THE WILEY-BLACKWELL COMPANION TO
Sociology
EDITED BY GEORGE RITZER
WILEY-BLACKWELL
The Wiley-Blackwell Companions to Sociology provide introductions to emerging topics and theoretical orientations in sociology as well as presenting the scope and quality of the discipline as it is currently configured. Essays in the Companions tackle broad themes or central puzzles within the field and are authored by key scholars who have spent considerable time in research and reflection on the questions and controversies that have activated interest in their area. This authoritative series will interest those studying sociology at advanced undergraduate or graduate level as well as scholars in the social sciences and informed readers in applied disciplines.

The Blackwell Companion to Major Classical Social Theorists
Edited by George Ritzer

The Blackwell Companion to Major Contemporary Social Theorists
Edited by George Ritzer

The Blackwell Companion to Political Sociology
Edited by Kate Nash and Alan Scott

The Blackwell Companion to Criminology
Edited by Colin Sumner

The Blackwell Companion to Social Movements
Edited by David A. Snow, Sarah A. Soule, and Hanspeter Kriesi

The Blackwell Companion to the Sociology of Families
Edited by Jacqueline Scott, Judith Treas, and Martin Richards

The Blackwell Companion to Law and Society
Edited by Austin Sarat

The Blackwell Companion to the Sociology of Culture
Edited by Mark Jacobs and Nancy Hanrahan

The Blackwell Companion to Social Inequalities
Edited by Mary Romero and Eric Margolis

The New Blackwell Companion to Social Theory
Edited by Bryan S. Turner

The New Blackwell Companion to Medical Sociology
Edited by William C. Cockerham

The New Blackwell Companion to the Sociology of Religion
Edited by Bryan S. Turner

The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Major Social Theorists
Edited by George Ritzer and Jeffrey Stepnisky

The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Sociology
Edited by George Ritzer

Also available:

The Blackwell Companion to Globalization
Edited by George Ritzer

The New Blackwell Companion to the City
Edited by Gary Bridge and Sophie Watson
Contributors

Graham Allan is Emeritus Professor of Sociology at Keele University, UK. His main research interests concern the sociology of informal relationships, particularly family sociology and the sociology of friendship. His recent publications include Step-families (2011), co-authored with Graham Crow (Southampton University, UK) and Sheila Hawker, and The End of Children? Changing Trends in Childbearing and Childhood (2011), co-edited with Nathan Lauster (University of British Columbia).

Robert J. Antonio teaches social theory at the University of Kansas. He has been interested in theories and processes of modernization, anti-modernization, postmodernization, neomodernization, and globalization. Currently, he is focusing on the impact of the global system of production and consumption on the throughput of resources and production of waste and especially on the sustainability of the economic and cultural imperative of unplanned, exponential growth, central to modern capitalism and especially to today’s neoliberal regime of accumulation.

Nachman Ben-Yehuda’s work focuses on how, why, where, and when challenges to the status quo emerge and function as catalysts for processes of social change or stability. His books focus on betrayal and treason, the Masada myth, political assassinations, politics and deviance, the European witchcraze, deviant sciences and scientists, using archaeology for national purposes, and (with Erich Goode) moral panics. His 2010 book Theocratic Democracy examines public constructions of unconventional behavior amongst fundamentalists. His current work examines the culture of submarine warfare and atrocities. Ben-Yehuda is in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

Suzanne M. Bianchi is Dorothy Meier Chair in Social Equities and Distinguished Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is a past
President of the Population Association of America. Her research focuses on time use, gender equality in American families and workplaces, and intergenerational family ties and population aging.

**Stewart R. Clegg** is Research Professor and Director of the Centre for Management and Organization Studies Research at the University of Technology, Sydney; Visiting Professor of Organizational Change Management, Maastricht University Faculty of Business; Visiting Professor and International Fellow in Discourse and Management Theory, Centre of Comparative Social Studies, Vrije Universiteit of Amsterdam; and he is also a Visiting Professor at Copenhagen Business School and EM-Lyon. A prolific publisher in leading academic journals in social science, management, and organization theory, he is also the author and editor of many books, including *Power and Organizations* (Clegg, Courpasson and Phillips 2006) and *Frameworks of Power* (1989).

**William C. Cockerham** is Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Chair of the Department of Sociology and Social Work at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, with secondary appointments in medicine and public health. Among his recent books are *Health and Globalization* (2010), *The New Blackwell Companion to Medical Sociology* (2010), and *Medical Sociology*, 12th edition (2012). He is the former President of the Research Committee on Health Sociology of the International Sociological Association (2006–10) and a former member of the Editorial Board of the *American Sociological Review* (2008–11).

**Remy Cross** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminology at the University of South Florida. His areas of interest include social movements, radical activism, and the effects of new communication technologies on political behavior. His dissertation examines the decision-making and organization of grassroots anti-authoritarian movements on both the political right and left. His published work has appeared in the *Journal of Social Structure*, the *Journal of Mathematical Sociology*, and the *Encyclopedia of Social and Political Movements*.

**Paul Dean** is a PhD candidate in Sociology at the University of Maryland. His dissertation research explores movements that seek to regulate corporations through social certifications (e.g., Fair Trade) and socially responsible investments by examining how standards for socially responsible practices are constructed. He is also a Lilly Graduate Teaching Fellow and co-creator/co-editor of “The Sociological Cinema: Teaching Sociology Through Video,” an online teaching resource for sociology instructors (www.thesociologicalcinema.com).

