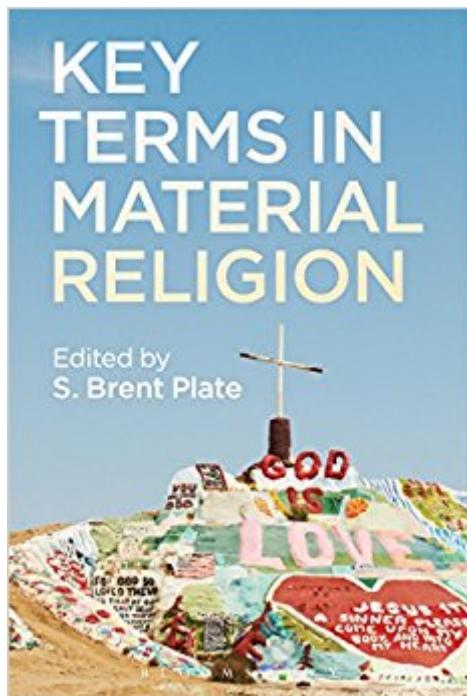


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Key Terms In Material Religion



Synopsis

Material religion is a rapidly growing field, and this volume offers an accessible, critical entry into these new areas of research. Each "key term" uses case studies and is accompanied by a color image â€“ an object, practice, space, or site. The entries cut across geographies, histories, and traditions, offering a versatile and engaging text for the classroom. Key topics covered include:- Icon, ritual, magic, gender, race- Sacred, spirit, technology, - Space, belief, body, brain- Taste, touch, smell, sound, vision Each entry demonstrates in clear and jargon-free prose how the key term figures prominently in understanding the materiality of religion. Written by leading international scholars, all entries are linked by the ways materiality stands at the forefront of the understanding of religion, whether that comes from humanistic, social scientific, artistic, curatorial, or other perspectives. Brent Plate brings his expertise and extensive teaching experience to the comprehensive introduction which introduces students to the themes and methods of the material cultural study of religion. Key Terms in Material Religion provides a much-needed resource for courses on theory and method in religious studies, the anthropology of religion, and the ever-increasing number of courses focused on material religion.

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Customer Reviews

This is a treasure chest, full of unexpected riches. Leading international scholars offer a range of lucid, sparkling and thought-provoking essays that shine new light on Key Terms in Material Religion. Enriched by a wealth of examples, memorable chapters combine to create an engaging,

original and imaginative contribution to the study of material religion. (Jolyon Mitchell, Professor of Communications, Arts and Religion, The University of Edinburgh, UK, and author of *Promoting Peace, Inciting Violence* (2013)) Over the past decade or so, material religion has solidified into one of the most productive discursive spaces within the study of religion's. By assembling a stimulating series of vivid entries on obvious and less obvious keywords, this volume displays the many handy affordances of this analytical screen. Especially noteworthy and timely is this anthology's attention to the senses, which will enrich readers' perception of religion. (Michael Stausberg, Professor, University of Bergen, Norway) At our interdisciplinary moment of candidness, creativity, and confusion, nothing is more useful than a methodological lexicon, in other words: keywords. Explained, illustrated, and put to work, these key terms in material religion gel together as a fresh guideline for how-to-do cultural analysis at a time when many are floundering by lack of leading thoughts, yet rightly resistant to old dogmas. The essays are succinct but substantial; the topics relevant; the authors the best around. I wish more fields produced books like this. (Mieke Bal, Founding director of the Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis (ASCA), University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

An engaging conceptual map of key terms for the study of the materiality of religion, which introduces students to the discipline through jargon-free prose and extensive use of images.

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