

## Forthcoming Highlights for Spring 2017

### Women's Studies

HISTORY, WOMEN'S STUDIES

#### AMERICAN GIRLS IN RED RUSSIA: CHASING THE SOVIET DREAM

By Julia L. Mickenberg — 432 pages | 27 halftones | 6 x 9 | © 2017 - April



If you were an independent, adventurous, liberated American woman in the 1920s or 1930s where might you have sought escape from the constraints and compromises of bourgeois living? Paris and the Left Bank quickly come to mind. But would you have ever thought of Russia and the wilds of Siberia? This choice was not as unusual as it seems now. As Julia L. Mickenberg uncovers in *American Girls in Red Russia*, there is a forgotten counterpoint to the story of the Lost Generation: beginning in the late nineteenth century, Russian revolutionary ideology attracted many women, including suffragists, reformers, educators, journalists, and artists, as well as curious travelers. Some were famous, like Isadora Duncan or Lillian Hellman; some were committed radicals, though more were just intrigued by the “Soviet experiment.” But all came to Russia in search of social arrangements that would be more equitable, just, and satisfying. And most in the end were disillusioned, some by the mundane realities, others by horrifying truths.

Mickenberg reveals the complex motives that drew American women to Russia as they sought models for a revolutionary new era in which women would be not merely independent of men, but also equal builders of a new society. Soviet women, after all, earned the right to vote in 1917, and they also had abortion rights, property rights, the right to divorce, maternity benefits, and state-supported childcare. Even women from Soviet national minorities—many recently unveiled—became public figures, as African American and Jewish women noted. Yet as Mickenberg’s collec-

tive biography shows, Russia turned out to be as much a grim commune as a utopia of freedom, replete with economic, social, and sexual inequities.

*American Girls in Red Russia* recounts the experiences of women who saved starving children from the Russian famine, worked on rural communes in Siberia, wrote for Moscow or New York newspapers, or performed on Soviet stages. Mickenberg finally tells these forgotten stories, full of hope and grave disappointments.

**Julia L. Mickenberg** is associate professor of American studies at the University of Texas at Austin. She is author of *Learning from the Left* and coeditor of *Tales for Little Rebels*.

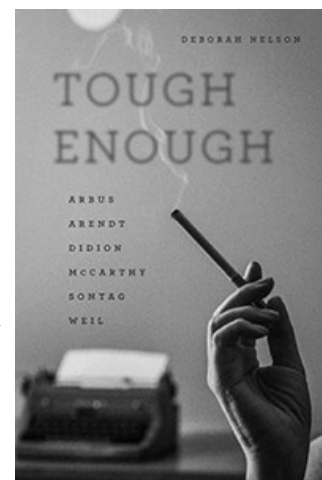
#### TOUGH ENOUGH: ARBUS, ARENDT, DIDION, MCCARTHY, SONTAG, WEIL

By Deborah Nelson — 224 pages | 7 halftones | 6 x 9 | © 2017 - April

This book focuses on six brilliant women who are often seen as particularly tough-minded: Simone Weil, Hannah Arendt, Mary McCarthy, Susan Sontag, Diane Arbus, and Joan Didion. Aligned with no single tradition, they escape straightforward categories. Yet their work evinces an affinity of style and philosophical viewpoint that derives from a shared attitude toward suffering. What Mary McCarthy called a “cold eye” was not merely a personal aversion to displays of emotion: it was an unsentimental mode of attention that dictated both ethical positions and aesthetic approaches.

*Tough Enough* traces the careers of these women and their challenges to the pre-eminence of empathy as the ethical posture from which to examine pain. Their writing and art reveal an adamant belief that the hurts of the world must be treated concretely, directly, and realistically, without recourse to either melodrama or callousness. As Deborah Nelson shows, this stance offers an important counter-tradition to the familiar postwar poles of emotional expressivity on the one hand and cool irony on the other. Ultimately, in its insistence on facing reality without consolation or compensation, this austere “school of the unsentimental” offers new ways to approach suffering in both its spectacular forms and all of its ordinariness.

