

civilizations culture ambition and the transformation of nature

[#civilizations culture](#) [#human ambition](#) [#nature transformation](#) [#societal development](#) [#environmental impact](#)

Explore the profound interplay between evolving civilizations, their unique cultures, and the relentless human ambition that drives significant change. This narrative delves into how these elements collectively lead to the widespread transformation of nature, shaping our world and leaving an indelible mark on ecosystems.

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Civilizations

The Indian Ocean has served as the world's greatest trading highway for millennia not merely because of cultural imperatives, but because the regular monsoon winds blow one way in the summer and the other in the winter."

Civilizations

Civilizations is a radical cultural history of mankind's relationship with nature, which advances a new understanding of what it means to be civilised. Fernández-Armesto is the author of ten books, including Millennium, Truth and Columbus.

Civilizations

Erudite, wide-ranging, a work of dazzling scholarship written with extraordinary flair, Civilizations redefines the subject that has fascinated historians from Thucydides to Gibbon to Spengler to Fernand Braudel: the nature of civilization. To the author, Oxford historian Felipe Fernandez-Armesto, a society's relationship to climate, geography, and ecology are paramount in determining its degree of success. Unlike previous attempts to write the comparative history of civilizations, he writes, it is arranged environment by environment, rather than period by period or society by society. Thus, for example, tundra civilizations of Ice Age Europe are linked with those of the Inuit of the Pacific Northwest, the Mississippi Mound Builders with the deforesters of eleventh-century Europe. Civilizations brilliantly connects the world of ecologist, geologist, and geographer with the panorama of cultural history.

So You Think You're Human?

You think you're human. But what does that mean? How can humanity be defined? Felipe Fernandez-Armesto takes us on an enlightening and provocative journey through the history of humankind to reveal the challenges to our most fundamental belief - that we are, and have always been, human.

Shows how our concept of humankind has changed over time and how our current understanding of this has been shaken by new challenges from science and philosophy

The World

The World: A Brief World History, Volume II.

The World

This is the world history book that gives students the whole story. The World is the first world history textbook that shows, through a holistic, truly engaging narrative, the fundamental interrelationships between peoples and their environment. This is the first textbook for which the AUTHOR's ability to tell the story of the World will help students to learn world history, and help teachers to teach world history. AUTHOR Felipe Fernandez-Armesto is a world renowned historian, world respected scholar, successful AUTHOR of more than 25 books translated into 22 languages, as well as an exceptional writer, highly sought after speaker, and inspiring classroom teacher. Felipe Fernandez-Armesto is a master historian and storyteller. His work and his writing have helped to shape and define the discipline. The World also features an innovative map program created exclusively for this text by Dorling Kindersley, unique images from around the world, a new document CDROM called Primary Source included in the text. For World History 1 (to 1500) (Chapters 1-15) and World History II (since 1500) (Chapters 13-30). For Introductory World History Courses.

Near a Thousand Tables

In Near a Thousand Tables, acclaimed food historian Felipe Fernández-Armesto tells the fascinating story of food as cultural as well as culinary history -- a window on the history of mankind. In this "appetizingly provocative" (Los Angeles Times) book, he guides readers through the eight great revolutions in the world history of food: the origins of cooking, which set humankind on a course apart from other species; the ritualization of eating, which brought magic and meaning into people's relationship with what they ate; the inception of herding and the invention of agriculture, perhaps the two greatest revolutions of all; the rise of inequality, which led to the development of haute cuisine; the long-range trade in food which, practically alone, broke down cultural barriers; the ecological exchanges, which revolutionized the global distribution of plants and livestock; and, finally, the industrialization and globalization of mass-produced food. From prehistoric snail "herding" to Roman banquets to Big Macs to genetically modified tomatoes, Near a Thousand Tables is a full-course meal of extraordinary narrative, brilliant insight, and fascinating explorations that will satisfy the hungriest of readers.

