

Edited by MARK C. TAYLOR

Critical Terms For Religious Studies

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Critical Terms For Religious Studies:

Critical Terms for Religious Studies, Second Edition Sarah Hammerschlag, 2025-05-21 A new edition of a classic resource composed of twenty three essays written specifically for this volume First published nearly thirty years ago Critical Terms for Religious Studies proved a vital resource for an emerging interdisciplinary conversation. We still use much of the same language in the study of religion but fresh concerns have both changed the meaning of terms and given rise to new terms altogether This edition consists of twenty three entirely new essays that offer students and scholars alike the tools to historicize and evaluate the shifting role of familiar and emerging critical terms in religious studies These are critical terms both because they are important in our cultural moment and because thinking through them reveals how religions are embedded in and shaped by material social economic and political forces A shared conviction unites contributors from a range of traditions and methodologies a recognition that our world is saturated by the persistence of religious traditions as shape shifting not static or transcendent forces of authority as powerful today as ever before Critical Terms for Religious Studies Mark C. Taylor, 1998-08-15 Following in the very successful tradition of Critical Terms for Literary Studies and Critical Terms for Art History this book attempts to provide a revitalized self aware vocabulary with which this bewildering religious diversity can be accurately described and responsibly discussed Leading scholars working in a variety of traditions demonstrate through their incisive discussions that even our most basic terms for understanding religion are not neutral but carry specific historical and conceptual freight Critical Terms for Religious Studies Mark C. Taylor, 2013-07-09 A century that began with modernism sweeping across Europe is ending with a remarkable resurgence of religious beliefs and practices throughout the world Wherever one looks today from headlines about political turmoil in the Middle East to pop music and videos one cannot escape the pivotal role of religious beliefs and practices in shaping selves societies and cultures Following in the very successful tradition of Critical Terms for Literary Studies and Critical Terms for Art History this book attempts to provide a revitalized self aware vocabulary with which this bewildering religious diversity can be accurately described and responsibly discussed Leading scholars working in a variety of traditions demonstrate through their incisive discussions that even our most basic terms for understanding religion are not neutral but carry specific historical and conceptual freight These essays adopt the approach that has won this book s predecessors such widespread acclaim each provides a concise history of a critical term explores the issues raised by the term and puts the term to use in an analysis of a religious work practice or event Moving across Judaism Christianity Hinduism Buddhism Islam and Native American and Mayan religions contributors explore terms ranging from experience territory and image to God sacrifice and transgression The result is an essential reference that will reshape the field of religious studies and transform the way in which religion is understood by scholars from all disciplines including anthropology sociology psychology cultural studies gender studies and literary studies Critical Terms for the Study of Buddhism Donald S. Lopez Jr., 2009-11-15 Over the past century Buddhism

has come to be seen as a world religion exceeding Christianity in longevity and according to many philosophical wisdom Buddhism has also increasingly been described as strongly ethical devoted to nonviolence and dedicated to bringing an end to human suffering And because it places such a strong emphasis on rational analysis Buddhism is considered more compatible with science than the other great religions As such Buddhism has been embraced in the West both as an alternative religion and as an alternative to religion This volume provides a unique introduction to Buddhism by examining categories essential for a nuanced understanding of its traditions Each of the fifteen essays here shows students how a fundamental term from art to word illuminates the practice of Buddhism both in traditional Buddhist societies and in the realms of modernity Apart from Buddha the list of terms in this collection deliberately includes none that are intrinsic to the religion Instead the contributors explore terms that are important for many fields and that invite interdisciplinary reflection Through incisive discussions of topics ranging from practice power and pedagogy to ritual history sex and death the authors offer new directions for the understanding of Buddhism taking constructive and sometimes polemical positions in an effort both to demonstrate the shortcomings of assumptions about the religion and the potential power of revisionary approaches Following the tradition of Critical Terms for Religious Studies this volume is not only an invaluable resource for the classroom but one that belongs on the short list of essential books for anyone seriously interested in Buddhism and Asian **Theology and Religious Studies** Simon Oliver, Maya Warrier, 2008-07 A crucial volume exploring the religions relationship between the disciplines of Religious Studies and Theology Religion in 50 Words Aaron W. Hughes, Russell T. McCutcheon, 2021-09-15 Religion in 50 Words A Critical Vocabulary is the first of a two volume work that seeks to transform the study of religion by offering a radically critical perspective It does so by providing a succinct and critical examination of the key words used in the modern study of religion Arranged alphabetically the book explores the historic roots varied uses and current significance and utility of the technical terms used within the current field of religious studies These are the terms that both students and scholars routinely deploy to think about describe and analyze data sometimes without realizing that they are themselves technical tools in need of attention Among the topics covered Belief Critical Culture Definition Environment Gender Ideology Lived religion Material religion Orthodoxy Politics Race Sacred profane Secular Theory This book submits all of its terms to a critical interrogation and subsequent re description thereby allowing a collective reframing of the field This volume is an indispensable resource for students and academics working in religious studies *Iapanese* Journal of Religious Studies ,2006 The Mirrorwork of Tibetan Religious Historians Zeff Bjerken, 2001 Theorizina Rituals: Issues, topics, approaches, concepts Joannes Augustinus Maria Snoek, 2006 Volume one of Theorizing Rituals assembles 34 leading scholars from various countries and disciplines working within this field The authors review main methodological and meta theoretical problems part I followed by some of the classical issues part II Further chapters discuss main approaches to theorizing rituals part III and explore some key analytical concepts for theorizing rituals part IV The

