

TRADITIONS ENCOUNTERS

A Brief Global History

Jerry H. Bentley | Herbert F. Ziegler | Heather E. Streets-Salter



TRADITIONS FOURTH EDITION EDITION ENCOUNTERS

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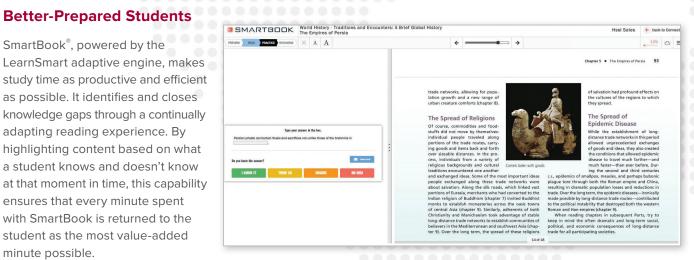
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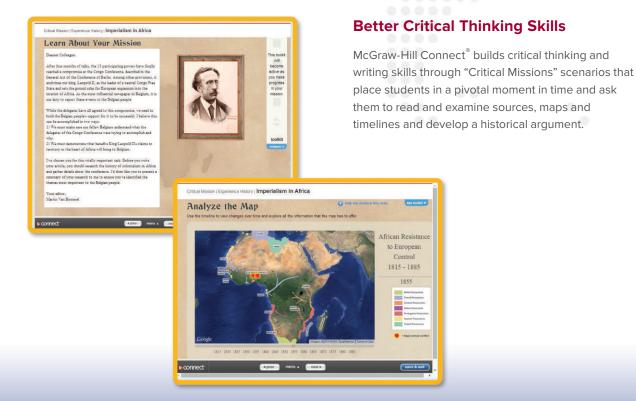
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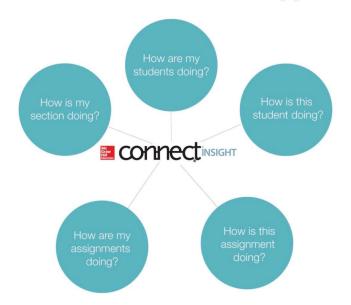


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In Memoriam

Jerry Bentley (1949–2012)

My Encounters and Traditions with Jerry Bentley at the University of Hawai'i

When I arrived in Hawai'i in the summer of 1980 to assume my position as an assistant professor in modern (and largely twentieth-century) European history, Jerry Bentley had already amassed four years of experience in that field at the University of Hawai'i, albeit at the other

temporal end of European modernity—the Renaissance and Reformation. Given our mutual areas of academic and teaching interest, we became fast friends and friendly colleagues, and our connections deepened as a result of our encounters both outside and inside the sphere of the Department of History. Our tradition of playing tennis and drinking beer every Friday afternoon morphed into further sociability, and evenings together led to deep conversations over the relative quality of various cognacs—and over the relative merits of the textbooks we assigned to our classes in what was at the time termed the "World Civilizations Program" at the University of Hawai'i.

As junior faculty members in a department tasked with running one of the largest and most comprehensive world history programs extant in the United States at the time, Jerry and I had been assigned to teach multiple sections of History 151 and 152, surveys of world history to and from the year 1500. The intent of these courses, which all students at the University of Hawai'i were required to complete, involved fostering a global perspective on early and modern history that reflected the breadth and diversity not just of world societies but of the students in Hawai'i themselves, whose roots traced largely to Oceania and Asia. In spite of our own intellectual grounding in European history, and in part because Hawai'i's Department of History embraced wide-ranging fields of history from the Pacific Islands to southeast and east Asia, we appreciated this opportunity to globalize our own perspectives. Over the years, indeed decades, Jerry and I continued to teach these courses and continued to be less than satisfied with the available world history textbooks, which remained somewhat mired in Eurocentrism despite their globalized claims and despite the growing acceptance of the notion of globalization that characterized the world as much more economically and culturally integrated.

In conjunction with editors at McGraw-Hill, Jerry Bentley and I embarked on what proved to be a monumental and time-consuming project: the creation of a new and different sort of world history textbook, one that took shape on the assumption that the modern integrated world was not in fact a recent phenomenon but one that had deep and long historical precedents. This approach demanded a fully global history that avoided as much as possible the Eurocentrism of existing texts while avoiding any other form of ethnocentrism. This meant we decided to eschew the value-laden term "civilization" (and the Department of History's world history program has likewise been refashioned), and we determined to integrate the experiences of diverse peoples and societies through the key analytic lenses of traditions and encounters. The first edition of the thus aptly named *Traditions & Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past* appeared in 2000, and it has since gone through five editions.