**Mitchell Duneier** is Maurice P. During Professor of Sociology at Princeton. He is the author of *Sidewalk, Slim’s Table, and Ghetto* (with Alice Goffman, forthcoming 2011).

**Riley E. Dunlap** is Regents Professor of Sociology at Oklahoma State University and one of the founders of the field of environmental sociology. He has served as Chair of the environmental sociology groups within the American Sociological
Association, the Rural Sociological Society, and the Society for the Study of Social Problems, as well as President of the International Sociological Association’s Research Committee on Environment and Society. He is currently chairing the American Sociological Association’s Task Force on Sociology and Global Climate Change. Dunlap is senior editor of the *Handbook of Environmental Sociology* and *Sociological Theory and the Environment*.

**Mark Erickson** is Reader in Sociology at the University of Brighton, and his publications include *Science, Culture and Society: Understanding Science in the 21st Century* (2005), *Business in Society* (co-author, 2009), and *Myths at Work* (co-author, 2001).

**Joe R. Feagin**, Ella C. McFadden Professor at Texas A&M University, acquired his PhD in Sociology at Harvard University in 1966. Feagin has served as the Scholar-in-Residence at the US Commission on Civil Rights and has written 57 scholarly books in his research areas, one of which (*Ghetto Revolts*) was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. He is the 2006 recipient of a Harvard Alumni Association lifetime award and was the 2000 President of the American Sociological Association.

**Ge Liu** earned her PhD in Sociology in the Department of Sociology of the University of Notre Dame in April 2011. Her main fields of research interest are sociology of education, stratification, economic sociology, and quantitative methods. Her dissertation is on peer influence on adolescents’ academic outcomes, and in it she examines friendship networks and racial/ethnic differences in academic outcomes, US-East Asian differences in peer influence, and long-term peer influence.

**Kevin Fox Gotham** has research interests in real estate and housing markets, urban redevelopment, and the political economy of tourism. He is currently writing a book with Miriam Greenberg (University of California-Santa Cruz) on the federal response to the 9/11 and the Hurricane Katrina disasters. He is author of *Race, Real Estate, and Uneven Development* (2002) and *Authentic New Orleans: Race, Culture, and Tourism in the Big Easy* (2007).

**Barbara Gurr**’s research highlights the intersections of race, class, gender, sexuality, and citizenship. She is the former Director of Women’s Studies at Southern Connecticut State University and the former Assistant Director of Women’s Studies at the University of Connecticut, where she is currently a graduate student in Sociology. Her dissertation, “Restrictive Relations: Native American Women, Reproductive Justice, and the Indian Health Service,” utilizes a reproductive justice perspective to examine the failure of the federal government and the Indian Health Service to provide safe, adequate reproductive healthcare for Native American women.

**Maureen T. Hallinan** is the White Professor of Sociology at the University of Notre Dame. Her primary research interests are in the effects of the formal and informal organization of schools on students’ cognitive and social development. Currently,
she is investigating the effects of the school sector on student academic achievement. She is a past President of the American Sociological Association and the Sociological Research Association and a member of the National Academy of Education. She served as editor of *The Sociology of Education* and the *Handbook of Sociology of Education*.

Emma Head has been a Lecturer in Sociology at Keele University, UK, since 2006. She was awarded her PhD in Sociology from the University of Bristol in 2005. She then took up a postdoctoral fellowship at Leeds University. Her research interests are in the sociology of the family, particularly in the areas of parenting, early childhood, and policy.

Nathan Jurgenson is a PhD student in Sociology at the University of Maryland where he is working with George Ritzer on topics surrounding new technologies, especially social media. Nathan has focused on the topic of prosumption (that is, how people are increasingly producers of what they consume and vice versa), the blurring of the on- and off-line worlds, and how new possibilities of self-documentation via social media impact the way we live our everyday lives. All of this has vast consequences for identity, power and domination, surveillance, and much else.

Meyer Kestnbaum is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Maryland College Park. Kestnbaum’s research focuses on warfare and the state, examining historical transformations in war making and their consequences. He has published on a variety of issues in this domain, including “Mars Revealed: The Entry of Ordinary People into War among States” in Adams, Clemens, and Orloff (eds.), *Remaking Modernity* (2005), and “The Sociology of War and the Military”, *Annual Review of Sociology* (2009). His work highlights patterns of inclusion and exclusion and processes of meaning-making bound up with the organization and use of coercive force.

Nancy A. Naples is Professor of Sociology and Women’s Studies at the University of Connecticut. She is author of *Grassroots Warriors: Activist Mothering, Community Work and the War on Poverty* (1998) and *Feminism and Method: Ethnography, Discourse Analysis and Activist Scholarship* (2003); editor of *Community Activism and Feminist Politics: Organizing Across Race, Class, and Gender* (1998); and co-editor of *Women’s Activism and Globalization: Linking Local Struggles with Transnational Politics* (with Manisha Desai, 2002) and *The Sexuality of Migration: Border Crossing and Mexican Immigrant Men* (with Salvador Vidal-Ortiz, 2009). Her current work includes a study of racialization and social regulation of citizenship in the Midwest and a comparative study of sexual citizenship.