1492

1492: Not Simply the Year Columbus Sailed the Ocean Blue . . . In this extraordinary, sweeping history, Felipe Fernández-Armesto traces key elements of the modern world back to that single fateful year when everything changed.

The Americas

From food to the spread of political ideas, the landmass from northern Canada to the southern tip of Argentina is complexly bound together, yet these connections are generally ignored. In this groundbreaking and vividly rendered work, leading historian Felipe Fernández-Armesto tells, for the first time, the story of our hemisphere as a whole, showing why it is impossible to understand North, Central, and South America in isolation, and looking instead to the intricate and common forces that continue to shape the region. With his trademark erudition, imagination, and thematic breadth, Fernández-Armesto ranges over commerce, religion, agriculture, the environment, the slave trade, culture, and politics. He takes us from man's arrival in North America to the Colonial and Independence periods, to the "American Century" and beyond. For most of human history, the south dominated the north: as Fernández-Armesto argues in his provocative conclusion, it might well again. A panoramic yet richly textured story that embodies fresh ways of looking at cross-cultural exchange, conflict, and interaction, The Americas demolishes our traditional ways of looking at the hemisphere, putting in place a compelling and fruitful new vision.

The Nature of Civilizations

A distinguished historian and author of *Millennium* looks at what it means to be human in an enlightening history of humankind, confronting the dilemma of what it means to be human from a historical perspective and how that perception has been changed by recent discoveries from science and philosophy. 20,000 first printing.

Humankind

In this book, Barry and Gail Lord focus their two lifetimes of international experience working in the cultural sector on the challenging questions of why and how culture changes. They situate their discourse on aesthetic culture within a broad and inclusive definition of culture in relation to material, physical and socio-political cultures. Here at last is a dynamic understanding of the work of art, in all aspects, media and disciplines, illuminating both the primary role of the artist in initiating cultural change, and the crucial role of patronage in sustaining the artist. Drawing on their worldwide experience, they demonstrate the interdependence of artistic production, patronage, and audience and the remarkable transformations that we have witnessed through the millennia of the history of the arts, from our ancient past to the knowledge economy of the twenty-first century. Questions of cultural identity, migration, and our growing environmental consciousness are just a few examples of the contexts in which the Lords show how and why our cultural values are formed and transformed. This book is intended for artists, students, and teachers of art history, museum studies, cultural studies, and philosophy, and for cultural workers in all media and disciplines. It is above all intended for those who think of themselves first as audience because we are all participants in cultural change.

Artists, Patrons, and the Public

1492: The Year the World Began is a look at one of the most fascinating years in world history, the year when many believe the modern world was born. Historian Felipe Fernandez-Armesto, author of *Millennium*, covers such iconic figures as Christopher Columbus and Alexander Borgia and explores cultures as diverse as that of Spain, China, and Africa to tell the story of 1492, a momentous year whose lessons are still relevant today