volume is provided with extensive indices Religious Studies Klaus K. Klostermaier, Larry W. Hurtado, 1991 Choice's Outstanding Academic Titles, 1998-2002 Rebecca Ann Bartlett, 2003 Gender, Religion, and Diversity Ursula King, Tina Beattie, 2004 Gender Religion and Diversity provides an introduction to some of the most challenging perspectives in the contemporary study of gender and religion In recent years gender and women s studies have transformed the international study of religion through their use of interdisciplinary and cross cultural methodologies which have opened up new and highly controversial issues challenging previous paradigms and creating fresh fields of study As this book shows gender studies in religion raises new and difficult questions about the gendered nature of religious phenomena the relationship between power and knowledge the authority of religious texts and institutions and the involvement and responsibility of the researcher undertaking such studies as a gendered subject range of researchers from different countries and fields of religious studies. The range and diversity of their contributions is the very strength of this book for it shows how gendering works in studying different religious materials whether foundational texts from the Bible or Koran philosophical ideas about truth essentialism history or symbolism the impact of French feminist thinkers such as Irigaray or Kristeva or critical perspectives dealing with the impact of race gender and class on religion Bowker's Best Reference Books: Author index. Title index, 2005 Contains approximately 20 000 mostly English language sources for academic libraries of all sizes

Journal of Theology for Southern Africa ,2007 British Humanities Index ,2008 Theology and the Political Creston Davis, John Milbank, Slavoj Zizek, 2005-06-17 A reassertion of the importance of theology to political action that goes Guide to the Study of Religion Willi Braun, Russell T. beyond both liberal democratic theory and neoconservatism McCutcheon, 2000 What is religion Can it be defined at all Or is it too easily defined in far too many ways so as to make a religion a drifting signifier or whatever one s pleasure is Does the study of religion require special perhaps religious tools of analysis and explanation What is the difference between a knowledge of religion derived from practicing it and a knowledge about religion derived from nonreligious modes of inquiry Sooner or later any serious student of religion must face these questionsif religious practices are to be investigated in the light of the terms and aims of the social and human sciences in the modern university The Guide to the Study of Religion provides a map of the key concepts and thought structures for imagining and studying religion as a class of everyday social practices that lend themselves to no more or less difficult explanation than any other class of social phenomena The Best Books for Academic Libraries: Religion and philosophy, 2002 The Review of Metaphysics ,2000 **Semites** Gil Anidjar, 2008 This book is a collection of essays about the invention and disappearance of the Semites and the lingering effects both institutional and theologico political of this invention

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Table of Contents Critical Terms For Religious Studies

- 1. Understanding the eBook Critical Terms For Religious Studies
 - The Rise of Digital Reading Critical Terms For Religious Studies
 - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
- 2. Identifying Critical Terms For Religious Studies
 - Exploring Different Genres
 - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
 - Determining Your Reading Goals
- 3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
 - Popular eBook Platforms
 - Features to Look for in an Critical Terms For Religious Studies
 - User-Friendly Interface
- 4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from Critical Terms For Religious Studies
 - Personalized Recommendations
 - Critical Terms For Religious Studies User Reviews and Ratings
 - Critical Terms For Religious Studies and Bestseller Lists
- 5. Accessing Critical Terms For Religious Studies Free and Paid eBooks
 - o Critical Terms For Religious Studies Public Domain eBooks
 - Critical Terms For Religious Studies eBook Subscription Services
 - Critical Terms For Religious Studies Budget-Friendly Options

- 6. Navigating Critical Terms For Religious Studies eBook Formats
 - o ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
 - Critical Terms For Religious Studies Compatibility with Devices
 - Critical Terms For Religious Studies Enhanced eBook Features
- 7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
 - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of Critical Terms For Religious Studies
 - Highlighting and Note-Taking Critical Terms For Religious Studies
 - Interactive Elements Critical Terms For Religious Studies
- 8. Staying Engaged with Critical Terms For Religious Studies
 - Joining Online Reading Communities
 - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
 - Following Authors and Publishers Critical Terms For Religious Studies
- 9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books Critical Terms For Religious Studies
 - \circ Benefits of a Digital Library
 - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection Critical Terms For Religious Studies
- 10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
 - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
 - Minimizing Distractions
 - Managing Screen Time
- 11. Cultivating a Reading Routine Critical Terms For Religious Studies
 - Setting Reading Goals Critical Terms For Religious Studies
 - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
- 12. Sourcing Reliable Information of Critical Terms For Religious Studies
 - Fact-Checking eBook Content of Critical Terms For Religious Studies
 - Distinguishing Credible Sources
- 13. Promoting Lifelong Learning
 - Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
 - Exploring Educational eBooks
- 14. Embracing eBook Trends
 - Integration of Multimedia Elements

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