Angela M. O’Rand is Professor of Sociology and Dean of Social Sciences at Duke University. She has published research on aspects of the life course for over 30 years. Based primarily on diverse longitudinal datasets, her research has identified linkages between married couples’ careers and retirement patterns; childhood adversity and later life outcomes in health and wealth; and childhood educational attainment and educational careers across midlife. A unique focus on the impact of retirement institutions (e.g., pension systems and related income security programs) on career trajectories and labor exits has distinguished her work.

Ken Plummer is Emeritus Professor of Sociology at the University of Essex and the founder editor of the journal Sexualities. His works include Sexual Stigma (1975), Telling Sexual Stories (1995), and Intimate Citizenship (2003). His most recent book is Sociology: The Basics (2010).

Jefferson D. Pooley is Associate Professor of Media and Communication at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pennsylvania. He is co-editor, with David W. Park, of The History of Media and Communication Research. His research centers on the history of communication studies as the field’s emergence has intersected with the twentieth-century rise of the other social sciences.

P. J. Rey is a PhD student in the Department of Sociology at the University of Maryland. His research is primarily concerned with understanding the social implications of the emergence of the internet. Specifically, his work explores shifting economic relations in the age of digital abundance and the consequences of the constant visibility that is encouraged and facilitated by social media. Additionally, he holds an MA in Philosophy from Duquesne University and maintains an interest in French and German philosophy – particularly the Frankfurt School and post-structuralism.

George Ritzer is Distinguished University Professor at the University of Maryland. Among his awards are an Honorary Doctorate from La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia and the American Sociological Association’s Distinguished Contribution to Teaching Award. He has chaired the American Sociological Association’s Section on Theoretical Sociology, as well as the Section on Organizations and Occupations and History of Sociology, and he was the first Chair of the section-in-formation on Global and Transnational Sociology. Among his books in metatheory are Sociology: A Multiple Paradigm Science (1975/1980) and Metatheorizing in Sociology (1991). In the application of social theory to the social world, his books include The McDonaldization of Society (6th edn., 2011), Enchanting a Disenchanted World (3rd edn., 2010), and The Globalization of Nothing (2nd edn., 2007). His most recent book is Globalization: A Basic Text (2010). He is currently working on The Outsourcing of Everything (with Craig Lair, forthcoming). He was founding editor of the Journal of Consumer Culture. He also edited the 11-volume Encyclopedia of Sociology (2007) and the two-volume Encyclopedia of Social Theory (2005) and is currently editing the Encyclopedia of Globalization (forthcoming). He is editing a special issue of the American Behavioral Scientist on prosumption. His books have been translated into over 20 languages, with over a dozen translations of The McDonaldization of Society alone.
Kimberly B. Rogers is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology at Duke University. She received her BA in Psychology from Randolph-Macon Woman’s College in 2003, and her MA in Psychology from Wake Forest University in 2005. While at Wake Forest, her research explored American and Japanese thresholds for emotion recognition and use of contextual information in emotion perception. Since beginning her doctoral studies at Duke, her research has centered on the behavioral significance of cultural affective meaning. Her dissertation examines the social structural predictors of cultural meaning formation, and the processes that shape meaning and impression formation in dynamic social context.

Russell K. Schutt (BA, MA, PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago; postdoc, Yale University) is Professor and Chair of Sociology at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, and Lecturer on Sociology in the Department of Psychiatry at the Harvard Medical School. His many books, peer-reviewed articles, and book chapters concern research methods, social policy, mental health, law, organizations, and occupations, including Investigating the Social World: The Process and Practice of Research and Homelessness, Housing and Mental Illness. His research has been funded by the National Cancer Institute, National Institute of Mental Health, and state agencies.

Jane Sell is Professor of Sociology and a Cornerstone Faculty Fellow at Texas A&M University. She is presently doing research in two areas: the conditions under which racial inequality might be disabled in task groups, and how sudden changes in events can modify cooperation in social dilemmas.

Alan Sica is Professor of Sociology and Founder of the Social Thought Program at Pennsylvania State University. He was editor and publisher of the journal History of Sociology, editor of the ASA journal Sociological Theory, and is currently editor of another ASA journal, Contemporary Sociology. His books include: Hermeneutics: Questions and Prospects; Weber, Irrationality, and Social Order; What Is Social Theory?; The Unknown Max Weber; Max Weber and the New Century; Max Weber: A Comprehensive Bibliography; and Social Thought: From the Enlightenment to the Present. He has been publishing about social theory and the history of sociology since 1978.

Beverley Skeggs is the author of The Media (with John Mundy, 1992), Feminist Cultural Theory (1995), Formations of Class and Gender (1997), Transformations: Thinking Through Feminism (with Sara Ahmed, Jane Kilby, Celia Lury, and Maureen McNeil, 2000); Class, Self, Culture (2004); Sexuality and the Politics of Violence and Safety (with Les Moran, Paul Tyrer, and Karen Corteene, 2004); and Feminism After Bourdieu (with Lisa Adkins, 2005). She is a series editor of the Transformations: Thinking Through Feminism book series (published by Routledge). She is Professor of Sociology at Goldsmiths, University of London, previously at the University of Manchester, and before that Director of Women’s Studies at the University of Lancaster. She has also taught at the universities of Keele and York.

Brittany Chevon Slatton earned her PhD from Texas A&M University, College Station, and is currently Assistant Professor of Sociology at Texas Southern
University. Her work examines the intersection of race, gender, class, and sexuality, and relationship dynamics. She recently completed a study documenting white men’s contemporary perspectives on black women. Currently, she is working on an interdisciplinary study with Kamesha Spates on the intersection of masculinity and sexuality among men of color.

