



Public Anthropology: Engaging Social Issues in the Modern World

By Edward J. Hecican

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Contemporary anthropology has changed drastically in the new millennium, expanding beyond the anachronistic study of "primitive" societies to confront the burning social, economic, and political challenges of the day. In the process, anthropologists often come face to face with issues that require them to take a public position—issues such as race and tolerance, health and well-being, food security, reconciliation and public justice, global terror and militarism, and digital media

This comprehensive but accessible book is both an interesting read and an excellent overview of public anthropology. In-depth case studies offer an opportunity to evaluate the pros and cons of engaging with public issues, while profiles of select anthropologists ensure the book is contemporary, but rooted in the history of the discipline.

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Editorial Review

Review

Hecican has produced an engaging book that offers a solid introduction to public anthropology. Well organized, with clear and concise definitions, and touching on several controversial issues with sensitivity, the book illustrates for students the need for anthropologists to critically evaluate contemporary issues and determine where they stand. Highly recommended! (Sonya Atalay, University of Massachusetts Amherst)

Public Anthropology is a world anthropology book that is relevant in Canada, the United States, or anywhere around the globe that anthropologists now work. It's also a great read. Hecican has created a text that is informative, timely, and readable—a hat trick of attributes not common in an academic book. (Charles Menzies, University of British Columbia)

A thoughtful overview of questions central to public anthropology, with examples and case studies that will prove illuminating and helpful to undergraduates. A valuable addition to any course on public anthropology. (Robert Borofsky, Director, Center for a Public Anthropology)

About the Author

Edward J. Hecican is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Guelph. He has been teaching and researching anthropology for over 30 years and is the author of several books, including *Ipperwash: The Tragic Failure of Canada's Aboriginal Policy* (2013) and *Applied Anthropology in Canada: Understanding Aboriginal Issues* (2008).

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