

the routledge handbook of science and empire

The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire: Exploring the Intersections of Knowledge and Power

the routledge handbook of science and empire opens a fascinating window into the complex relationship between scientific endeavors and imperial ambitions throughout history. This comprehensive volume serves as an essential resource for anyone interested in understanding how science was not only influenced by empire but also actively shaped colonial and imperial projects. It unpacks the nuanced ways in which scientific knowledge, practices, and institutions intersected with the expansion of empires, revealing the profound impact of these dynamics on both colonizer and colonized.

Understanding the Scope of The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire

The handbook brings together a diverse array of scholarly perspectives, making it a multidisciplinary exploration that spans history, science studies, postcolonial theory, and more. Its contributors delve into how scientific knowledge was mobilized to serve imperial interests, from mapping and categorizing new territories to controlling populations and exploiting natural resources.

This expansive approach helps readers appreciate the often overlooked ways in which science functioned as a tool of empire-building, while also highlighting resistance and alternative knowledge systems that challenged colonial dominance.

Why Science and Empire Matter Together

At first glance, science might appear neutral or purely objective, but the handbook underscores that scientific practices have been deeply entangled with political power and economic motives. Empires needed scientific expertise to navigate and administer vast territories, harness natural resources, and justify colonial rule through claims of progress and civilization.

The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire illustrates that:

- Scientific expeditions often doubled as imperial reconnaissance missions.
- Botanical and zoological studies were tied to resource extraction and economic exploitation.
- Medical knowledge shaped public health policies that served colonial populations and military needs.
- The classification of people and cultures was instrumental in constructing racial hierarchies used to legitimize domination.

Key Themes Explored in The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire

Science as a Tool of Imperial Control

One of the central themes the handbook tackles is how scientific knowledge was used to establish and maintain control over colonized spaces. Scientific surveys, geological mapping, and ethnographic studies provided detailed information that empowered colonial administrators to govern more effectively. This section examines case studies from various empires, highlighting the strategic deployment of scientific expertise.

Knowledge Production and Indigenous Perspectives

Importantly, the handbook does not present science as a one-way imposition. It brings to light indigenous knowledge systems and how local populations engaged with, adapted, or resisted imperial science. This dialogue between Western scientific traditions and indigenous epistemologies reveals a more complex picture of knowledge exchange, contestation, and hybridity.

Science, Technology, and Imperial Infrastructure

Technological innovations were vital to empire-building. Railways, telegraphs, and irrigation projects were often justified through scientific rationales and served to integrate colonies into global imperial networks. The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire explores how technology facilitated economic exploitation and political control, while also transforming local environments and societies.

Contributors and Scholarly Approach

What makes The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire particularly valuable is its editorial vision and the caliber of its contributors. The editors bring together historians of science, anthropologists, and scholars of postcolonial studies, ensuring a rich diversity of voices and methodologies.

Each chapter is meticulously researched, often drawing on archival materials, colonial records, and firsthand accounts, which lends the handbook both academic rigor and narrative engagement. This makes it not just a reference book but also a compelling reading experience for students, researchers, and general readers with an interest in history and science.

Interdisciplinary Insights

The interdisciplinary nature of the handbook encourages readers to think beyond traditional

boundaries. By weaving together scientific history with imperial studies, it prompts critical reflection on how knowledge systems are embedded in power relations. This is especially relevant in contemporary discussions about decolonizing science and re-examining the legacies of empire in knowledge production today.

How The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire Enhances Academic and Public Understanding

Whether you are a historian, a scientist, or simply curious about the dynamics of knowledge and power, this handbook offers valuable insights. It challenges simplistic narratives about science as pure progress and instead presents a more nuanced view that acknowledges its complicity in imperial projects.

Useful for Educators and Researchers

For educators, the handbook provides a rich source of case studies and theoretical frameworks that can be integrated into curricula on the history of science, colonial studies, or global history. Researchers will find it a treasure trove of references and conceptual tools for further inquiry into the entanglements of science and empire.

Encourages Critical Thinking About Science Today

Beyond historical interest, The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire invites readers to consider how the legacies of imperial science continue to shape contemporary scientific practices and global inequalities. It fosters critical awareness about whose knowledge counts and how power influences what is considered scientific truth.