1492

Sustainability Matters is a compilation of some of the best research papers by students from the National University of Singapore's inter-disciplinary graduate programme in environmental studies, the MSc in Environmental Management [MEM]. This collection is for the period 2009/10 to 2011/12. As the period covers 3 academic years, the papers have been split into two volumes: *Sustainability Matters: Asia's Green Challenges*, and *Sustainability Matters: Asia's Energy Concerns, Green Policies and Environmental Advocacy*. These two volumes are the third and fourth compilation by the programme, and respectively comprise sixteen and fourteen of the best research papers completed during this period. The papers have been edited for brevity. These papers analyze the many challenges to effective environmental management in the context of different countries including India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, China, Hong Kong, Nepal, Singapore, and Thailand, and propose insightful solutions. The first compilation, *Sustainability Matters: Environmental Management in Asia*, was published in 2010 (World Scientific) and comprised the best papers from 2001/2 to 2006/7. The second, *Sustainability Matters: Challenges and Opportunities in Environmental Management in Asia* was published in 2011 (Pearson), and comprised the best papers from 2007/8 to 2008/09. Contents: Volume 1: Air Pollution: Development of Urban Traffic Pollution Control Strategies in Asian Cities: A Case Study from Chennai, India (Ashwinkumar Dakshinamurthi and Rajasekhar Balasubramanian) Assessment and Abatement Measures for Vehicular Air Pollution in Colombo, Sri Lanka (Chamila Weerathunge and Rajasekhar Balasubramanian) Waste Management: Recycling in Singapore the Singapore Model: Strategies and Ways to Improve (Tan Puay Cheow and Lye Lin Heng) Municipal Solid Waste Management in Southeast Asian Cities: The Next Steps (Boey Yinyin Edris and Rick Reidinger) Lessons for Integrated District-Level Food Waste Recycling Programs: A Review of Eight International Cases (Amireeta Rawlani and Kua Harn Wei) Singapore's Municipal Solid Waste Management: A Sustainable Model (Wendy Wong Shih Ling and Rick Reidinger) Utilization of Landfill Gas as a Renewable Source of Energy in India (Subhashini Kashinath and Zhou Zhi George) The Potential Role of Water Hyacinth in Wastewater Treatment in Nepal (Ram Bahadur Singh Maharjan and Chou Loke Ming) Improving Leachate Water Quality using a Wetland Treatment System in Lorong Halus — A Pilot Study (Christian Budiman and Ting Yen-Ping) Life Cycle Assessment of an Urban Waste Refinery (Celia Chua Bee Hong and Kua Harn-Wei) A Study of the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) Programs in Primary Schools,

Singapore (Kelly Yong Kim-Lian and Victor R Savage) Urban Studies: Assessing Skywalk Systems as a Response to High Density Living in Hong Kong (Patricia Woo and Malone-Lee Lai Choo) The Management of Visitor Pressure on Coastal Parks of Singapore (Karen Lim Hui Khian and Chou Loke Ming) Sustainability in Singapore: An Ecological Footprint Perspective (Xin Jing Jing and Victor R Savage) Seagrasses in Singapore: Current Status and Long-Term Management Plans (Michelle Chng Wei Ping and Chou Loke Ming) The Singapore's Bus System: An Analysis of Commuters' Satisfaction and Potential Improvements (Jan Martin Hecker and Lee Der Horng) An Assessment of Sustainable Cities (May Yadana Aung and Chou Loke-Ming) Urban Greenery as a Mitigation Strategy for Urban Heat Island Effect in High Density Commercial Districts of Dhaka (Nabanita Islam and Wong Nyuk-Hien) The Potential for Residential Water Conservation in Dhaka, Bangladesh (Sonia F Hoque, Asanga Gunawansa and Md. Mafizur Rahman) Planned Housing Environments and Children's Outdoor Play: Is Child-Friendliness Possible? (Md Rashed Bhuyan and Tracey Skelton) Green Business: Empowering the Bottom of the Pyramid: Government, Business, and Solar Power in India (Carrie Wallace Candeto and Audrey Chia) Charting a Greener Course in Shipping: Incorporating Environmental Performance Indicators in a Tanker Pool System (Jean Chia E Ming and Audrey Chia) Environmental Practices of Indian Business Process Outsourcing: A Study of Two Companies (Sweta Sorab and Mark Goh) Green Business Strategies in the Precision Engineering Industry in Singapore (Gan Chin-Yean and Audrey Chua) The Second Green Revolution: A Review of the Challenges and Prospects (Leong Li-Sun and Victor R Savage) Towards Broader Implementation of Corporate Sustainability and Sustainability Reporting in the Construction Industry in Singapore (Kaia Margit Davis Tan and Audrey Chia) Volume 2: Biodiversity: The Impact of Community Forestry on Biodiversity Conservation in Nepal (Ishwari Prasad Poudel and Chou Loke-Ming) Waste Management: Improving Leachate Water Quality Using a Wetland Treatment System in Lorong Halus — A Pilot Study (Christian Budiman and Ting Yen-Ping) Life Cycle Assessment of an Urban Waste Refinery (Celia Chua Bee-Hong and Kua Harn-Wei) A Study of the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) Programs in Primary Schools, Singapore (Kelly Yong Kim-Lian and Victor R Savage) Urban Studies: An Assessment of Sustainable Cities (May Yadana Aung and Chou Loke-Ming) Urban Greenery as a Mitigation Strategy for Urban Heat Island Effect in High Density Commercial Districts of Dhaka, Bangladesh (Nabanita Islam and Wong Nyuk-Hien) The Potential for Residential Water Conservation in Dhaka, Bangladesh (Sonia F Hoque, Asanga Gunawansa and Md Mafizur Rahman) Planned Housing Environments and Children's Outdoor Play: Is Child-Friendliness Possible? (Md Rashed Bhuyan and Tracey Skelton) Energy and Climate Change: Wind: The Alternative Source of Power for Singapore After Solar Energy? (Chew Keng-Hui and Lanry Yung) The Economics of Wind Energy (Alan Yau Wai-Hoo and Benjamin K Sovacool) Print Media and Climate Change: A Comparison of the 1992 Rio Summit and the 2009 Copenhagen Conference (Davina Loh and Victor R Savage) Green Business: Green Business Strategies in the Precision Engineering Industry in Singapore (Gan Chin-Yean and Audrey Chia) The Second Green Revolution: A Review of the Challenges and Prospects (Leong Li-Sun and Victor R Savage) Towards Broader Implementation of Corporate Sustainability and Sustainability Reporting in the Construction Industry in Singapore (Kaia Margit Davis-Tan and Audrey Chia) Readership: Graduate students, academics and researchers in environmental management/science. Keywords: Environment; Management; Sustainability; Asia; Corporate Environmental Management; Biodiversity and Planning; Marine Environment; Environment and Economic Development; Energy Sustainability; Renewable Energy; Urban Pollution and Waste Management; Sustainable Infrastructure; Transportation; Recycling; Urban Studies; Green Business

