called the “theory of everything.” It seeks to describe all the fundamental forces of nature. It encompasses gravity and quantum mechanics in one unifying theory. But it is unproven and fraught with controversy. After reading this book, you’ll be able to draw your own conclusions about string theory.

Steve Gubser begins by explaining Einstein’s famous E = mc² equation, quantum mechanics, and black holes. He then gives readers a crash course in string theory and the core ideas behind it. In plain English and with a minimum of mathematics, Gubser covers strings, branes, string dualities, extra dimensions, curved space-time, quantum fluctuations, symmetry, and supersymmetry. He describes efforts to link string theory to experimental physics and uses analogies that nonscientists can understand. How does Chopin’s Fantasie-Impromptu relate to quantum mechanics? What would it be like to fall into a black hole? Why is dancing a waltz similar to contemplating a string duality? Find out in the pages of this book.

The Little Book of String Theory is the essential, most up-to-date beginner’s guide to this elegant, multidimensional field of physics.

Steven S. Gubser is professor of physics at Princeton University.

“This is an engaging and concise introduction to the main ideas in string theory. Gubser gives us a quick tour of the basic laws of physics as we understand them today, and then demonstrates how string theory seeks to go beyond them. He serves as an artful and attentive guide, as the reader explores the mysteries of quantum mechanics, black holes, strings, branes, supersymmetry, and extra dimensions in the pages of this book.”
—Juan Maldacena, Institute for Advanced Study

APRIL

Cloth $22.95T
978-0-691-14289-0
184 pages. 21 line illus. 5 ½ x 8 ½.
POPULAR SCIENCE || PHYSICS

PRESS.PRINCETON.EDU
“Which candidate is the people’s choice?” It’s a simple question, and the answer is anything but. In Numbers Rule, George Szpiro tells the amazing story of the search for the fairest way of voting, deftly blending history, biography, and political skullduggery. Everyone interested in our too-fallible elections should read this book.”
—William Poundstone, author of Gaming the Vote: Why Elections Aren’t Fair (and What We Can Do About It)

Since the very birth of democracy in ancient Greece, the simple act of voting has given rise to mathematical paradoxes that have puzzled some of the greatest philosophers, statesmen, and mathematicians. Numbers Rule traces the epic quest by these thinkers to create a more perfect democracy and adapt to the ever-changing demands that each new generation places on our democratic institutions.

In a sweeping narrative that combines history, biography, and mathematics, George Szpiro details the fascinating lives and big ideas of great minds such as Plato, Pliny the Younger, Ramon Llull, Pierre Simon Laplace, Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, John von Neumann, and Kenneth Arrow, among many others. Each chapter in this riveting book tells the story of one or more of these visionaries and the problem they sought to overcome, like the Marquis de Condorcet, the eighteenth-century French nobleman who demonstrated that a majority vote in an election might not necessarily result in a clear winner. Szpiro takes readers from ancient Greece and Rome to medieval Europe, from the founding of the American republic and the French Revolution to today’s high-stakes elective politics. He explains how mathematical paradoxes and enigmas can crop up in virtually any voting arena, from electing a class president, a pope, or prime minister to the apportionment of seats in Congress.

Numbers Rule describes the trials and triumphs of the thinkers down through the ages who have dared the odds in pursuit of a just and equitable democracy.

George G. Szpiro, PhD, is a mathematician and journalist. He covers Israel and the Middle East for the Swiss daily newspaper Neue Zürcher Zeitung, for which he also writes an award-winning monthly column on mathematics. His books include Poincaré’s Prize: The Hundred-Year Quest to Solve One of Math’s Greatest Puzzles (Dutton).
**What’s Luck Got to Do with It?**

The History, Mathematics, and Psychology of the Gambler’s Illusion

**Joseph Mazur**

Why do so many gamblers risk it all when they know the odds of winning are against them? Why do they believe dice are “hot” in a winning streak? Why do we expect heads on a coin toss after several flips have turned up tails? *What’s Luck Got to Do with It?* takes a lively and eye-opening look at the mathematics, history, and psychology of gambling to reveal the most widely held misconceptions about luck. It exposes the hazards of feeling lucky, and uses the mathematics of predictable outcomes to show when our chances of winning are actually good.

Mathematician Joseph Mazur traces the history of gambling from the earliest known archaeological evidence of dice playing among Neolithic peoples to the first systematic mathematical studies of games of chance during the Renaissance, from government-administered lotteries to the glittering seductions of grand casinos, and on to the global economic crisis brought on by financiers’ trillion-dollar bets. Using plenty of engaging anecdotes, Mazur explains the mathematics behind gambling—including the laws of probability, statistics, betting against expectations, and the law of large numbers—and describes the psychological and emotional factors that entice people to put their faith in winning that ever-elusive jackpot despite its mathematical improbability.

As entertaining as it is informative, *What’s Luck Got to Do with It?* demonstrates the pervasive nature of our belief in luck and the deceptive psychology of winning and losing.

**Joseph Mazur** is professor emeritus of mathematics at Marlboro College. His books include *The Motion Paradox: The 2,500-Year-Old Puzzle behind All the Mysteries of Time and Space* and *Euclid in the Rainforest: Discovering Universal Truth in Logic and Math*.

“This is a fascinating book. It’s a fresh, funny, philosophical look at gambling by a mathematician who knows what he’s talking about, and who has quite obviously thought about gambling for a long time. Mazur isn’t afraid to make provocative, opinionated statements. I have not seen a gambling book like this before. I think it will attract a lot of readers.”

—Paul J. Nahin, author of *An Imaginary Tale*
What’s Eating You?
People and Parasites

Eugene H. Kaplan

In What’s Eating You?, Eugene Kaplan recounts the true and harrowing tales of his adventures with parasites, and in the process introduces readers to the intimately interwoven lives of host and parasite.

Kaplan has spent his life traveling the globe exploring oceans and jungles, and incidentally acquiring parasites in his gut. Here, he leads readers on an unforgettable journey into the bizarre yet oddly beautiful world of parasites. In a narrative that is by turns frightening, disgusting, and laugh-out-loud funny, Kaplan describes how drinking contaminated water can cause a three-foot-long worm to burst from your arm; how he “gave birth” to a parasite the size and thickness of a pencil while working in Israel; why you should never wave a dead snake in front of your privates; and why fleas are attracted to his wife. Kaplan tells stories about leeches feasting on soldiers in Vietnam; sea cucumbers with teeth in their anuses that seem to encourage the entry of symbiotic fish; the habits of parasites that cause dysentery, river blindness, and other horrifying diseases—and much, much more. Along the way, he explains the underlying science, including parasite evolution and host-parasite physiology.

Informative, frequently lurid, and hugely entertaining, this beautifully illustrated book is a must-read for health-conscious travelers, and anyone who has ever wondered if they picked up a tapeworm from that last sushi dinner.

Eugene H. Kaplan is the Donald E. Axinn Endowed Distinguished Professor of Ecology and Conservation (emeritus) at Hofstra University. His many books include Sensuous Seas: Tales of a Marine Biologist (Princeton) and A Field Guide to Southeastern and Caribbean Seashores (Peterson Field Guides).

“[Kaplan’s] storytelling approach entices nonscientists to venture into the world of parasites and appreciate their importance. The author’s sense of humor comes through on virtually every page.”
—Lillian F. Mayberry, University of Texas, El Paso

MAY

Cloth $26.95T
978-0-691-14140-4
320 pages. 30 b&w plates. 6 x 9.
POPULAR SCIENCE • BIOLOGY

PRESS.PRINCETON.EDU