**Deborah Nelson** is associate professor of English at the University of Chicago.



LITERATURE, WOMEN'S STUDIES

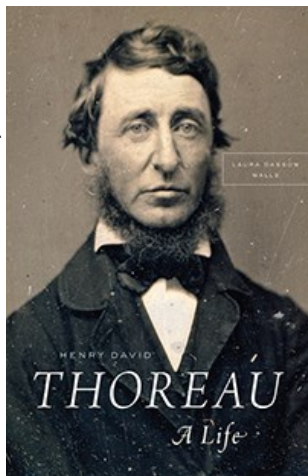
## Forthcoming Highlights for Spring 2017

### History and Biography

#### HENRY DAVID THOREAU: A LIFE

By Laura Dassow Walls – 640 pages | 44 halftones | 6x9 | © 2017 - July

BIOGRAPHY, HISTORY



“Walden. Yesterday I came here to live.” That entry from the journal of Henry David Thoreau, and the intellectual journey it began, would by themselves be enough to place Thoreau in the American pantheon. His attempt to “live deliberately” in a small woods at the edge of his hometown of Concord has been a touchstone for individualists and seekers since the publication of *Walden* in 1854.

But there was much more to Thoreau than his brief experiment in living at Walden Pond. A member of the vibrant intellectual circle centered on his neighbor Ralph Waldo Emerson, he was also an ardent naturalist, a manual laborer and inventor, a radical political activist, and more. Many books have taken up various aspects of Thoreau’s character and achievements, but, as Laura Dassow Walls writes, “Thoreau has never been captured between covers; he was too quixotic, mischievous, many-sided.” Two hundred years after his birth, and two generations after the last full-scale biography, Walls restores Henry David Thoreau to us in all his profound, inspiring complexity.

Walls traces the full arc of Thoreau’s life, from his early days in the intellectual hothouse of Concord, when the American experiment still felt fresh and precarious, and “America was a family affair, earned by one generation and about to pass to the next.” By the time he died in 1862, at only forty-four years of age, Thoreau had witnessed the transformation of his world from a community of farmers and artisans into a bustling, interconnected commercial nation. What did that portend for the contemplative individual and abundant, wild nature that Thoreau

celebrated?

Drawing on Thoreau’s copious writings, published and unpublished, Walls presents a Thoreau vigorously alive in all his quirks and contradictions: the young man shattered by the sudden death of his brother; the ambitious Harvard College student; the ecstatic visionary who closed *Walden* with an account of the regenerative power of the Cosmos. We meet the man whose belief in human freedom and the value of labor made him an uncompromising abolitionist; the solitary walker who found society in nature, but also found his own nature in the society of which he was a deeply interwoven part. And, running through it all, Thoreau the passionate naturalist, who, long before the age of environmentalism, saw tragedy for future generations in the human heedlessness around him.

“The Thoreau I sought was not in any book, so I wrote this one,” says Walls. The result is a Thoreau unlike any seen since he walked the streets of Concord, a Thoreau for our time and all time.

**Laura Dassow Walls** is the William P. and Hazel B. White Professor of English at the University of Notre Dame.

#### BACKPACK AMBASSADORS: HOW YOUTH TRAVEL INTEGRATED EUROPE

By Richard Ivan Jobs - 352 pages | 32 halftones, 1 line drawing | 6 x 9 | © 2017 - May

Even today, in an era of cheap travel and constant connection, the image of young people backpacking across Europe remains seductively romantic. In *Backpack Ambassadors*, Richard Ivan Jobs tells the story of backpacking in Europe in its heyday, the decades after World War II, revealing that these footloose young people were doing more than just exploring for themselves. Rather, with each step, each border crossing, each friendship, they were quietly helping knit the continent together.

From the Berlin Wall to the beaches of Spain, the Spanish Steps in Rome to the Pudding Shop in Istanbul, Jobs tells the stories of backpackers whose personal desire for freedom of movement brought the people and places of Europe into ever-closer contact. As greater and greater numbers of young people trekked around the continent, and a truly international youth culture began to emerge, the result was a Europe that, even in the midst of Cold War tensions, found its people more and more connected, their lives more and more integrated. Drawing on archival work in eight countries and five languages, and featuring trenchant commentary on the relevance of this period for contemporary concerns about borders and migration, *Backpack Ambassadors* brilliantly recreates a movement that was far more influential and important than its footsore travelers could ever have realized.

**Richard Ivan Jobs** is professor of history at Pacific University in Oregon. He is the author of *Riding the New Wave: Youth and the Rejuvenation of France after the Second World War* and coeditor of *Transnational Histories of Youth in the Twentieth Century*.



HISTORY, TRAVEL

## Forthcoming Highlights for Spring 2017

### History

#### THE GREAT CAT AND DOG MASSACRE: THE REAL STORY OF WORLD WAR TWO'S UNKNOWN TRAGEDY

By Hilda Kean – 248 pages | 30 halftones | 6 x 9 | © 2017 - March

The tragedies of World War II are well known. But at least one has been forgotten: in September 1939, four hundred thousand cats and dogs were massacred in Britain. The government, vets, and animal charities all advised against this killing. So why would thousands of British citizens line up to voluntarily euthanize household pets?