The researching, writing, and revising of the textbook has been a rewarding if grueling process; there were fewer and fewer sessions of tennis and beer, and more and more sessions disputing the relative difficulties of our collaborative tasks and responsibilities (I may have felt a bit aggrieved at times because I had the larger role in revisiting time and again the most recent decades of the global past). That said, and that aside, at the time of his death on 15 July 2012, Jerry Bentley and I were contemplating plans for another edition of *Traditions & Encounters*. Having been Jerry Bentley's friend, colleague, and collaborator for more than thirty years, I find it hard to imagine the world—let alone the field of world history—without him. Through our co-authorship of *Traditions & Encounters*, I came to appreciate very much his dedication to fostering global perspectives in history—a dedication that for Jerry Bentley went well beyond our textbook. He exhibited an admirable dedication to expanding the historical understanding of world societies and cultures, and at least part of that legacy lives on through his contributions to *Traditions & Encounters*.

Herbert F. Ziegler University of Hawai'i at Manoa 1 September 2012

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TRADITIONS FOURTH EDITION ENCOUNTERS A BRIEF GLOBAL HISTORY

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TRADITIONS & ENCOUNTERS: A BRIEF GLOBAL HISTORY, FOURTH EDITION

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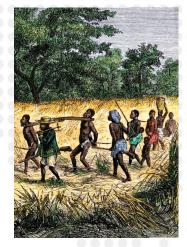
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Preface

How do the themes of traditions and encounters help make sense of the entire human past?

World history is about both diversity and connections.

We began this text with a simple goal: to help our students understand the unique histories of the world's rich variety of peoples while allowing them to see the long histories of connections and interactions that have shaped all human communities for millennia. To do this, we have written a story around the dual themes of traditions and encounters, so that we can highlight the many different religions and customs embraced by the world's peoples while also exploring the encounters with other cultures that brought about inevitable change.

The interaction of these traditions and encounters provides the key to making sense of our past. Human communities furthered themselves not by remaining isolated, but by interacting with others and exploring the benefits and risks of reaching out. The vitality of history—and its interpretation—lies in understanding the nature of individual traditions and the scope of encounters that punctuated every significant event in human history.

Traditions & Encounters: A Brief Global History provides a global vision of history that is increasingly meaningful in a shrinking world. The theme of traditions draws attention to the formation, maintenance, and sometimes collapse of individual societies. Because the world's peoples have also interacted regularly with one another since the earliest days of human history, the theme of encounters directs attention to communications, interactions, networks, and exchanges that have linked individual societies to their neighbors and others in the larger world.

The themes of traditions and encounters are at the heart of every chapter in the text. They provide a lens through which to interpret the affairs of humankind and the pressures that continue to shape history. All aspects of the text support these themes—from the organization of chapters, engaging stories of the world's peoples, to the robust map program and critical-thinking features.

Organization: Seven Eras of Global History

We discuss the world's development through time by organizing it into seven eras of global history. These eras, treated successively in the seven parts of this book, represent coherent epochs that form the larger architecture of world history as we see it. Every region of the world is discussed in each of the seven eras. The eras owe their coherence in large part to the networks of transportation, communication, and exchange that have linked peoples of different societies at different times in the past. This structure allows us to make cross-cultural comparisons that help

frame world history for students to put events in a perspective that renders them more understandable.

Highlights of the Fourth Edition

In preparing this fourth edition of *Traditions and Encounters: A Brief Global History*, we have revised and updated the text to stay current with recent world historical scholarship and to stay true to the goals of a brief textbook. Significant modifications to the fourth edition include new material on the ancient peoples of South and Central Asia, revised material on the 16th century Americas, additional material on the Ottoman Empire during World War I, new scholarship on the Communist International, and thoroughly updated material on the 21st century. In addition, the visual art program has been extensively refreshed, and the Sources of the Past feature in each chapter includes a variety of new sources.

Additional significant changes to the fourth edition include the following:

Chapter 1, "The Foundations of Complex Societies": revised to reflect current scholarship on nomadic peoples as well as the centrality of religion to Sumerian culture.

Chapter 3, "Early Societies in South and East Asia": revised to reflect current scholarship on early South Asian peoples.

Chapter 18, "Cross-Cultural Interactions": New "Thinking about Traditions" about comparative cultural revivals in Ming China and Renaissance Europe. New "Thinking about Encounters" box about long-distance travel and cross-cultural exchange.

Chapter 21, "New Worlds: The Americas and Oceania": Revised sections on "The Conquest of Mexico and Peru" and "Christianity and Native Religions in the Americas."

Chapter 29, "The Great War: The World in Upheaval": Revised section on the Ottoman Empire; revised "Eyewitness" section; and updated Map 29.1 of the Great War in Europe and Southwest Asia.