The Canary Islands After the Conquest

In the past decade, Ecuador has seen five indigenous uprisings, the emergence of the powerful Pachakutik political movement, and the strengthening of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador and the Association of Black Ecuadorians, all of which have contributed substantially to a new constitution proclaiming the country to be “multiethnic and multicultural.” Furthermore, January 2003 saw the inauguration of a new populist president, who immediately appointed two indigenous persons to his cabinet. In this volume, eleven critical essays plus a lengthy introduction and a timely epilogue explore the multicultural forces that have allowed Ecuador's indigenous peoples to have such dramatic effects on the nation's political structure.

Sustainability Matters

Based on the philosophy of Systems Science and the law of evolution theory, the book, by applying the methods of structural functionalism, divides the modern social system into human-culture, economy, polity, science, law, education and other sub-systems through the systematic synthesis of disciplines

such as economics, sociology, management, politics, culture theories, history and philosophy, and explores the connection between these sub-systems and their intricate relation with social progress, thus depicting the historical trajectory of the long-term evolution of human social system. Starting from the actual production and operation of the firms, the author systematically analyses the organic connections and sophisticated operating process of social reproduction in modern society from micro, meso and macro, revealing the dynamic structure and evolutionary laws of the social economic system. This book reveals the fractal features such as self-similarity, hierarchy, and recursiveness in the general structure of the firm system, the sector system and the national economic system, thereby integrating micro-, meso- and macro-economics into a unified theoretical framework. This integration is interdisciplinary, and has gone beyond the economics. It can be regarded as the fourth grand synthesis in the history of economics after John Stuart Mill (1806-1873), Alfred Marshall (1842-1924) and Samuelson (1915-2009).

