Nine Theories Of Religion

Eight Theories of ReligionTheories of ReligionUnderstanding Theories of ReligionSecular Theories on ReligionSocial Theory and ReligionInterpretive Theories of ReligionGroup Theories of Religion and the IndividualContemporary Theories of ReligionReligion, Theory, CritiqueGroup Theories of Religion and the IndividualTen Theories of ReligionSeven Theories of ReligionThe Evolution of ReligionHow Philosophy Shapes Theories of ReligionGroup Theories of Religion and the IndividualSociological Theory and the Question of ReligionTen Theories of ReligionClassical Approaches to the Study of ReligionThinking about ReligionThe Religion Toolkit Daniel L. Pals Seth Daniel Kunin Ivan Strenski Tim Jensen James A. Beckford Donald A. Crosby Clement Charles Julian Webb Michael Stausberg Richard King Clement C. J. Webb Daniel Pals Daniel L. Pals Joseph Bulbulia Carl Reinhold Bråkenhielm Clement Charles Julian Webb Andrew McKinnon Daniel Pals Jacques Waardenburg Ivan Strenski John Morreall

why do human beings believe in divinities why do some seek eternal life while others seek escape from recurring lives why do the beliefs and behaviors we typically call religious so deeply affect the human personality and so subtly weave their way through human society revised and updated in this second edition eight theories of religion considers how these fundamental questions have engaged the most important thinkers of the modern era accessible systematic and succinct the text examines the classic interpretations of religion advanced by theorists who have left a major imprint on the intellectual culture of the twentieth century the second edition features a new chapter on max weber a revised introduction and a revised expanded conclusion that traces the paths of further inquiry and interpretation traveled by theorists in the most recent decades eight theories of religion second edition begins with edward burnett tylor and james frazer two victorian pioneers in anthropology and the comparative study of religion it then considers the great reductionist approaches of sigmund freud emile durkheim and karl marx all of whom have exercised wide influence up to the present day the discussion goes on to examine the leading challenges to reductionism as articulated by sociologist max weber new to this edition and romanian american comparativist mircea eliade finally it explores the newer methods and ideas arising

from the african field studies of ethnographer e e evans pritchard and the interpretive anthropology of clifford geertz each chapter offers biographical background theoretical exposition conceptual analysis and critical assessment this common format allows for close comparison and careful evaluation throughout ideal for use as a supplementary text in introductory religion courses or as the central text in sociology of religion and courses centered on the explanation and interpretation of religion eight theories of religion second edition offers an illuminating treatment of this controversial and fascinating subject

this book provides a comprehensive selection of readings that relate to and explore the definition of religion the texts come from a wide range of approaches unified both by the questions they are addressing and their broadly social scientific perspective the disciplines covered include anthropology phenomenology psychology and sociology the editors have also included some key texts relating to the feminist approach to and critique of religion the first section of the book includes some of the foundational texts such as materials by marx freud and durkheim the remaining sections look at more recent discussions of the issues from the different disciplinary perspectives each reading is introduced by a biographical sketch of the author the book also includes introductory discussions to each section that both raise the key issues developed in a particular discipline and address the disciplinary approaches from a more critical stance theories of religion a reader is an invaluable critical resource accessible to a broad audience as well as students of theology and religious studies

featuring comprehensive updates and additions the second edition of understanding theories of religion explores the development of major theories of religion through the works of classic and contemporary figures a new edition of this introductory text exploring the core methods and theorists in religion spanning the sixteenth century through to the latest theoretical trends features an entirely new section covering religion and postmodernism race sex and gender and religion and postcolonialism examines the development of religious theories through the work of classic and contemporary figures from the history of anthropology sociology psychology philosophy and theology reveals how the study of religion evolved in response to great cultural conflicts and major historical events student friendly features include chapter introductions and summaries biographical vignettes a timeline a glossary and many other learning aids

scholars of religious studies from europe and north america explore what a secular or scientific study of religion should be like what methods it should apply what aims and what kind of scientific thinking should be pursued they also consider scholars as public intellectuals operating within and influenced by general societal developments the 18 essays provide a survey of current thinking in the field distributed in the us by isbs c book news inc

many aspects of religion are puzzling these days this book looks at ways of improving our understanding of religious change by strengthening the links between social theory and the social scientific study of religion it clarifies the social processes involved in constructing religion and non religion in public and private life taking illustrations of the importance of these boundaries from studies of secularisation religious diversity globalisation religious movements and self identity james a beckford reviews the current state of social scientific