Exploring Key Case Studies within the Handbook

Several chapters focus on pivotal moments and regions that illustrate the handbook's themes vividly. For instance, the role of botanical gardens in the Caribbean and India is examined not just as sites of scientific study but as instruments of colonial economic policy. Similarly, discussions on medical science trace how tropical medicine emerged from imperial health concerns but also contributed to global public health paradigms.

Mapping and Cartography in Empire

Maps were more than just navigational tools; they were instruments of imperial imagination and control. The handbook delves into cartographic practices, showing how maps shaped perceptions of colonized lands and peoples, enabling military conquest and resource extraction.

Science and Race in Imperial Contexts

The problematic intersection of scientific racism and empire is addressed with nuance. Contributors analyze how scientific classifications of race were used to justify unequal treatment and how these ideas permeated both colonial governance and metropolitan societies.

Integrating The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire into Your Research or Study

If you're planning to dive into the history of science, imperialism, or postcolonial studies, this handbook is a must-have. To make the most of it:

- Approach chapters thematically to understand specific intersections like science and medicine or technology and infrastructure.
- Use the extensive bibliographies for further reading and primary sources.
- Incorporate its critical perspectives into your own analysis of how science operates within power structures.
- Reflect on the contemporary relevance of historical case studies to ongoing debates about science and global inequality.

The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire is more than an academic text; it is a vital conversation starter about the past and present of science in a world shaped by imperial histories. Whether you are a seasoned scholar or a curious reader, it offers deep insights into the entangled legacies of knowledge and empire that continue to influence our world today.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire' about?

It is a comprehensive collection of essays that explore the complex relationships between science and imperialism, examining how scientific practices and knowledge were intertwined with the expansion and administration of empires.

Who are the editors of 'The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire'?

The handbook is edited by experts in the history of science and empire, typically including scholars

like Constance Devereaux, Jim Endersby, and others who specialize in the intersections of science, colonialism, and empire.

What time periods does 'The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire' cover?

The handbook covers a broad historical range, from the early modern period through the 20th century, addressing how science functioned within different imperial contexts across various times.

How does 'The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire' contribute to the study of postcolonial science?

It provides critical insights into how scientific knowledge was used to justify and maintain imperial control, and how postcolonial perspectives can reinterpret these histories to understand the legacy of empire in contemporary science.

Can 'The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire' be used as a textbook for academic courses?

Yes, it is widely used in university courses on history of science, colonial studies, and imperial history due to its comprehensive coverage and contributions from leading scholars in the field.

Does 'The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire' include global perspectives?

Yes, the handbook includes essays that address scientific practices and imperial dynamics in various regions including Africa, Asia, the Americas, and Oceania, offering a diverse and global perspective on science and empire.

Additional Resources

The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire: An In-Depth Review and Analysis

the routledge handbook of science and empire stands as a pivotal scholarly resource that interrogates the complex intersections between scientific knowledge production and imperial power structures. This comprehensive volume, edited by scholars who specialize in the history of science, colonial studies, and global imperialism, offers an expansive exploration of how science was not merely a neutral pursuit of knowledge but often an instrument of empire-building and colonial dominance. For academics, students, and professionals interested in the nuanced relationships between science and empire, this handbook provides an indispensable, multifaceted perspective.

Exploring the Scope and Structure of the Routledge

Handbook of Science and Empire

At its core, the Routledge handbook of science and empire functions as a critical anthology that maps the historical, sociopolitical, and cultural dimensions of scientific practices within imperial contexts. Unlike traditional scientific histories that focus narrowly on discoveries and innovations, this handbook adopts a broader analytical lens, emphasizing how scientific endeavors were embedded within colonial administrations, economic interests, and racial ideologies.

The volume is organized thematically and regionally, offering readers a systematic exploration of diverse imperial settings—from the British and French empires to lesser-studied colonial powers such as the Dutch and Portuguese. This structural approach allows for comparative analyses that reveal patterns of knowledge production across different empires while also recognizing unique local dynamics.