Christian Smith is the William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Sociology at the University of Notre Dame, Director of the Center for the Study of Religion and Society, Director of the Notre Dame Center for Social Research, Principal Investigator of the National Study of Youth and Religion, and Principal Investigator of the Science of Generosity Initiative. Smith worked at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from 1994 to 2006, where he served as Associate Chair of the Department of Sociology from 2000 to 2005. Smith holds an MA (1987) and PhD (1990) in Sociology from Harvard University and has studied Christian historical theology at Harvard Divinity School and other Boston Theological Institute schools. He has directed more than $14 million in grant-funded research projects. Smith’s BA is in Sociology (1983), from Gordon College, Wenham, Massachusetts. Before moving to UNC Chapel Hill in 1994 and prior to moving to Notre Dame, Smith taught for six years at Gordon College (1988–94). Smith is the author, co-author, or editor of numerous books, including What is a Person?: Rethinking Humanity, Social Life, and the Moral Good from the Person Up; Souls in Transition: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Emerging Adults; Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers; Passing the Plate: Why American Christians Don’t Give Away More Money; Moral, Believing Animals: Human Culture and Personhood; The Secular Revolution: Power, Interests, and Conflict in the Secularization of American Public Life; American Evangelicalism: Embattled and Thriving; Resisting Reagan: Radical Religion and Social Movement Theory; Disruptive Religion: The Force of Faith in Social Movements; and The Emergence of Liberation Theology: Radical Religion and Social Movement Theory. He is also author or co-author of numerous journal articles. Smith’s scholarly interests focus on American religion, cultural sociology, adolescents, generosity, sociological theory, and philosophy of social science.

Lynn Smith-Lovin is Robert L. Wilson Professor of Arts and Sciences in the Department of Sociology (with secondary appointments in Psychology and Neuroscience and in Women’s Studies) at Duke University. She received the 2006 Cooley-Mead Award for lifetime achievement in social psychology from the American Sociological Association Section on Social Psychology and the 2005 Lifetime Achievement Award from the ASA Section on Sociology of Emotions. Her research examines the relationships among identity, action, and emotion. Her current research involves (1) an experimental study of justice, identity, and emotion (funded by the National Science Foundation), (2) research with Miller McPherson on an ecological theory of identity (also funded by the National Science Foundation), and (3) a study of event processing in Arabic (funded by the Office of Naval Research). She has served as President of the Southern Sociological Society, Vice-President of the American Sociological Association, and Chair of the ASA Sections on the Sociology of Emotion and on Social Psychology.
David A. Snow is a Chancellor’s Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Irvine. He has authored numerous articles and chapters on social movements, religious conversion, framing processes, identity, homelessness, and qualitative field methods, and has co-authored or co-edited Down on Their Luck: A Study of Homeless Street People (with Anderson), The Blackwell Companion to Social Movements (with Soule and Kriesi), Together Alone: Personal Relationships in Public Places (with Morrill and White), Analyzing Social Settings: A Guide to Qualitative Observation and Analysis (with Lofland, Anderson, and Lofland), Readings in Social Movements (with McAdam), A Primer on Social Movements (with Soule), and the Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social and Political Movements (with della Porta, Klandermans, and McAdam).

John Tomlinson is Professor of Cultural Sociology and Director of the Institute for Cultural Analysis, Nottingham (ICAn) at Nottingham Trent University. His many publications on the themes of globalization, cosmopolitanism, cultural modernity, and mediated cultural experience include Cultural Imperialism (1991), Globalization and Culture (1999), and The Culture of Speed (2007). He is currently writing Culture and Virtue: Capitalism, Media and the Fragmentation of Public Value (forthcoming).

Stephen Turner is Graduate Research Professor in Philosophy at the University of South Florida. His books include writings on explanation, such as Sociological Explanation as Translation (1980), issues of theory construction and statistical approaches to causality, including Causality in Crisis? Statistical Methods and Causal Knowledge in the Social Sciences (co-edited with Vaughn McKim, 1997). He has dealt with methodological issues in such fields as Organization Studies and International Relations. He has also written extensively on the history of methodology, especially of statistics and probabilistic thinking, including writings on Comte, Mill, Quetelet, and Durkheim, and on the origins of quantitative sociology in the United States. His most recent book, Explaining the Normative (2010), is a critique of the philosophical arguments for a normativity beyond ordinary social science explanation.

Steven P. Vallas has written widely in the sociology of work, authoring articles in the leading sociology journals. Much of his work has used ethnographic methods to explore the social bases of worker consent and resistance in various branches of the US economy. He is also the author of Work: A Critique (forthcoming). He is currently examining the shifting discourse found in popular management books, while also conducting research on the tensions and contradictions manifest within transnational movements to defend workers’ rights, both in the US and abroad.

Frank Webster is Professor of Sociology and Head of Department, City University London. He has written extensively on informational developments. Recent books include: Theories of the Information Society, 3rd edn. (2006); Journalists under Fire: Information War and Journalistic Practices (with Howard Tumber, 2006); and Anti-War Activism: New Media and Politics (with Kevin Gillan and Jennifer Pickerill, 2008).
Murray Webster, Jr., is Professor of Sociology at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte. He conducts experimental and natural settings research on the operation of status processes, and writes on experimental design and sociological theory construction. He is co-editor of *Laboratory Experiments in the Social Sciences* (with Jane Sell, 2007).