In *The Great Cat and Dog Massacre*, Hilda Kean unearths the history, piecing together the compelling story of the life—and death—of Britain's wartime animal companions. She explains that fear of imminent Nazi bombing and the desire to do something to prepare for war led Britons to sew blackout curtains, dig up flower beds for vegetable patches, send their children away to the countryside—and kill the family pet, in theory sparing them the suffering of a bombing raid. Kean's narrative is gripping, unfolding through stories of shared experiences of bombing, food restrictions, sheltering, and mutual support. Soon pets became key to the war effort, providing emotional assistance and helping people to survive—a contribution for which the animals gained government recognition.

Drawing extensively on new research from animal charities, state archives, diaries, and family stories, Kean does more than tell a virtually forgotten story. She complicates our understanding of World War II as a “good war” fought by a nation of “good” people. Accessibly written and generously illustrated, Kean's account of this forgotten aspect of British history moves animals to center stage—forcing us to rethink our assumptions about ourselves and the animals with whom we share our homes.

**Hilda Kean** is visiting professor at the University of Greenwich and an honorary senior research associate at University College London. Her many books include *Animal Rights: Political and Social Change in Britain since 1800* and *London Stories: Personal Lives, Public Histories*.

#### MAKE IT RAIN: STATE CONTROL OF THE ATMOSPHERE IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY AMERICA

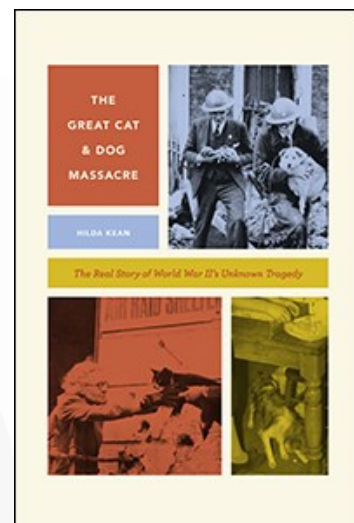
By Kristine C. Harper - 304 pages | 30 halftones, 4 tables | 6 x 9 | © 2017 - March



Weather control. Juxtaposing those two words is enough to raise eyebrows in a world where even the best weather models still fail to nail every forecast, and when the effects of climate change on sea level height, seasonal averages of weather phenomena, and biological behavior are being watched with interest by all, regardless of political or scientific persuasion. But between the late nineteenth century—when the United States first funded an attempt to “shock” rain out of clouds—and the late 1940s, rainmaking (as it had been known) became weather control. And then things got out of control.

In *Make It Rain*, Kristine C. Harper tells the long and somewhat ludicrous history of state-funded attempts to manage, manipulate, and deploy the weather in America. Harper shows that governments from the federal to the local became helplessly captivated by the idea that weather control could promote agriculture, health, industrial output, and economic growth at home, or even be used as a military weapon and diplomatic tool abroad. Clear fog for landing aircraft? There's a project for that. Gentle rain for strawberries? Let's do it! Enhanced snowpacks for hydroelectric utilities? Check. The heyday of these weather control programs came during the Cold War, as the atmosphere came to be seen as something to be defended, weaponized, and manipulated. Yet Harper demonstrates that today there are clear implications for our attempts to solve the problems of climate change.

**Kristine C. Harper** is associate professor of history at Florida State University. She is the author of *Weather by the Numbers: The Genesis of Modern Meteorology*.



HISTORY

HISTORY, SCIENCE



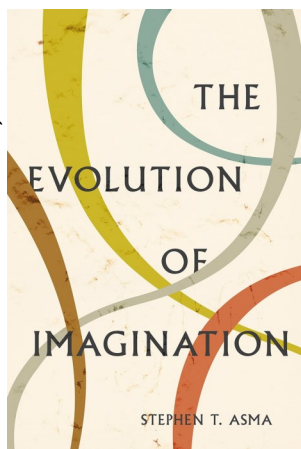
## Forthcoming Highlights for Spring 2017

### Science

#### THE EVOLUTION OF IMAGINATION

By Stephen T. Asma— 320 pages | 20 halftones | 6 x 9 | © 2017 - June

PSYCHOLOGY, SCIENCE



Consider Miles Davis, horn held high, sculpting a powerful musical statement full of tonal patterns, inside jokes, and thrilling climactic phrases—all on the fly. Or think of a comedy troupe riffing on a couple of cues from the audience until the whole room is erupting with laughter. Or maybe it's a team of software engineers brainstorming their way to the next Google, or the Einsteins of the world code-cracking the mysteries of nature. Maybe it's simply a child playing with her toys. What do all of these activities share? With wisdom, humor, and joy, philosopher Stephen T. Asma answers that question in this book: imagination. And from there he takes us on an extraordinary tour of the human creative spirit.

