Rethinking Society in the 21st Century, 4th Edition

Critical Readings in Sociology

_Rethinking Society in the 21st Century_ is a critical collection of readings that provides students with a foundational knowledge base in sociology. The fourth edition has been thoroughly updated to include significant Canadian content, with a greater focus on Indigeneity, gender, and sexuality and a new section dedicated to social movements, social change, and emerging fields.

This anthology introduces students to the fundamental elements of sociology with a balance of classical theory—Marx, Weber, Durkheim, Mills—and more contemporary approaches found in the works of Michel Foucault and Dorothy Smith. Building on this theoretical grounding, the text outlines core concepts in sociology as well as major social institutions such as families, the economy and labour, education, health care, and media. Covering a wide breadth of topics, including chapters on animals, the environment, crime, trans issues, class, ethnicity, and race, this new edition explores critical debates in Canadian society with an emphasis on intersectional approaches to social inequalities.

This volume is rich with pedagogical features that promote critical understanding, including detailed introductions that speak to the contextual history of the source material and discussion questions for each section. Uniquely designed for introductory courses, this reader is ideal for students in sociology programs across Canada.

**Features**
- draws on works by a number of classical theorists, including Marx, Durkheim, and Weber
- features readings by Canadian authors and content on distinctly Canadian social issues
- appropriate for university and college-level courses in sociology

Author Information
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Reviews
“Webber and Bezanson’s collection has become standard amongst sociology instructors seeking a critical introduction to the field. The book strikes a nice balance between seminal theoretical pieces and cutting edge research that engages and challenges students to think about new things in new ways. Power inequalities figure prominently in the readings as they explore the complex intersections of class, gender, race, and sexuality… Canadian sociology is well represented, with a number of current research pieces by scholars preeminent in the discipline. I cannot think of another collection that accomplishes what this one does.”
—Kenneth Fish, Department of Sociology, University of Winnipeg

“* Rethinking Society in the 21st Century* offers a diverse range of readings focusing on the theory, methods, and substance of sociology and does so from a critical perspective. Furthermore, it exposes students to both classical and contemporary works, and the readings are engaging yet challenging. The number of Canadian authors is another key strength of this text.”
—Alison Dunwoody, Department of Sociology, University of Alberta

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