Charles F. Wellford is Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Maryland, College Park. He was the founding director of the Office of International and Executive Programs (2005–7). From 1984 to 2007 he was Director of the Maryland Justice Analysis Center. He was Chair of the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice (formerly the Institute of Criminal Justice and Criminology) from 1981 to 1995 and from 1999 to 2004. From 1992 to 1998 he was Director of the Office of Academic Computing Services in the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences. For 1998 he was Acting Associate Provost and Dean of Continuing and Extended Education, and in 1998–9 he was Interim Associate Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School. He serves on numerous state and federal advisory boards and commissions. He is a past (1995–6) President of the American Society of Criminology (ASC) and in 1996 was elected a Fellow of the ASC; in 2001 he was selected to be a lifetime National Associate of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS). He chaired the NAS Committee on Law and Justice from 1998 to 2004 and recently chaired the NAS panel on pathological gambling, the panel on research on firearms, and the panel to assess the National Institute of Justice. In Maryland he currently serves on the Maryland Sentencing Policy Commission. From 1976 to 1981 Dr. Wellford served in the Office of the United States Attorney General where he directed the Federal Justice Research Program. The author of numerous publications on criminal justice issues, Dr. Wellford’s most recent research has focused on the determinants of sentencing, and the correlates of homicide clearance.

Vanessa Wight is a family demographer at the National Center for Children in Poverty, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. Her research focuses on child poverty and its implications for family processes and child well-being.

Robert D. Woodberry is Director of the Project on Religion and Economic Change and Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin. His current research uses both historical and statistical methods to analyze the long-term impact of Protestant and Catholic missions on education, civil society, economic development, and democracy. Other interests include comparative colonialism and the spread of religious liberty. His articles – one of which won the Outstanding Article Award from the ASA Sociology of Religion Section in 2001 – appear in the *American Sociological Review, Social Forces, JSSR, Teaching Sociology*, and elsewhere.

William Yagatich is currently earning his PhD in Sociology in the Department of Sociology at the University of Maryland, College Park. He is also working on publishing the main findings of his Master’s thesis, where he examined the pressures of McDonaldization on the tattoo industry via the increasing popularity of American
tattooing. His main research focus concerns the intersection of physical spatial structures, consumer behaviors, and power/knowledge. More specifically, in future work he will examine how spatial structures not only serve to control patterns of bodily movement but how these structures often serve to encourage consumption.

Richard York is Associate Professor of Sociology and Environmental Studies, Graduate Program Director of Sociology, and the Richard A. Bray Faculty Fellow at the University of Oregon. He has published over 50 articles in journals including *American Sociological Review*, *Conservation Biology*, *Sociological Theory*, and *Theory and Society*. He is co-editor of the journal *Organization & Environment*. He has also published three books: *The Critique of Intelligent Design* and *The Ecological Rift: Capitalism’s War on the Earth* (both with John Bellamy Foster and Brett Clark) and *The Science and Humanism of Stephen Jay Gould* (with Brett Clark). He has twice (2004 and 2007) received the Outstanding Publication Award from the Environment and Technology Section of the American Sociological Association.
Contents

Notes on Contributors viii

Introduction 1
George Ritzer

PART I INTRODUCTION 7

1 Philosophy and Sociology 9
Stephen Turner

2 A Selective History of Sociology 25
Alan Sica

3 Quantitative Methods 55
Russell K. Schutt

4 Qualitative Methods 73
Mitchell Duneier

5 Classical Sociological Theory 82
Alan Sica

6 Contemporary Sociological Theory 98
George Ritzer and William Yagatich

PART II BASIC TOPICS IN SOCIOLOGY 119

7 Action, Interaction, and Groups 121
Kimberly B. Rogers and Lynn Smith-Lovin

8 Groups and Institutions, Structures and Processes 139
Murray Webster, Jr. and Jane Sell

9 The Sociology of Organizations 164
Stewart R. Clegg
CONTENTS

10 Cultural Analysis
   John Tomlinson

11 The Changing Life Course
   Angela M. O’Rand

12 Deviance: A Sociology of Unconventionalities
   Nachman Ben-Yehuda

13 Criminology
   Charles F. Wellford

14 Critical Sexualities Studies
   Ken Plummer

15 Feeling Class: Affect and Culture in the Making
   of Class Relations
   Beverley Skeggs

16 Racial and Ethnic Issues: Critical Race Approaches
   in the United States
   Brittany Chevon Slatton and Joe R. Feagin

17 Genders and Sexualities in Global Context: An Intersectional
   Assessment of Contemporary Scholarship
   Nancy A. Naples and Barbara Gurr