Millennial Ecuador

Cultural Competence in America's Schools: Leadership, Engagement and Understanding focuses on explicating the impact of culture and issues of race and ethnicity on student learning, teacher and leadership efficacy, and educational policy making in our nation's public school system. The authors agree with Levin (2012), who pointed out that the challenge of dealing effectively with racial and ethnic diversity in education in traditionally homogeneous societies is a global problem. One indicator of this point is revealed in a U.S. study that was commissioned by the National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality, which reported on the serious consequences for student achievement and teacher effectiveness in the face of "the gap between teacher training and the realities of the classroom when it comes to teaching diverse populations and students with special needs." (Public Agenda, 2008, p. 2).

Helix Network Theory

The book makes a unique contribution to civilizational theory. It traces contemporary social and political crises in Western and Eurasian societies to a process of civilizational decline initiated by war and revolution last century and now being completed by globalization.

Cultural Competence in America's Schools

Forget Climate Change – Today the world is on fire and we, the modern-day Neros, are busy fiddling. We are too caught up in frivolity to see the existential challenges staring us in the face. For example, climate change is real and it's coming around faster than you think, as proven by the catastrophic events all over the world. But it has become a cliché before it has even been understood. While we are busy merrymaking, another silent global crisis is creeping up on us. It is called soil degradation. In the past 40 years alone, 30 percent of the planet's arable land has become unproductive due to erosion. At current estimates, nearly all of the remaining 11 billion acres of cropland and grazing land suffer from some degree of erosion. "We are overlooking soil as the foundation of all life on Earth," says Andres Arnalds, assistant director of the Icelandic Soil Conservation Service. Essentially, all life depends upon the soil. Someone has rightly put it, "Despite all our achievements we owe our existence to a six-inch layer of topsoil and the fact that it rains."

Politics, Ethics and Culture in Our Time

Listening to British Nature: Wartime, Radio, and Modern Life, 1914-1945 traces the impact of sounds and rhythm of the natural world and how they were listened, interpreted, and used amid the pressures of modern life to in early twentieth-century Britain. Author Michael Guida argues that despite and sometimes because of the chaos of wartime and the struggle to recover, nature's voices were drawn close to provide everyday security, sustenance and a sense of the future. Nature's sonic presences were not obliterated by the noise of war, the advent of radio broadcasting and the rush of the everyday, rather they came to complement and provide alternatives to modern modes of living. Listening to British Nature examines how trench warfare demanded the creation of new listening cultures in order to understand danger and to imagine survival. It tells of the therapeutic communities who used quiet and rural rhythms to restore shell-shocked soldiers and of ramblers who sought to immerse themselves in the sensualities of the outdoors, revealing how home-front listening in the Blitz was punctuated by birdsong broadcast by the BBC. In focusing on the sensing of sounds and rhythms, this study demonstrates how nature retained its emotional potency as the pace and unpredictabilities of life seemed to increase and new man-made sounds and sonic media appeared all around. To listen to

nature during this time was to cultivate an intimate connection with its vibrations and to sense an enduring order and beauty that could be taken into the future.

Forget Climate Change

An examination of how Western visions of endless future growth have contributed to the global environmental crisis. For centuries, the West has produced stories about the future in which humans use advanced science and technology to transform the earth. Michael Rawson uses a wide range of works that include Francis Bacon's *New Atlantis*, the science fiction novels of Jules Verne, and even the speculations of think tanks like the RAND Corporation to reveal the environmental paradox at the heart of these narratives: the single-minded expectation of unlimited growth on a finite planet. Rawson shows how these stories, which have long pervaded Western dreams about the future, have helped to enable an unprecedentedly abundant and technology-driven lifestyle for some while bringing the threat of environmental disaster to all. Adapting to ecological realities, he argues, hinges on the ability to create new visions of tomorrow that decouple growth from the idea of progress.