Guided by neuroscience, animal behavior, evolution, philosophy, and psychology, Asma burrows deep into the human psyche to look right at the enigmatic but powerful engine that is our improvisational creativity—the source, he argues, of our remarkable imaginal capacity. How is it, he asks, that a story can evoke a whole world inside of us? How are we able to rehearse a skill, a speech, or even an entire scenario simply by thinking about it? How does creativity go beyond experience and help us make something completely new? And how does our moral imagination help us sculpt a better society? As he shows, we live in a world that is only partly happening in reality. Huge swaths of our cognitive experiences are made up by “what-ifs,”

“almosts,” and “maybes,” an imagined terrain that churns out one of the most overlooked but necessary resources for our flourishing: possibilities. Considering everything from how imagination works in our physical bodies to the ways we make images, from the mechanics of language and our ability to tell stories to the creative composition of self-consciousness, Asma expands our personal and day-to-day forms of imagination into a grand scale: as one of the decisive evolutionary forces that has guided human development from the Paleolithic era to today. The result is an inspiring look at the rich relationships among improvisation, imagination, and culture, and a privileged glimpse into the unique nature of our evolved minds.

**Stephen T. Asma** is Distinguished Scholar and professor of philosophy in the Department of Humanities as well as Fellow of the Research Group in Mind, Science, and Culture at Columbia College Chicago. He is the author of several books, including *On Monsters*, *Stuffed Animals and Pickled Heads*, and *Following Form and Function*.

#### UNTHOUGHT: THE POWER OF THE COGNITIVE NONCONSCIOUS

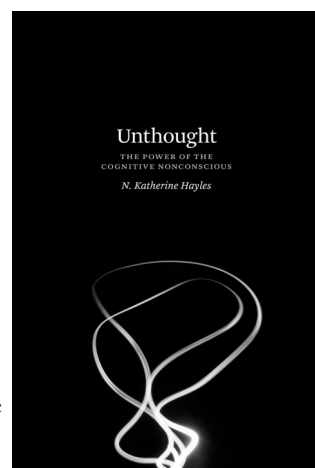
By N. Katherine Hayles - 272 pages | 1 halftone | 6 x 9 | © 2017—April

N. Katherine Hayles is known for breaking new ground at the intersection of the sciences and the humanities. In *Unthought*, she once again bridges disciplines by revealing how we think without thinking—how we use cognitive processes that are inaccessible to consciousness yet necessary for it to function.

Marshalling fresh insights from neuroscience, cognitive science, cognitive biology, and literature, Hayles expands our understanding of cognition and demonstrates that it involves more than consciousness alone. Cognition, as Hayles defines it, is applicable not only to nonconscious processes in humans but to all forms of life, including unicellular organisms and plants. Startlingly, she also shows that cognition operates in the sophisticated information-processing abilities of technical systems: when humans and cognitive technical systems interact, they form “cognitive assemblages”—as found in urban traffic control, drones, and the trading algorithms of finance capital, for instance—and these assemblages are transforming life on earth. The result is what Hayles calls a “planetary cognitive ecology,” which includes both human and technical actors and which poses urgent questions to humanists and social scientists alike.

At a time when scientific and technological advances are bringing far-reaching aspects of cognition into the public eye, *Unthought* reflects deeply on our contemporary situation and moves us toward a more sustainable and flourishing environment for all beings.

**N. Katherine Hayles** is a postmodern literary critic and the James B. Duke Professor of Literature at Duke University.