18 Changing Families: Fluidity, Partnership, and
   Family Structure
   Graham Allan and Emma Head

19 Sociology of Education
   Maureen T. Hallinan and Ge Liu

20 Sociology of Religion
   Christian Smith and Robert D. Woodberry

21 Current Directions in Medical Sociology
   William C. Cockerham

22 Media and Communications
   John Durham Peters and Jefferson D. Pooley

23 Work and Employment
   Steven P. Vallas

24 The Sociology of Consumption
   P. J. Rey and George Ritzer

25 Population
   Suzanne M. Bianchi and Vanessa Wight

26 Urbanization
   Kevin Fox Gotham
CONTENTS

27  Environmental Sociology  504
    Richard York and Riley E. Dunlap

28  Social Movements  522
    Remy Cross and David A. Snow

29  Globalization  545
    Paul Dean and George Ritzer

PART III  CUTTING EDGE ISSUES IN SOCIOLOGY  565

30  After Neoliberalism: Whither Capitalism?  567
    Robert J. Antonio

31  Organized Coercion and Political Authority: Armed Conflict
    in a World of States  588
    Meyer Kestnbaum

32  Science and Technology: Now and in the Future  609
    Mark Erickson and Frank Webster

33  The Internet, Web 2.0, and Beyond  626
    Nathan Jurgenson and George Ritzer

Index  649
Introduction

GEORGE RITZER

Sociology is a highly diverse and ever-changing field. As a result, different observers of the field will necessarily see somewhat different realities. In part, this is a function of the different orientations of the observers. In addition, it is also related to the point in time at which the observations take place. Since the field is continually changing – at least in part because the social world is in constant flux – observations about sociology at one point in time will be different, perhaps very different, from those at another point in time. These thoughts are very relevant to a discussion of the relationship between this Companion to Sociology and its predecessor edited by Judith Blau. In a nutshell, because of the different orientations of the editors, and because of the passage of time (a decade since the first edition of Blau’s Companion was published in 2001), there are huge differences between the two volumes.

This is clear, most obviously, in the fact that there are few carryovers from the previous version in this Companion and those that are carried over have been revised, in some cases extensively. There were 31 chapters in the Blau volume, as well as an Appendix; there are 33 chapters in this volume. Of the chapters included in the Blau Companion, only the following are included in this volume: Media and Communications (with a new co-author), Sociology of Religion, Sociology of Education (also with a new co-author), and Social Psychology (now entitled “Action, Interaction, and Groups” and with a new co-author). While many other chapters in this volume cover the same topics (e.g., inequality, the environment, social movements) as in the previous edition, the authors are different and the discussion is, in most cases, enormously different. Again, this is in part due to differences in the orientations of the authors involved and in part a result of the passage of a decade and the production of a decade’s worth of new work.
While in some cases I have included essays on the same topic by a different author, in other cases I have chosen not to include a given topic in this *Companion*. In some instances I thought Blau’s choices were idiosyncratic (of course many of my own choices reflect my idiosyncratic interests). Thus, I have not included entries on time and space (although I have great personal interest in this topic), human rights, codependence, and immigrant women and domestic work. Other topics covered in the Blau volume are touched on in chapters included here, or subsumed under broader headings (for example intimacy in the chapter on families and civil society under the heading of globalization).

More positively, the chapters included in this volume reflect a variety of factors. First, I thought it necessary to have chapters on the most basic topics in sociology, indeed the topics covered in an introduction to sociology text and course, but here dealt with in a more sophisticated and advanced manner and written more for professional sociologists and graduate students. This led to the inclusion of all of the chapters in Part Two of this volume. Many of the topics in this part of the book were not included in the Blau volume, at least as independent chapters, including criminology, deviance, organizations, culture, the life course, families, medical sociology, population, and urbanization.

Second, there were no chapters devoted explicitly to theory or methods in the Blau volume, but I have opted to give great attention to these basic matters. Thus, Part One includes no fewer than six chapters, beginning with one on philosophy and sociology and followed by a selective history of sociology, two chapters on methods (quantitative and qualitative) as well as two chapters on theory (classical and contemporary). This reflects my views on the continuing importance of these basics to sociology.

Third, there are a number of chapters that reflect my sense of what are, or should be, new and hot topics in sociology. These include chapters on consumption, globalization, neoliberalism and its relationship to contemporary capitalism, and the internet, especially Web 2.0.

I do not want to suggest that my choices in these or any other topics are somehow better than those of Blau, or even that this is a better book (although I would like to think it is) than the previous *Companion*. It is simply a very different book reflecting differences in the orientations of the editors and changes over time in the nature of sociology and in the world they study.

This brings me back to the new and hot topics mentioned above. The fact is that a decade ago it would have been difficult or impossible for Blau to have included these topics in her volume. They were not issues of nearly the same magnitude in the social world and sociologists had not devoted nearly as much attention to them then as they have in the last decade. Let me look at the topics involved, at least in brief. What they reflect is the changing nature of the social world, the changing nature of sociology as a result of such social changes, as well as the fact that volumes such as this must change to reflect such changes. That means that if there is another volume like this a decade from now, it will be different from this one in a number of unforeseeable ways.

Before getting to the topics in question, I should say that the first edition of this *Companion* had its share of essays that anticipated topics that continue to be cutting edge, including those on space and place, human rights, and civil society. Of special
note are the three separate chapters that dealt in one way or another with immigration. I don’t know that the topic deserved about a tenth of the book’s chapters, but clearly such attention was way ahead of its time and immigration is even more relevant today than it was a decade ago.

In terms of the hot topics covered here, I begin with consumption. While this has been an important topic in many places in the world (especially Great Britain) for decades, it has not been a major concern elsewhere, most notably in the United States. This is particularly striking because the US is generally seen as the ultimate consumer society. Many major consumer goods, brands, types of consumption sites, methods of consumption, and innumerable other aspects of consumer society have their roots in the US and find their ultimate expression there. Furthermore, consumption is essential to the American (and global) economy with it often being argued that 70 percent, or even more, of the American economy is attributable to consumption. In addition, consumption in much of the world, especially the developed world, is heavily influenced by innovations in consumption in the US. Finally, production in much of the rest of the world is oriented to providing what is demanded by American consumers.