Listening to British Nature

In his book, Vyacheslav Nikonov shows the origins of the modern world and traces the chronologies and histories of peoples and countries. Nikonov discusses the main centers of influence and forces that shape the world in which we live. The world demonstrates a variety of development models shaped by the national, regional, historical, religious and other aspects of each country. The center of gravity of world development is shifting from West to East, from North to South, from developed economies to developing ones. Thirty years ago, Western countries accounted for 80% of the world economy; now it is less than half. Asia, already home to most of humanity, will become a global leader in the coming decades. What does this mean? What will the world be like and what place will Russia take in it? Will American hegemony continue? Will China become a superpower? Will Europe become a museum for tourists from other continents? History has resumed its course and the world is rushing towards an unstoppable diversity. Published with the support of the Institute for Literary Translation, Russia.

The Nature of Tomorrow

Rethinking Civilization offers an alternative view of human civilization in a globalizing age. Majid Tehranian analyses the transition from nomadic, to agrarian, commercial, industrial, and digital civilizations and argues that the growing gaps among the five major civilizations have led to terror operating as a form of global communication. This new book explores the uneven pace of development of human societies, particularly in the last two centuries, and argues that this is leading to a global civil war. Taking a long-term historical perspective, and developing a model that explains how empires, resistance, and civilizations have evolved alongside major technological breakthroughs in history, Tehranian offers a multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary analysis of the phenomenon. Seeking to counter the current rhetorical trends, Tehranian reconceptualizes "civilization" to make it a useful analytical rather than ideological category. Defines the varieties of terrorism, including structural, nuclear, state, opposition, messianic, and anomic. Addresses the contemporary problems of global governance and the evolution of international relations. Traces the evolution of global communication from orality to literacy, print, electronic, and digital modes. Forecasts the emerging problems of encounters among the five civilizations. This unique and original volume will be of great interest to students and researchers of globalization, international relations, peace studies and sociology.

The Code of Civilization

This book describes a wide variety of speculations by many authors about the consequences for humanity of coming into contact with extraterrestrial intelligence. The assumptions underlying those speculations are examined, and some conclusions are drawn. The book emphasizes the consequences of contact rather than the search, and takes account of popular views. As necessary background, the book also includes brief summaries of the history of thinking about extraterrestrial intelligence, searches for life and for signals, contrasting paradigms of how contact might take place, and the paradox that those paradigms allegedly create.

Rethinking Civilization

Latent in the current environment of rapid technological advances are breakthroughs waiting to be discovered that will have profound impacts on how organizations will cope with the direction civilization is taking. *Information Technology and Societal Development* examines in depth the full range of impacts of information technology on civilization and the development of societies. Uniquely broad in the scope of examining the societal implications of informational technology, this groundbreaking reference work makes an essential contribution to research libraries worldwide.

Contact with Alien Civilizations

This book provides concise and cutting-edge reviews in astrobiology, a young and still emerging multidisciplinary field of science that addresses the fundamental questions of how life originated and diversified on Earth, whether life exists beyond Earth, and what is the future for life on Earth. Readers will find coverage of the latest understanding of a wide range of fascinating topics, including, for example, solar system formation, the origins of life, the history of Earth as revealed by geology, the evolution of intelligence on Earth, the implications of genome data, insights from extremophile research, and the possible existence of life on other planets within and beyond the solar system. Each chapter contains a brief summary of the current status of the topic under discussion, sufficient references to enable more detailed study, and descriptions of recent findings and forthcoming missions or anticipated research. Written by leading experts in astronomy, planetary science, geoscience, chemistry, biology, and physics, this insightful and thought-provoking book will appeal to all students and scientists who are interested in life and space.

