

What Objects Mean An Introduction To Material Culture

Material Cultures Living in a Material World Material Culture and Technology in Everyday Life The Meanings of Things Handbook of Material Culture Material Culture Experiencing Material Culture in the Western World History from Things Material Culture in Transit An introduction to material culture Material Culture and Mass Consumerism Material Culture and Cultural Identity: A Study of Greek and Roman Coins from Dora The Routledge Handbook of Material Culture in Early Modern Europe Children and Material Culture What Objects Mean Archaeological Artefacts as Material Culture Cultural History and Material Culture The Cambridge Handbook of Material Culture Studies Modern Material Culture Material Meanings Daniel Miller Memorial University of Newfoundland. Institute of Social and Economic Research Phillip Vannini I. Hodder Chris Tilley Victor Buchli Susan M. Pearce Stephen Lubar Zainabu Jallo The Open University Daniel Miller Rosa Maria Motta Catherine Richardson Joanna R. Sofaer Arthur Asa Berger Linda Hurcombe Thomas J. Schlereth Lu Ann De Cunzo Richard A. Gould Elizabeth S. Chilton

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as Material Culture Cultural History and Material Culture The Cambridge Handbook of Material Culture Studies Modern Material Culture Material Meanings *Daniel Miller Memorial University of Newfoundland. Institute of Social and Economic Research Phillip Vannini I. Hodder Chris Tilley Victor Buchli Susan M. Pearce Stephen Lubar Zainabu Jallo The Open University Daniel Miller Rosa Maria Motta Catherine Richardson Joanna R. Sofaer Arthur Asa Berger Linda Hurcombe Thomas J. Schlereth Lu Ann De Cunzio Richard A. Gould Elizabeth S. Chilton*

this volume is an ethnographic study of material cultures incorporating local and global dimensions a team of scholars explore the changing experiences of cultures in locations as disparate as the philippines and northern ireland material culture and consumption studies have undergone something of a renaissance recently this study provides an up to date analysis of a developing field in sociological and anthropological based courses this book is intended for undergraduate ma courses on material culture and consumption within cultural studies and anthropology degree schemes

this book offers scholarly state of the art presentations concerning material culture research at this critical stage in its development these essays describe the emerging field of material culture studies and the new ways it offers for seeking an understanding of our society s basic values and beliefs they provide fresh insights into the world of goods and the meaning we derive from ordinary things drawing on both historical and contemporary perspectives living in a material world includes contributions from scholars in history anthropology folklore art history and american studies

focusing on the technoculture of everyday life this book attempts to zero in on the simplicity and the habitual character of the interaction between humans and material objects which is often assumed or taken for granted because objects are always meaningful in the pragmatic use to which they

are directed the material world of everyday life can be seen as a technoculture of its own one made of behaviors as simple and yet as significant as using a lawnmower or decorating one's body in discussing the unique methodological components of the ethnography of the technoculture of everyday life this book begins a dialogue on how we can examine from the participants perspective the interconnections between social agents their technological material practices their material objects or technics and their social and material environment

this unique and fascinating book concentrates on the varying roles and functions that material culture may play in almost all aspects of the social fabric of a given culture the contributors from africa australia and papua new guinea india south america the usa and both eastern and western europe provide a rich variety of views and experience in a worldwide perspective several of the authors focus on essential points of principle and methodology that must be carefully considered before any particular approach to material culture is adopted one of the many fundamental questions posed in the book is whether or not all material culture is equivalent to documents which can be read and interpreted by the outside observer if it is what is the nature of the messages or meanings conveyed in this way the book also questions the extent to which acceptance and subsequent diffusion of a religious belief or symbol may be qualified by the status of the individuals concerned in transmitting the innovation as well as by the stratification of the society involved several authors deal with works of art and the most effective means of reaching an understanding of their past significance in some chapters semiotics is seen as the most appropriate technique to apply to the decoding of the assumed rules and grammars of material culture expression

the study of material culture is concerned with the relationship between persons and things in the past and in the present in urban and industrialized

and in small scale societies across the globe the handbook of material culture provides a critical survey of the theories concepts intellectual debates substantive domains and traditions of study characterizing the analysis of things it is cutting edge rather than simply reviewing the field as it currently exists it also attempts to chart the future the manner in which material culture studies may be extended and developed the handbook of material culture is divided into five sections section i maps material culture studies as a theoretical and conceptual field section ii examines the relationship between material forms the human body and the senses section iii focuses on subject object relations section iv considers things in terms of processes and transformations in terms of production exchange and consumption performance and the significance of things over the long term section v considers the contemporary politics and poetics of displaying representing and conserving material and the manner in which this impacts on notions of heritage tradition and identity the handbook charts an interdisciplinary field of studies that makes an unique and fundamental contribution to an understanding of what it means to be human it will be of interest to all who work in the social and historical sciences from anthropologists and archaeologists to human geographers to scholars working in heritage design and cultural studies

publisher description

among the 13 contributions are studies of the role that material symbols played in the relationship between the two parts of germany before and after the collapse of the communist states in the east the material culture of left handedness and its implications the connection between modern hedonism the repeated desire for new things and the romantic movement itself an artifact of the protestant reformation and the way the object world is used in the construction of fictional narrative distributed in the u s by books international annotation copyrighted by book news inc portland or

history from things explores the many ways objects defined broadly to range from chippendale tables and italian renaissance pottery to seventeenth century parks and a new england cemetery can reconstruct and help reinterpret the past eighteen essays describe how to read artifacts how to listen to landscapes and locations and how to apply methods and theories to historical inquiry that have previously belonged solely to archaeologists anthropologists art historians and conservation scientists spanning vast time periods geographical locations and academic disciplines history from things leaps the boundaries between fields that use material evidence to understand the past the book expands and redirects the study of material culture an emerging field now building a common base of theory and a shared intellectual agenda