LITERATURE, SCIENCE

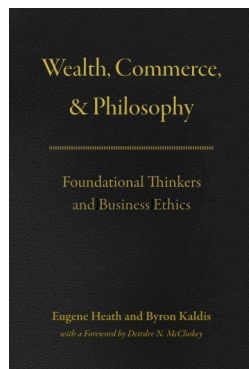
# Forthcoming Highlights for Spring 2017

## Business and Economics

### WEALTH, COMMERCE, AND PHILOSOPHY: FOUNDATIONAL THINKERS IN BUSINESS ETHICS

Edited by Eugene Heath and Byron Kaldis, with a Foreword by Deirdre N. McCloskey — 464 pages | 7 x 10 | © 2017 - March

ECONOMICS, PHILOSOPHY



The moral dimensions of how we conduct business affect all of our lives in ways big and small, from the prevention of environmental devastation to the policing of unfair trading practices, from arguments over minimum wage rates to those over how government contracts are handed out. Yet for as deep and complex a field as business ethics is, it has remained relatively isolated from the larger, global history of moral philosophy. This book aims to bridge that gap, reaching deep into the past and traveling the globe to reinvigorate and deepen the basis of business ethics.

Spanning the history of western philosophy as well as looking toward classical Chinese thought and medieval Islamic philosophy, this volume provides business ethicists a unified source of clear, accurate, and compelling accounts of how the ideas of foundational thinkers—from Aristotle to Friedrich Hayek to Amartya Sen—relate to wealth, commerce, and markets. The essays illuminate perspectives that have often been ignored or forgotten, informing discussion in fresh and often unexpected ways. In doing so, the authors not only throw into relief common misunderstandings and misappropriations often endemic to business ethics but also set forth rich moments of contention as well as novel ways of approaching complex ethical problems. Ultimately, this volume provides a bedrock of moral thought that will move business ethics beyond the ever-changing opinions of headline-driven debate.

**Eugene Heath** is professor of philosophy at the State University of New York, New Paltz. He is the author or coeditor of several books, including *Morality and the Market* and *Adam Ferguson*. **Byron Kaldis** is academic dean of the School of Humanities and professor of European philosophy at the Hellenic Open University in Greece. He is the author of several books including *Holism, Language, and Persons* and editor of the *Sage Encyclopedia of Philosophy and the Social Sciences*. Francisco and Paris.

### DOWN AND OUT IN THE NEW ECONOMY: HOW PEOPLE FIND (OR DON'T FIND) WORK TODAY

By Ilana Gershon — 304 pages | 4 halftones | 6x9 | © 2017 - August

Finding a job used to be simple. You'd show up at an office and ask for an application. A friend would mention a job in their department. Or you'd see an ad in a newspaper and send in your cover letter. Maybe you'd call the company a week later to check in, but the basic approach was easy. And once you got a job, you would stay—often for decades.

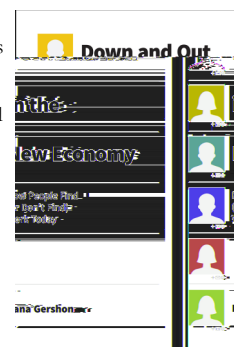
Now . . . well, it's complicated. If you want to have a shot at a good job, you need to have a robust profile on LinkedIn. And an enticing personal brand. Or something like that—contemporary how-to books tend to offer contradictory advice. But they agree on one thing: in today's economy, you can't just be an employee looking to get hired—you have to market yourself as a business, one that can help another business achieve its goals.

That's a radical transformation in how we think about work and employment, says Ilana Gershon. And with *Down and Out in the New Economy*, she digs deep into that change and what it means, not just for job seekers, but for businesses and our very culture. In telling her story, Gershon covers all parts of the employment spectrum: she interviews hiring managers about how they assess candidates; attends personal branding seminars; talks with managers at companies around the United States to suss out regional differences—like how Silicon Valley firms look askance at the lengthier employment tenures of applicants from the Midwest. And she finds that not everything has changed: though the technological trappings may be glitzier, in a lot of cases, who you know remains more important than what you know.

Throughout, Gershon keeps her eye on bigger questions, interested not in what lessons job-seekers can take—though there are plenty of those here—but on what it means to consider yourself a business. What does that blurring of personal and vocational lives do to our sense of our selves, the economy, our communities? Though it's often dressed up in the language of liberation, is this approach actually disempowering workers at the expense of corporations?

Rich in the voices of people deeply involved with all parts of the employment process, *Down and Out in the New Economy* offers a snapshot of the quest for work today—and a pointed analysis of its larger meaning.

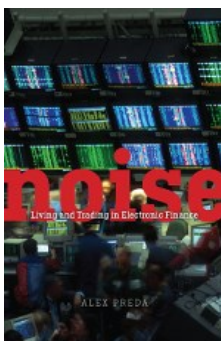
**Ilana Gershon** is associate professor of anthropology at Indiana University and the author of *The Breakup 2.0: Disconnecting Over New Media*.