Information Technology and Societal Development

"Phenomenal . . . A must read for us who desire to topple the dictatorship of relativism and culture of death and replace it with the only alternative" (The Imaginative Conservative). Especially concerned with the public nature of religion, historian Glenn W. Olsen—author of *Christian Marriage: A Historical Study* and *On the Road to Emmaus: The Catholic Dialogue with American and Modernity*—sets forth an exhaustively researched and persuasive account of how religion has been reshaped in the modern period. *The Turn to Transcendence* traces both the loss of transcendence and attempts to recover it while making its own proposals. Neither reactionary nor modernist, it questions how—under conditions of modern life—some form of the sacred and some form of the secular might both flourish at the same time. But it also provides a warning that a religion unable to maintain itself with its own overt architecture, language, and calendars against an enveloping secular culture is destined for oblivion. "Glenn Olsen's book could hardly be more pivotal or insightful. Confronting the growing amnesia regarding culture's religious origin and transcendent purpose, Olsen proves both a masterful cartographer of modernity and a visionary of a culture that encourages and enables us to seek beyond ourselves." —Carl A. Anderson, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus "A brilliant book. It rests on an amazing amount of scholarship that is wide-ranging in history, literature, art, science, music, theology, and philosophy." —James Hitchcock, professor of history, St. Louis University

Astrobiology

Offering a philosophy, methodology, and examples for history instruction that are active, imaginative, and provocative, this text presents a fully developed pedagogy based on problem-solving methods that promote reasoning and judgment and restore a sense of imagination and participation to classroom learning. It is designed to draw readers into the detective process that characterizes the work of professional historians and social scientists—sharing raw data, defining terms, building interpretations, and testing competing theories. An inquiry framework drives both the pedagogy and the choice of historical materials, with selections favoring the unsolved, controversial, and fragmented rather than the neatly wrapped up analysis of past events. *Teaching World History as Mystery: Provides a balanced combination of interestingly arranged historical content, and clearly explained instructional strategies* Features case studies of commonly and not so commonly taught topics within a typical world/global history curriculum using combinations of primary and secondary documents Discusses ways of dealing with ethical and moral issues in world history classrooms, drawing students into persisting questions of historical truth, bias, and judgment

The Turn to Transcendence

This book boldly unsettles the idea of globalization as a recent phenomenon—and one driven solely by Western interests—by offering a compelling new perspective on global interconnectivity in the

nineteenth century. Jeremy Prestholdt examines East African consumers' changing desires for material goods from around the world in an era of sweeping social and economic change. Exploring complex webs of local consumer demands that affected patterns of exchange and production as far away as India and the United States, the book challenges presumptions that Africa's global relationships have always been dictated by outsiders. Full of rich and often-surprising vignettes that outline forgotten trajectories of global trade and consumption, it powerfully demonstrates how contemporary globalization is foreshadowed in deep histories of intersecting and reciprocal relationships across vast distances.

Teaching World History as Mystery

A critical appraisal of Chiara Bottici's influential work on imaginal politics, this collection uses this rich theoretical framework for incisive analysis, within critical theory and political philosophy, psychoanalysis and sociology

Domesticating the World

In late nineteenth-century Mexico the Mexican populace was fascinated with the country's booming railroad network. Newspapers and periodicals were filled with art, poetry, literature, and social commentaries exploring the symbolic power of the railroad. As a symbol of economic, political, and industrial modernization, the locomotive served to demarcate a nation's status in the world. However, the dangers of locomotive travel, complicated by the fact that Mexico's railroads were foreign owned and operated, meant that the railroad could also symbolize disorder, death, and foreign domination. In *The Civilizing Machine* Michael Matthews explores the ideological and cultural milieu that shaped the Mexican people's understanding of technology. Inextricably tied to the Porfiriato, the thirty-five-year dictatorship of Gen. Porfirio Díaz, the booming railroad network represented material progress in a country seeking its place in the modern world. Matthews discloses how the railroad's development represented the crowning achievement of the regime and the material incarnation of its mantra, "order and progress." The Porfirian administration evoked the railroad in legitimizing and justifying its own reign, while political opponents employed the same rhetorical themes embodied by the railroads to challenge the manner in which that regime achieved economic development and modernization. As Matthews illustrates, the multiple symbols of the locomotive reflected deepening social divisions and foreshadowed the conflicts that eventually brought about the Mexican Revolution.