Chapter 30, "An Age of Anxiety": New section on the Communist International (Comintern); expanded section titled "The Racial State."

Chapter 34, "A World without Borders": Updated material on "The Age of Access," "Economic Inequities and Labor Servitude," "Global Diseases," and "War in Afghanistan." Updated Map 34.1 concerning European Union membership and Map 34.2 concerning global estimates of HIV/AIDs.

Features that Highlight

CONNECTION

CRITICAL THINKING CAUSE AND EFFECT

■ Reverberations feature helps students draw connections across chapters. Taking a "big picture" topic like the Columbian exchange, industrialization, or technological change, it traces the reverberations of such large-scale

processes through different regions and cultures to encourage thinking about cause and effect. The Reverberations feature appears in the first chapter of every part and then reappears as a shorter boxed feature titled "Reverberations of " in each subsequent chapter.

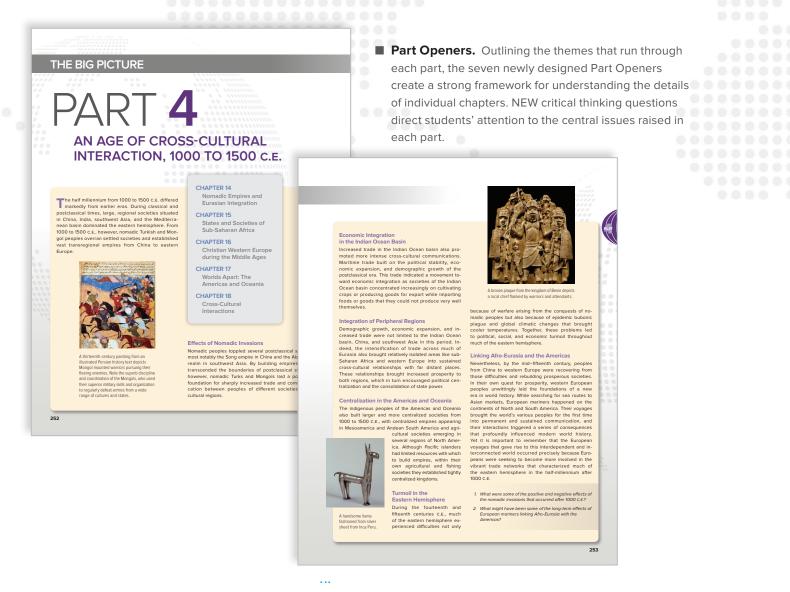




This feature occurs once per part, supplementing the Sources from the Past feature in every chapter.

Features that Highlight

CONNECTION CRITICAL THINKING CAUSE AND EFFECT



■ "Thinking About" Questions. Two critical-thinking questions in each chapter—one on "traditions" and one on "encounters"—promote classroom discussion and reinforce the themes of the text.

Thinking about **ENCOUNTERS**

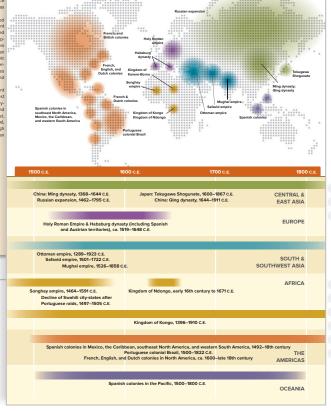
The Persistence of Interactions

Although all of the early complex societies in the Americas and Oceania engaged in long-distance trade with neighboring societies, it seems clear that such interactions were more difficult to sustain over the long term than they were in the complex societies of Africa and Eurasia. What factors contributed to these difficulties? What might the existence of such interactions—despite such difficulties—tell us about early complex societies more generally?



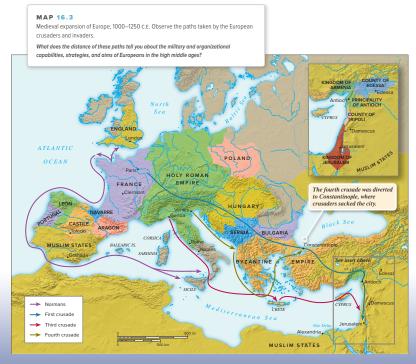


■ Part Closers. A "Bringing It All Together" essay concludes each part. A timeline and a map help students assimilate material from all chapters and apply the broader theme of traditions and encounters.



■ Sources from the Past spotlights a significant primary source document such as a poem, journal account, religious writing, or letter. Thought-provoking questions prompt readers to analyze key issues raised in the document.

■ Map Program. Brightly colored, highcontrast maps promote clarity, highlight topographical information, and enhance digital display. Critical-thinking questions draw attention to the geographical dimensions of historical developments.



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^{*}Items marked with an asterisk are new to this edition.