BUSINESS, SOCIOLOGY

### NOISE: LIVING AND TRADING IN ELECTRONIC FINANCE

By Alex Preda — 264 pages | 2 line drawings | 6 x 9 | © 2017—February



We often think of finance as a glamorous world, a place where investment bankers amass huge profits in gleaming downtown skyscrapers. There's another side to finance, though—the millions of amateurs who log on to their computers every day to make their own trades. The shocking truth, however, is that less than 2% of these amateur traders make a consistent profit. Why, then, do they do it?

In *Noise*, Alex Preda explores the world of the people who trade even when by all measures they would be better off not trading. Based on firsthand observations, interviews with traders and brokers, and on international direct trading experience, Preda's fascinating ethnography investigates how ordinary people take up financial trading, how they form communities of their own behind their computer screens, and how electronic finance encourages them to trade more and more frequently. Along the way, Preda finds the answer to the paradox of amateur trading—the traders aren't so much seeking monetary rewards in the financial markets, rather the trading itself helps them to fulfill their own personal goals and aspirations.

**Alex Preda** is professor at King's College London. He is the author of *Framing Finance: The Boundaries of Markets and Modern Capitalism*, also published by the University of Chicago Press, and coeditor of the *Oxford Handbook of the Sociology of Finance*.

ECONOMICS, SOCIOLOGY

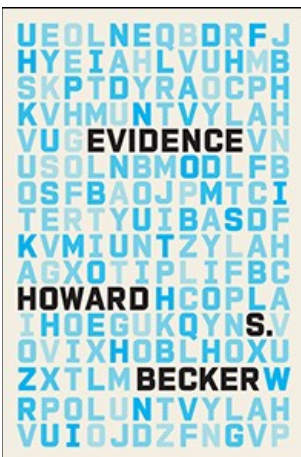
## Forthcoming Highlights for Spring 2017

### Sociology

#### EVIDENCE

By Howard S. Becker – 240 pages | 2 tables | 6x9 | © 2017 - June

SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY



Howard S. Becker is a master of his discipline. His reputation as a teacher, as well as a sociologist, is supported by his best-selling quartet of sociological guidebooks: *Writing for Social Scientists*, *Tricks of the Trade*, *Telling About Society*, and *What About Mozart? What About Murder?* It turns out that the master sociologist has yet one more trick up his sleeve—a fifth guidebook, *Evidence*.

Becker has for seventy years been mulling over the problem of evidence. He argues that social scientists don't take questions about the usefulness of their data as evidence for their ideas seriously enough. For example, researchers have long used the occupation of a person's father as evidence of the family's social class, but studies have shown this to be a flawed measure—for one thing, a lot of people answer that question too vaguely to make the reasoning plausible. The book is filled with examples like this, and Becker uses them to expose a series of errors, suggesting ways to avoid them, or even to turn them into research topics in their own right. He argues strongly that because no data-gathering method produces totally reliable information, a big part of the research job consists of getting rid of error. Readers will find Becker's newest guidebook a valuable tool, useful for social scientists of every variety.

**Howard S. Becker** has made major contributions to the sociology of deviance, sociology of art, and sociology of music. He has also written extensively on the practice of sociology. He received a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, where he was also an instructor in sociology and social sciences. He became professor of sociology at Northwestern University, where he taught for twenty-five years. When he retired from active teaching he was a professor of sociology and an adjunct professor of music at the University of Washington. He lives and works in San Francisco and Paris.

#### GOING PUBLIC: A GUIDE FOR SOCIAL SCIENTISTS

By Arlene Stein and Jessie Daniels – 224 pages | 9 line drawings, 1 table | 6x9 | © 2017 - February

At a time when policy discussions are dominated by “I feel” instead of “I know,” it is more important than ever for social scientists to make themselves heard. When those who possess in-depth training and expertise are excluded from public debates about pressing social issues—such as climate change, the prison system, or healthcare—vested interests can sway public opinion in uninformed ways. Yet few graduate students, researchers, or faculty know how to do this kind of work—or feel empowered to do it.

While there has been an increasing call for social scientists to engage more broadly with the public, concrete advice for starting the conversation has been in short supply. Arlene Stein and Jessie Daniels seek to change this with *Going Public*, the first guide that truly explains how to be a public scholar. They offer guidance on writing beyond the academy, including how to get started with op-eds and articles and later how to write books that appeal to general audiences. They then turn to the digital realm with strategies for successfully building an online presence, cultivating an audience, and navigating the unique challenges of digital world. They also address some of the challenges facing those who go public, including the pervasive view that anything less than scholarly writing isn't serious and the stigma that one's work might be dubbed “journalistic.”