Debating Imaginal Politics

What happens when our developed knowledge does not support human activities in politics, economy, culture, and infrastructure today? The solution lies in knowing what wisdom is and willingly applying it to most of humanity's activities, transforming a chaotic civilization into a wise one. A merely knowledge-rich society cannot sustain its civilization without being wise and willing to learn and apply this essential human virtue in practice. This book investigates the issues of human cognition with regards to current issues surrounding globalization and civilization in such a way as to define wisdom not only as an art, but as a science too. Its investigation emphasises the learning of wisdom at schools and colleges, and stresses that its application in practice should be as commonplace as arithmetic.

The Civilizing Machine

A survey of the latest scholarship on Catholic missions between the 16th and 18th centuries, this collection of fourteen essays offers a global view of the organization, finances, personnel, and history of Catholic missions to the Americas, Africa, and Asia.

Wisdom in the Context of Globalization and Civilization

New insights on global histories and Western civilization from leading scholars in the field Described as "the New York Review of Books for history," *Historically Speaking* has emerged as one of the most distinctive historical publications in recent years, actively seeking out contributions from a pantheon of leading voices in historical discourse from both inside and outside academia. *Recent Themes in World History and the History of the West* represents some of the best writing on Western civilization and world history in the past five years. This collection of essays and interviews from *Historically Speaking* gives leading historians' approaches to the continually evolving field of world history, with a specific emphasis on the relationship of Western civilization to the history of the world. The book also discusses the effect of empire on global history and the many ways empire continues to manifest in the contemporary

world. The contributors discuss world history as an intricate story of the connections within the global community, rather than a tidy, static narrative that attempts to summarize everything in our global past. In this volume the study of world history is presented as a constantly comparative endeavor, concerned with the major themes that link and divide humanity.

A Companion to the Early Modern Catholic Global Missions

Throughout all ages, the activities of mankind have weighed heavily upon the environment. In turn, changes in that environment have favoured the rise of certain social groups and limited the actions of others. Despite this, environmental history has remained a 'blind spot' for most social and economic historians. This is to be regretted, as the various and unequal effects of environmental change often explain the strengths and weaknesses of certain social groups, irrespective of their being defined along the lines of class, gender and ethnicity. This volume brings together the expertise of social and environmental historians in an effort to assess the extent to which transnational agents changed socioecological space as a consequence of globalization since the Late Middle Ages.

Recent Themes in World History and the History of the West

A Companion to World History presents over 30 essays from an international group of historians that both identify continuing areas of contention, disagreement, and divergence in world and global history, and point to directions for further debate. Features a diverse cast of contributors that include established world historians and emerging scholars Explores a wide range of topics and themes, including and the practice of world history, key ideas of world historians, the teaching of world history and how it has drawn upon and challenged "traditional" teaching approaches, and global approaches to writing world history Places an emphasis on non-Anglophone approaches to the topic Considers issues of both scholarship and pedagogy on a transnational, interregional, and world/global scale

Globalization, Environmental Change, and Social History

This book focuses on the forces of social change and what they have meant in the lives of the people caught in the middle of them from medieval times through our current era of globalization.

A Companion to World History

Broadly speaking, academic tourism research comes in two main shapes - why and how to. Both traditions seem unable to ever meet and their trajectory reminds of scissors agape. This title argues that tourism research finds itself in a serious scissors crisis. It reflects on how the crisis came about and looks at its effect on the real world.

The Modernization of the Western World

What does the good life mean in a "backward" place? As communist regimes denigrated widespread unemployment and consumer excess in Western countries, socialist Eastern European states simultaneously legitimized their power through their apparent ability to satisfy consumers' needs. Moving beyond binaries of production and consumption, the essays collected here examine the lessons consumption studies can offer about ethnic and national identity and the role of economic expertise in shaping consumer behavior. From Polish VCRs to Ukrainian fashion boutiques, tropical fruits in the GDR to cinemas in Belgrade, *The Socialist Good Life* explores what consumption means in a worker state where communist ideology emphasizes collective needs over individual pleasures.

Modern Mass Tourism

The Socialist Good Life