knowledge about religion

no detailed description available for interpretive theories of religion

interest in theories of religion has never been greater scholars debate single theoretical approaches in different scholarly journals while the new atheists such as richard dawkins and daniel dennett criticize the whole idea of religion for everyone eager to understand the current state of the field contemporary theories of religion surveys the neglected landscape in its totality michael stausberg brings together leading scholars of the field to review and discuss seventeen contemporary theories of religion as well as scholars of religion it features anthropologists archaeologists classicists evolutionary biologists philosophers and sociologists each chapter provides students with background information on the theoretician a presentation of the theory s basic principles an analysis of basic assumptions and a review of previous critiques concluding with a section entitled back and forth stausberg compares the different theories and points to further avenues of discussion for the future

religion theory critique is an essential tool for learning about theory and method in the study of religion leading experts engage with contemporary and classical theories as well as non western cultural contexts unlike other collections this anthology emphasizes the dynamic relationship between religion as an object of study and different methodological approaches and openly addresses the question of the manifold ways in which religion secular and culture are imagined within different disciplinary horizons this volume is the first textbook which seeks to engage discussion of classical approaches with contemporary cultural and critical theories contributors write on the influence of the natural sciences in the study of religion the role of european christianity in modeling theories of religion religious experience and the interface with cognitive science the structure and function of religious language the social scientific study of religion ritual in religion the phenomenology of religion critical theory and religion embodiment and religion the impact of colonialism and modernity theorizing religion in terms of race and ethnicity links among religion nationalism and globalization the interplay of gender sex and religion and religion and the environment each chapter introduces the topic identifies key theorists and issues and respects the pluralistic nature of the scholarship in the field altogether this collection scrutinizes the explicit and implicit assumptions theorists make about religion as an object of analysis

why do human beings believe in divinities why do some seek eternal life while others seek escape from recurring lives why do the beliefs and behaviors we typically call religious so deeply affect the human personality and so subtly weave their way through human society ideal as a supplementary text in introductory religion courses or as the main text in theory and method in religious studies or in sociology of religion courses ten theories of religion fourth edition offers an illuminating treatment of this controversial and fascinating subject

in this presentation each theory is presented in a common format that offers not only biographical background and exposition of its main ideas but also comparative analysis and critical assessment jacket

the evolution of religion is a unique transdisciplinary volume that gathers the latest research debates and programmatic visions of scholars studying religion from an evolutionary perspective anyone interested in the relationship of evolutionary science to religion will find insight and inspiration in this striking collection of fifty short essays from a diverse group of renowned international scolars here god meets darwin and the conversation that ensues provides fascinating reading for those seeking to make sense of religion s place in nature

religion lies near the heart of the classical sociological tradition yet it no longer occupies the same place within the contemporary sociological enterprise this relative absence has left sociology under prepared for thinking about religion s continuing importance in new issues movements and events in the twenty first century this book seeks to address this lacunae by offering a variety of theoretical perspectives on the study of religion that bridge the gap between mainstream concerns of sociologists and the sociology of religion following an assessment of the current state of the field the authors develop an emerging critical perspective within the sociology of religion with particular focus on the importance of historical background re assessing the themes of aesthetics listening and different degrees of spiritual self discipline the authors draw on ethnographic studies of religious involvement in norway and the uk they highlight the importance of power in the sociology of religion with help from pierre bourdieu marx and critical discourse analysis this book points to emerging currents in the field and offers a productive and lively way forward not just for sociological theory of religion but for the sociology of religion more generally

waardenburg s magisterial essay traces the rise and development of the academic study of religion from the mid nineteenth to the mid twentieth century outlining the establishment of the discipline its connections with other fields religion as a subject of research and perspectives on a phenomenological study of religion futhermore a second part comprises an anthology of texts from 41 scholars whose work was programmatic in the evolution of the academic study of religion each chapter presents a particular approach theory and method relevant to the study of religion the pieces selected for this volume were taken from the discipline of religious studies as well as from related fields such as anthropology sociology and psychology to name a few

this history based introduction to the study of religion introduces the main methods theories and theorists in the field introduces the main methods theories and theorists in the field engages with leading figures from the history of anthropology sociology psychology philosophy and theology who have influenced the study of religion reveals how the study of religion evolved in response to great cultural conflicts and major historical events also considers the influence of inner experience tacking issues such as human survival and wish fulfilment

this complete overview of religious studies provides students with the essential knowledge and tools they need to explore and understand the nature of religion covers the early development of religion with overviews of major and minor religions from islam to scientology considers recent developments including secularization the relationship between religion and science and scientific studies on religion health and mystical experience uses humor throughout allowing students to remain open minded to the subject explains what it means to study religion academically and considers the impact of the study of religion on religion itself contains numerous student friendly features including photos maps time lines

side bars historical profiles and population distribution figures provides classroom users with a lively website wiley com go religiontoolkit including questions quizzes extra material and helpful primary and secondary sources

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