In spite of all of this, and much more, sociologists, again especially Americans, have devoted relatively little attention to consumption. It is not an important part of the broader field of economic sociology and is greatly subordinated to issues relating to production and work. More generally, American sociologists tend to have a productivist bias when they think about and study the economy. This is true today, but it was even more the case when Blau’s volume first appeared.

A decade ago there was no central outlet for sociological work on consumption, but beginning in 2001 I began editing (at first with Don Slater as co-editor) the Journal of Consumer Culture (JCC). While the JCC was certainly not restricted to work done by sociologists, many of the articles throughout the journal’s first decade were authored by sociologists, or inspired by their ideas and works. While there is greater interest in consumption in American sociology today than previously, it remains the case that it is a topic of greater sociological interest elsewhere in the world. Why that is the case remains a mystery, but it would be surprising if American sociologists do not devote more attention to this important social phenomenon in the coming years. I fully expect that it will be as important, and probably of increasing importance, to sociologists elsewhere in the world. For example, as China begins to move more toward a consumer society, Chinese sociologists (and others) will almost certainly devote more attention to the topic.

Neoliberalism, as well as the closely related “Washington Consensus,” was still at its peak a decade ago, although it has since declined in importance and come under increasing attack as a result of the Great Recession (or is it a more structural change?) that began in late 2007. In fact, the first part of the title of Robert J. Antonio’s chapter is, perhaps over-optimistically as far as the critics of neoliberalism are concerned, “After Neoliberalism.” Neoliberalism is not a topic that would, itself, have necessarily attracted sociological attention a decade ago (it would have been seen more as a subject best left to economists). However, Antonio’s subtitle dealing with capitalism and its future would certainly have been of great interest a decade ago, although it is not accorded chapter-length treatment in the Blau volume.
Given the continuing impact of the Great Recession brought about by capitalistic excesses, interest in that topic is very high today.

Neoliberalism (and capitalism) is also related to the third of the hot topics dealt with here – globalization. This, too, was not covered in the Blau volume. Although that omission (like that of capitalism) is a bit mystifying, globalization is another topic area that has a much longer history of popularity in many other parts of the world than in American sociology. Thus, as was the case for consumption, there was no American Sociological Association section devoted to globalization a decade ago. However, while there is still no section that focuses on consumption, there is now one devoted to globalization that came into existence in 2010. Globalization is with us to stay and will expand rapidly, as will sociological interest in the topic. The hegemony of neoliberalism within the global capitalist economy is a central concern to sociologists, and others, interested in globalization. It is also the case that the globalization of consumption is of interest to those who focus on globalization. However, globalization is far broader than that, encompassing almost every conceivable sociological concern.

Finally, it would have been difficult, if not impossible, to anticipate the growth of the internet, and of sociological interest in it, in 2001. The internet was a much smaller and less significant phenomenon than it has become in the last decade. Of particular interest to sociologists are user-generated sites on the internet, the so-called Web 2.0. Yet, user-generation barely existed in 2000 (Friendster began in 2002; MySpace started in late 2003; Facebook was launched in early 2004; Twitter commenced operations in mid-2006). In 2001 the internet was defined by Web 1.0 sites in which content was generated by those who controlled the sites and users could do little more than consume what they were offered. In contrast, Web 2.0 sites allow for at least some, if not a great deal of, user-generation and control. Among the user-generated sites, the most significant to sociologists are the social networking sites mentioned above (others are Wikipedia and Amazon.com). Of these, by far the most important is Facebook, now with over 750 million users worldwide. These sites clearly represent something of great importance and worthy of great sociological attention. It seems clear that a sociology of the internet and of related phenomena will expand dramatically in the years to come.

The internet is also related to the other distinctive concerns in this volume. There are, for example, great efforts to find increasing ways of advertising on the internet in order to increase consumption. Capitalists are constantly seeking to find new ways to gain control over, and earn profits from, the internet. The internet is certainly global in scope (although the digital divide means that large numbers of people in the less-developed world have little or no access to it), as are many of the sites on it, most notably Facebook.

Beyond these general areas, it is also the case that changes are afoot in many areas within sociology and they are dealt with throughout this book. Let me close this introduction by highlighting only a few of them:

- Increasing recognition of the fact that important theoretical ideas were developed before the “holy trinity plus one” – Marx, Weber, Durkheim, plus Simmel – developed their theories.
• New developments in sociological theory, as well as the continued existence of “zombie theories.”
• In social psychology there are the new control theories of social interaction, which have revolutionized the symbolic interactionist tradition, and concern with the impact of group structures on the development of meaning, commitment, and group identity.
• Increased attention to social processes and social structures that occur in groups and institutions.
• The centrality of power to organizations and their study.
• The eruption of interest in culture in sociology and many other fields.
• Changes in the life course as a result of such factors as increased life expectancy, declining fertility, and the increasing variability in the timing of education, family, and work patterns.
• The changing nature of deviance and of the sociological approach to it.
• The emergence of a separate field of criminology with an interdisciplinary approach to the study of crime.
• Explosive change in sexuality and the development of new, more critical approaches to its study.
• The emergence of dynamic and performative understandings of social classes in the making, ranging from the global to the intimate.
• The emergence of a critical approach to race and ethnicity.
• Gender in an increasingly intersectional, cross-cultural, and global context.
• The growing complexity of the family.
• The gap between what sociologists know about education and the reforms undertaken on the basis of recommendations from educational policymakers.
• Seismic global changes in religion and the renewal of sociological interest in that topic.
• The distinctive contributions of medical sociology to such issues as social stress, health-related lifestyles, social capital, and the social determinants of disease.
• A variety of dramatic changes in the media including the increasing mediation of interpersonal interaction by phone, email, and social networks.
• The need for a multi-leveled approach to the study of work that examines the interrelationships among the nature of work, inequalities, and organizations.
• The new population problems in the developed world of very low levels of fertility, rapid aging, and population decline.
• Urbanization as a global trend (over 50 percent of the world’s population now live in cities) that is taking place at different speeds on different continents.
• The emergence of a “movement society” and the development of a sociology of social movements in order to study it more adequately.
• The changing nature of armed conflict.
• The interrelationship among new theoretical approaches to the study of science and technology.
• The expansion of potentially catastrophic, global-level, human-generated environmental problems.
This is quite a provocative list of changes in both the social world and the sociological study of that world. Nonetheless, it is a foregone conclusion that a similar enumeration of such a list in the third iteration of this *Companion* a decade from now will look very different. That is both the lure of, and challenge to, a sociology that needs to change to keep pace with a rapidly changing social world.
Part I

Introduction
Sociology is a discipline based on a philosophical idea: that there could be a science of social life. Beyond this bare thought there is a great deal of dispute. The disputes range from the question of whether it is true in any sense that there can be a science of the social, to the question of what kind of science it could be, to what “the social,” “social life,” “society” (or the many variants on this term) could be. The idea of a social science was born not in an empty field, but in a domain that was already crowded – with fields like philosophy, religion, ethics, legal science, and various other disciplines and sciences which had claims to explain or correctly describe this domain. There is no well-defined boundary to sociology as a discipline. Different national traditions have managed the relation to other disciplines differently, and operated in the context of disciplines that were and still are different. The term science and the German term Wissenschaft take in different territory. Wissenschaft includes any organized body of knowledge – and, in the hands of the neo-Kantian philosophers who dominated at the time of the birth of German sociology, the logical organization of the field in terms of fundamental concepts had special implications. In this chapter I will discuss both philosophical sources of sociology: the law and cause tradition begun by Comte and Mill and the tradition that develops from Kant.

Complexity: The Core Issue

John Stuart Mill grasped a basic issue with the idea that social science could be composed of causal laws, as the rest of science was: the complexity of the causes that work together to produce social consequences. Indeed, causal complexity is at
the historical center of discussions of the problem of social science knowledge: too
many variables, too many interacting causes, and no good way to untangle these
causes. The key problem arises from the addition and mixture of causal effects:
unless the scientist is in a position to calculate the joint effects of two causes, and
to extend the calculations to the addition of other causes, prediction of outcomes
involving multiple causes is impossible. But the identification and discovery of pre-
dictive laws faces the same problem: the actual causal facts or relationships which
appear empirically are already compounded of a long list of mixed-up causes, from
which laws must be extracted and discovered. In a very simple case, one might be
able to hypothesize both the laws and the mathematical nature of the additive rela-
tionship and find that one set of laws and one rule for combination of causes actu-
ally predicted the outcomes. But such simple cases are never found (Mill [1843]

The most sophisticated American enthusiasts of the idea of science, including
those who influenced “mainstream sociology,” such as Franklin Giddings, under-
stood by 1901 that sociology was not going to consist of laws (Giddings 1901).
The causal knowledge of sociology would consist, they thought, of correlations,
and, at best, sociology would discover a set of variables whose correlations persisted
in a variety of circumstances (Giddings 1924: 33). There was a difficult philo-
sophical problem with this answer. What is the relation between cause and corre-
lation? Karl Pearson, who was the source for Giddings, took the view that the
distinction between correlation and cause was bogus, and that the laws of physics
themselves were correlations, just strong ones, and that there was no intrinsic or
special connection between the two variables in the correlation other than one
coming before the other (Pearson [1892] 1911). Applying this to social science
knowledge was problematic. When the correlations were represented by the kind
of scattergrams found in the social sciences, with their wide dispersion around a
regression line, it was less clear that one knew what the correlations meant, or that
they meant anything at all. One of the main sociologists in this tradition, W. F.
Ogburn (1934), compared the interpretation of these scattergrams to interpreting
an editorial cartoon in a newspaper – meaning that the scattergrams were objective,
but the interpretations were subjective and not part of science at all. This was an
extreme view, but as we will see, it points to a problem shared with other accounts
of the meaning of correlational sociology, and points to the larger problem of sub-
jectivity and objectivity in relation to the project of interpretive sociology.

The correlational tradition evolved in an odd way. The basic ideas of correcting
a correlation by partialing, by determining whether the causal effect went through
another variable, and the addition of multiple variables in order to see if adding a
variable influenced outcomes were there very early. The classic papers by G. U. Yule
in the 1890s asked the question of whether providing public relief for the poor
outside the poorhouse helped alleviate poverty or generated more poverty (Yule
1896, 1899). This was a typical multi-variate problem: one could look at rates of
poverty across many administrative districts, but this alone would not prove any-
thing. Districts also differed in many other characteristics, many of which might
also affect the level of poverty. Moreover, a simple correlation would not suffice:
the interesting question was change. Does the introduction of outdoor relief – that
is to say aid other than in the poorhouse – have the consequence of changing the