material culture in transit theory and practice constellates curators and scholars actively working with material culture within academic and museal institutions through theory and practice the rich collection of essays critically addresses the multivalent ways in which mobility reshapes the characteristics of artefacts specifically under prevailing issues of representation and colonial liabilities the volume attests to material culture as central to understanding the repercussions of problematic histories and proposes novel ways to address them it offers valuable reading for scholars of anthropology museum studies history and others with an interest in material culture

why study things or put another way what can we learn from objects that we can t find out from the reading of texts there s no simple answer to these questions but as we shall discover in the course of this e book there s no getting around the ubiquity of things this e book is an adapted extract from the open university course making sense of things an introduction to material culture a151

exploring materialism and social relationships in modern culture material culture and mass consumption offers an in depth exploration of objects

objectification ideology and materialism in modern society drawing from hegel marx munn and simmel the discussion delves into the physicality of the material world and attempts to understand materialism as a form of cultural expression targeting mass production as the root of mass consumption rather than the result this book positions material goods at odds with genuine social interaction and questions these relationships from the abstract to the intensely specific

presents numismatics from the ancient harbor town of dor dora in modern israel with a history that spanned from the bronze age until the late roman era

the routledge handbook of material culture in early modern europe marks the arrival of early modern material culture studies as a vibrant fully established field of multi disciplinary research the volume provides a rounded accessible collection of work on the nature and significance of materiality in early modern europe a term that embraces a vast range of objects as well as addressing a wide variety of human interactions with their physical environments this stimulating view of materiality is distinctive in asking questions about the whole material world as a context for lived experience and the book considers material interactions at all social levels there are 27 chapters by leading experts as well as 13 feature object studies to highlight specific items that have survived from this period defined broadly as c 1500 c 1800 these contributions explore the things people acquired owned treasured displayed and discarded the spaces in which people used and thought about things the social relationships which cluster around goods between producers vendors and consumers of various kinds and the way knowledge travels around those circuits of connection the content also engages with wider issues such as the relationship between public and private life the changing connections between the sacred and the

profane or the effects of gender and social status upon lived experience constructed as an accessible wide ranging guide to research practice the book describes and represents the methods which have been developed within various disciplines for analysing pre modern material culture it comprises four sections which open up the approaches of various disciplines to non specialists definitions disciplines new directions contexts and categories object studies and material culture in action this volume addresses the need for sustained coherent comment on the state breadth and potential of this lively new field including the work of historians art historians museum curators archaeologists social scientists and literary scholars it consolidates and communicates recent developments and considers how we might take forward a multi disciplinary research agenda for the study of material culture in periods before the mass production of goods

this is the first book to focus entirely on children and material culture the international contributors from a wide range of disciplines skilfully integrate theory and data to illustrate fully the significance of studying children

arthur asa berger author of an array of texts in communication popular culture and social theory is back with the second edition of his popular user friendly guide for students who want to understand the social meanings of objects in this broadly interdisciplinary text berger takes the reader through half a dozen theoretical models that are commonly used to analyze objects he then describes and analyzes eleven objects many of them new to this edition including smartphones facebook hair dye and the american flag showing how they demonstrate concepts like globalization identity and nationalism the book includes a series of exercises that allow students to analyse objects in their own environment brief and inexpensive this introductory guide will be used in courses ranging from anthropology to art history pop culture to psychology

this book is an introduction to the study of artefacts setting them in a social context rather than using a purely scientific approach drawing on a range of different cultures and extensively illustrated archaeological artefacts and material culture covers everything from recovery strategies and recording procedures to interpretation through typology ethnography and experiment and every type of material including wood fibers bones hides and adhesives stone clay and metals with over seventy illustrations with almost fifty in full colour this book not only provides the tools an archaeologist will need to interpret past societies from their artefacts but also a keen appreciation of the beauty and tactility involved in working with these fascinating objects this is a book no archaeologist should be without but it will also appeal to anybody interested in the interaction between people and objects

this profusely illustrated collection of essays winner of the elsie clews parsons prize as the best folklore book of 1990 should engage anyone with an interest in how the humble devices and relics of everyday american life have influenced and will continue to influence our cultural history

material culture studies is an interdisciplinary field that examines the relationships between people and their things the production history preservation and interpretation of objects it draws on theory and practice from disciplines in the social sciences and humanities such as anthropology archaeology history and museum studies written by leading international scholars this handbook provides a comprehensive view of developments methodologies and theories it is divided into five broad themes embracing both classic and emerging areas of research in the field chapters outline transformative moments in material culture scholarship and present research from around the world focusing on multiple material and digital media that show the scope and breadth of this exciting field written in an easy to read style it is essential reading for students researchers and professionals

with an interest in material culture

modern material culture

material meanings focuses on the social context in which things are produced and in which they are given meaning with firm roots in antiquarianism archaeology began as the study and collection of things even today objects take center stage in many areas of archaeological inquiry but the past few decades have seen a proliferation of the ways anthropological archaeologist analyze raw materials tools techniques finished products and discarded objects material meanings examines current approaches to material culture in the archaeological record from three perspective ethnoarchaeology and technological traditions material science and theoretical approaches to materiality the focus of this book is not on artifacts themselves but on the social context in which things are produced and in which they are given meaning the technical choices of an artifact producer within a larger technical system and their interpretation by modern researchers the chapters represent a broad range of theoretical perspectives methods and data sets several chapters consider methodological issues in reconstructing technical systems most contributions however apply this understanding to larger questions of social identity and ethnicity emphasizing historical context or models of cultural process

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Introduction

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