



**52-3733** HC59.3 MARC  
Touraine, Alain. **After the crisis**, tr. by Helen Morrison. Polity, 2014. 173p bibl index ISBN 9780745653853 pbk, \$24.95

Sociologist Touraine (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris) provides a thought-provoking assessment of the deep, widespread economic crisis that first unfolded in 2008 and how this crisis represents a watershed period that has transformed social relations in what he calls the emergent “post-social situation.” This latter contribution is especially distinct and sets this book apart from most accounts of the recent global economic crisis. Touraine locates the decline of postindustrial society within the context of the economic crisis and the hyper emphasis on profits and then proceeds to formulate scenarios that may conceivably define the nature of relations in this nascent post-social situation. The book’s emphasis on the gulf between economic and non-economic institutions, especially the ways in which social actors appear to be redefining cultural priorities and the location of individual human rights as part of this re-visioning of social relations, is the book’s most engaging aspect. **Summing Up:** ★★ Recommended. Graduate students and researchers/faculty.—*S. Kukreja, University of Puget Sound*

**52-3734** HC110 2014-20215 CIP  
**The War on poverty: a retrospective**, ed. by Kyle Farmbry. Lexington Books, 2014. 276p bibl index afp ISBN 9780739190784 cloth, \$95.00; ISBN 9780739190791 ebook, \$94.99

Editor Farmbry has assembled a policy-oriented group of scholars and practitioners who produced chapters that together comprehensively cover a range of topics and look back on 50 years of US anti-poverty efforts. Contributors cover the essentials of debates over poverty and its causes—e.g., single motherhood, racism, education, immigration, health care, rural/urban/suburban divides—as well as topics of special interest after the Great Recession, including a superb chapter on policies that contributed to the foreclosure crisis. The policy orientation means chapters cover not only the usual human capital, education, and workforce development strategies for alleviating poverty but also worker cooperatives and programs to promote “inclusive capitalism”—ways to engage workers in decisions about production and investment and to compensate workers with a greater share of the returns to increased productivity. Interestingly, this does not include microcredit and other typically neoliberal strategies. The quality of the historical description and exposition in the individual chapters varies, and it is difficult to see an overall argument or analysis, but this mostly jargon-free book nicely orients readers to anti-poverty programs, connections, and contradictions. **Summing Up:** ★★ Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates and above.—*L. D. Brush, University of Pittsburgh*

## Anthropology

**52-3735** GN347 2014-12203 MARC  
**Experimental film and anthropology**, ed. by Arnd Schneider and Caterina Pasqualino. Bloomsbury Academic, 2014. 205p index filmography ISBN 9780857854421 cloth, \$184.00; ISBN 9780857854438 pbk, \$29.95; ISBN 9780857858214 ebook, \$27.99

This collection makes an important corrective to prevailing interpretations of visual anthropology. Indeed, the volume works to enlarge understanding of the field, documenting its encounters with and impacts upon experimental film. Following a brief introduction

that highlights key themes and the broader context, ten diverse and dynamic contributions examine a wide range of topics. These include filmmakers (Robert Fenz and Robert Ascher), techniques (such as photofilm and cameraless animation), and themes (such as trance and memory). Individual contributions also provide insights into distinct visual media, drawing comparisons between analog and digital film; trace the power of cinematic shock in ethnographic film; and highlight the importance of experimental film for ethnographic practice. As with many such ventures, the collection displays some unevenness. That said, the contributions open important dialogues that merit return engagements. Though the editors are quite right that reviewing experimental film has significance for understandings of anthropology and its practice, this volume will appeal largely to specialists in film, media studies, and visual anthropology. **Summing Up:** ★★ Recommended. Graduate students, faculty, professionals.—*C. R. King, Washington State University*

**52-3736** F3069 MARC  
Gänger, Stefanie. **Relics of the past: the collecting and study of pre-Columbian antiquities in Peru and Chile, 1837-1911**. Oxford, 2014. 311p bibl index ISBN 9780199687695 cloth, \$120.00

Gänger (Univ. of Cologne, Germany) offers an extremely detailed study of a rather specialized topic: the collection and study of pre-Columbian artifacts in Peru and Chile in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Each chapter focuses on a particular collector and an artifact or a group of artifacts that collector prized, developing the stories of collecting communities and the ways the artifacts were interpreted. The selection is not exhaustive. For example, the Victor Larco Herrera collection is mentioned only as a passing reference to the museum he founded in Lima, but the selected cases are illustrative of the kinds of artifacts sought and the collecting issues. Among the approximately 20 illustrations are several period photographs of some of the collections, which are particularly interesting for their insight into how the collections were seen at the time. This makes a useful companion to the far more common studies of how European and North American collectors approached pre-Columbian Andean materials. However, because of its specificity, the book will be most useful to specialist and professional collectors. **Summing Up:** ★ Optional. Graduate students, faculty, professionals.—*F. W. Gleach, Cornell University*

**52-3737** DA930 2013-487053 MARC  
O’Sullivan, Aidan. **Early medieval Ireland, AD 400-1100: the evidence from archaeological excavations**, by Aidan O’Sullivan et al. Royal Irish Academy, 2014. 584p bibl index ISBN 9781904890607 cloth, \$120.00

What a grand achievement! This massive, 600-page compilation is simultaneously awkward, strange, and wonderful. It is awkward to hold because of its great weight. One cannot even rest it on one’s legs without serious discomfort. Although the volume treats every medieval excavation made throughout all of Ireland from 1930 to 2012, this lengthy text makes no reference, strangely, to religious, legal, artistic, or chronicle matters, including the gloriously beautiful artifacts found in excavations or handed down from century to century. Rather, this work breathes the world of pragmatic social science and is devoid of the beauties of nature, fascinating individuals, or historic controversies. Nonetheless, the book is still truly wonderful for specialists because it highlights recent discoveries, especially those of the Celtic Tiger times. For example, in 2002, just 120 Irish high crosses were known in some 75 locations, but by 2008, some 207 high crosses had been identified at 157 sites. This first major study