*Going Public* shows that by connecting with experts, policymakers, journalists, and laypeople, social scientists can actually make their own work stronger. And by learning to effectively add their voices to the conversation, researchers can help make sure that their knowledge is truly heard above the digital din.

**Arlene Stein** is professor of sociology at Rutgers University. She is the author of four books, including *Reluctant Witnesses* and *The Stranger Next Door*. She has also written for the *Nation*, *Jacobin*, and the *New Inquiry*, among others. **Jessie Daniels** is professor of sociology and critical social psychology at Hunter College and the Graduate Center, CUNY. She is the author or editor of five books, including *Cyber Racism* and *Being a Scholar in the Digital Era*, and blogs at *Racism Review*.



REFERENCE, SOCIOLOGY



## Forthcoming Highlights for Spring 2017

### Philosophy

#### THE I IN TEAM: SPORTS FANDOM AND THE REPRODUCTION OF IDENTITY

By Erin C. Tarver — 256 pages | 6 x 9 | © 2017 - June

PHILOSOPHY, SPORTS

There is one sound that will always be loudest in sports. It isn't the squeak of sneakers or the crunch of helmets; it isn't the grunts or even the stadium music. It's the deafening roar of sports fans. For those few among us on the outside, sports fandom—with its war paint and pennants, its pricey cable TV packages and esoteric stats reeled off like code—looks highly irrational, entertainment gone overboard. But as Erin C. Tarver demonstrates in this book, sports fandom become extraordinarily important to our psyche, a matter of the very essence of who we are.

Why in the world, Tarver asks, would anyone care about how well a total stranger can throw a ball, or hit one with a bat, or toss one through a hoop? Because such activities and the massive public events that surround them form some of the most meaningful ritual identity practices we have today. They are a primary way we—as individuals and a collective—decide both who we are who we are not. And as such, they are also one of the key ways that various social structures—such as race and gender hierarchies—are sustained, lending a dark side to the joys of being a sports fan. Drawing on everything from philosophy to sociology to sports history, she offers a profound exploration of the significance of sports in contemporary life, showing us just how high the stakes of the game are.



**Erin C. Tarver** is assistant professor of philosophy at Oxford College of Emory University. She is the coeditor of *Feminist Interpretations of William James*.

#### WE: REVIVING SOCIAL HOPE

By Ronald Aronson - 208 pages | 6 x 9 | © 2017 - April

The election of Donald Trump has exposed American society's profound crisis of hope. By 2016 a generation of shrinking employment, rising inequality, the attack on public education, and the shredding of the social safety net, had set the stage for stunning insurgencies at opposite ends of the political spectrum. Against this dire background, Ronald Aronson offers an answer. He argues for a unique conception of social hope, one with the power for understanding and acting upon the present situation. Hope, he argues, is far more than a mood or feeling—it is the very basis of social will and political action. It is this kind of hope that Aronson sees brewing in the supporters of Bernie Sanders, who advocated the tough-minded and inspired disposition to act collectively to make the world more equal, more democratic, more peaceful, and more just. And it was directly contrasted by Trump's supporters who showed a cynical and nostalgic faith in an authoritarian strongman replete with bigotry and misogyny.



Beneath today's crisis Aronson examines our heartbreaking story: a century of catastrophic violence and the bewildering ambiguity of progress—all of which have contributed to the evaporation of social hope. As he shows, we are now in a time when hope is increasingly privatized, when—despite all the ways we are connected to each other—we are desperately alone, struggling to weather the maelstrom around us, demoralized by the cynicism that permeates our culture and politics, and burdened with finding personal solutions to social problems.

Yet, Aronson argues, even at a time when false hopes are rife, social hope still persists. Carefully exploring what we mean when we say we “hope” and teasing hope apart from its dangerously misconstrued sibling, “progress,” he locates seeds of real change. He argues that always underlying our experience—even if we completely ignore it—is the fact of our social belonging, and that this can be reactivated into a powerful collective force, an active we. He looks to various political movements, from the massive collective force of environmentalists to the movements around Sanders and Jeremy Corbyn, as powerful examples of socially energized, politically determined, and actionably engaged forms of hope. Even in this age of Donald Trump, the result is an illuminating and inspiring call that anyone can clearly hear: we can still create a better future for everyone, but only if we resist false hopes and act together.

**Ronald Aronson** is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Wayne State University. His the author or editor of numerous books, including, most recently, *We Have Only This Life to Live: Essays of Jean-Paul Sartre* and *Living without God: New Directions for Atheists, Agnostics, and the Undecided*.

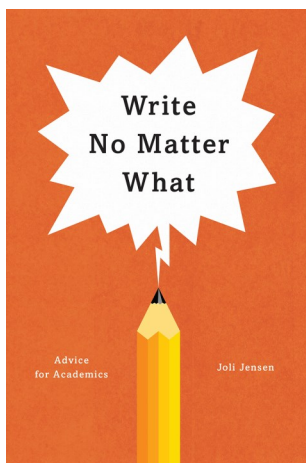
PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE

## Forthcoming Highlights for Spring 2017

### Reference

#### WRITE NO MATTER WHAT: ADVICE FOR ACADEMICS

By Joli Jensen – 192 pages | 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 | © 2017 - May



With growing academic responsibilities, family commitments, and inboxes, scholars are struggling to fulfill their writing goals. A finished book—or even steady journal articles—may seem like an impossible dream. But, as Joli Jensen proves, it really is possible to write happily and productively in academe.

Jensen begins by busting the myth that universities are supportive writing environments. She points out that academia, an arena dedicated to scholarship, offers pressures that actually prevent scholarly writing. She shows how to acknowledge these less-than-ideal conditions, and how to keep these circumstances from draining writing time and energy. Jensen introduces tools and techniques that encourage frequent, low-stress writing. She points out common ways writers stall and offers workarounds that maintain productivity. Her focus is not on content, but on how to overcome whatever stands in the way of academic writing.

*Write No Matter What* draws on popular and scholarly insights into the writing process and stems from Jensen's experience designing and directing a faculty writing program. With more than three decades as an academic writer, Jensen knows what really helps and hinders the scholarly writing process for scholars in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences.

Cut down the academic sword of Damocles, Jensen advises. Learn how to write often and effectively, without pressure or shame. With her encouragement, writers of all levels will find ways to create the writing support they need and deserve.

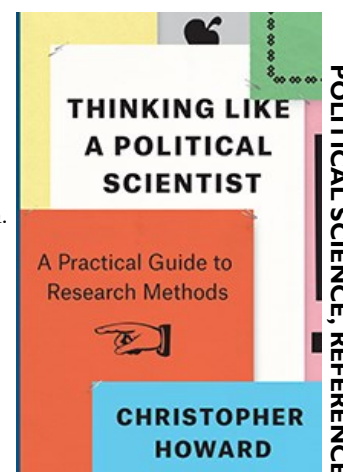
**Joli Jensen** is the Hazel Rogers Professor of Communication at the University of Tulsa, where she founded and directs the Henneke Faculty Writing Program. She is the author of *Is Art Good For Us? Beliefs about High Culture in American Life*; *The Nashville Sound: Authenticity and Commercialization in Country Music*; and *Redeeming Modernity: Contradictions in Media Criticism*.

#### THINKING LIKE A POLITICAL SCIENTIST: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO RESEARCH METHODS

By Christopher Howard – 248 pages | 6 figures, 9 tables | 6x9 | © 2017 - March

Each year, tens of thousands of students who are interested in politics go through a rite of passage: they take a course in research methods. Many find the subject to be boring or confusing, and with good reason. Most of the standard books on research methods fail to highlight the most important concepts and questions. Instead, they brim with dry technical definitions and focus heavily on statistical analysis, slighting other valuable methods. This approach not only dulls potential enjoyment of the course, but prevents students from mastering the skills they need to engage more directly and meaningfully with a wide variety of research.

With wit and practical wisdom, Christopher Howard draws on more than a decade of experience teaching research methods to transform a typically dreary subject and teach budding political scientists the critical skills they need to read published research more effectively and produce better research of their own. The first part of the book is devoted to asking three fundamental questions in political science: What happened? Why? Who cares? In the second section, Howard demonstrates how to answer these questions by choosing an appropriate research design, selecting cases, and working with numbers and written documents as evidence. Drawing on examples from American and comparative politics, international relations, and public policy, *Thinking Like a Political Scientist* highlights the most common challenges that political scientists routinely face, and each chapter concludes with exercises so that students can practice dealing with those challenges.



**Christopher Howard** is the Pamela C. Harriman Professor of Government and Public Policy at the College of William and Mary. He is the author of two books, *The Welfare State Nobody Knows* and *The Hidden Welfare State*, and the coeditor of *The Oxford Handbook of U.S. Social Policy*.