Key Themes and Contributions

One of the standout features of the Routledge handbook of science and empire is its engagement with the concept of “scientific imperialism,” where the acquisition and classification of knowledge about colonized territories served to legitimize and facilitate imperial control. Contributors examine how disciplines such as botany, anthropology, geology, and medicine were mobilized to support colonial agendas, often reinforcing racial hierarchies and economic exploitation.

The handbook also addresses the role of indigenous knowledge systems and the often-overlooked interactions between European scientists and local experts. This inclusion challenges earlier Eurocentric narratives by acknowledging the hybrid and contested nature of knowledge production during the imperial era.

Moreover, the volume confronts the ethical and epistemological implications of science under empire, prompting readers to reconsider the legacies of colonial science in contemporary knowledge practices and global inequalities.

Critical Insights into Science’s Role in Imperial Expansion

The Routledge handbook of science and empire excels in contextualizing scientific activities within imperial expansion, demonstrating that science was both a tool and a terrain of empire. Scientific expeditions, for instance, were not only exploratory missions but also mechanisms for resource extraction, territorial mapping, and strategic control.

The Intersection of Science and Colonial Governance

One important subtopic explored is the integration of scientific knowledge into colonial governance structures. The handbook illustrates how scientific data informed policies on land use, agriculture,

public health, and resource management. For example, surveys of flora and fauna often translated into agricultural reforms or commercial exploitation that shaped the economic foundations of colonial rule.

In addition, medical science played a dual role—addressing health crises among colonizers while simultaneously experimenting on and controlling indigenous populations. This duality highlights the ambivalent nature of scientific interventions under empire.

Science, Race, and Identity Construction

Another critical dimension is the relationship between science and racial ideologies. The Routledge handbook of science and empire provides detailed analyses of how scientific theories of race were developed and employed to justify imperial hierarchies and segregationist practices. Anthropology and physical sciences were frequently complicit in constructing racial categories that perpetuated stereotypes and legitimized domination.

Furthermore, the volume explores resistance and contestation by colonized peoples, revealing how indigenous actors negotiated, subverted, or appropriated scientific discourses to assert their agency and identities.

Comparative Perspectives and Regional Case Studies

The handbook's inclusion of diverse regional case studies enriches its analytical depth. By examining different imperial contexts, it underscores how the relationships between science and empire were shaped by specific political, cultural, and ecological conditions.

- **British Empire:** The volume highlights the role of institutions like the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew and scientific societies in shaping colonial knowledge networks.
- **French Empire:** It focuses on scientific missions in North Africa and Indochina, emphasizing the entwined nature of science and assimilationist policies.
- **Dutch and Portuguese Empires:** These sections shed light on less-studied colonial powers, revealing alternative models of scientific engagement and imperial governance.

Such comparative analysis not only broadens the scope of inquiry but also invites readers to think critically about dominant historiographies and the global circulation of scientific ideas.

Interdisciplinary Methodologies

The Routledge handbook of science and empire is noteworthy for its commitment to interdisciplinary approaches. Drawing from history, anthropology, sociology, and science and technology studies (STS),

contributors employ diverse methodologies to dissect the entanglements of science and imperialism.

This interdisciplinarity enhances the handbook's appeal beyond historians of science, making it relevant to scholars in postcolonial studies, political science, and cultural studies. The volume also encourages methodological reflexivity, urging researchers to consider their own positionalities when studying the legacies of imperial science.

Evaluating the Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire: Strengths and Limitations

From an academic standpoint, the Routledge handbook of science and empire stands out for its comprehensive coverage and critical engagement with complex themes. Its strengths include:

- **Depth and Breadth:** The volume balances detailed case studies with overarching theoretical frameworks, providing a holistic understanding of science and empire.
- **Diversity of Perspectives:** Contributions from scholars of different backgrounds and disciplines enrich the analysis and challenge monolithic narratives.
- **Critical Reflexivity:** The handbook does not shy away from interrogating the ethical dimensions and contemporary ramifications of colonial science.

However, certain limitations emerge as well. The sheer scope can make the volume dense and challenging for readers unfamiliar with the subject. Additionally, while regional diversity is a highlight, some regions, such as Latin America and parts of Asia, receive comparatively less attention, potentially limiting the global comprehensiveness of the work.

Practical Value for Researchers and Educators

For researchers, the Routledge handbook of science and empire serves as a crucial reference point for further studies on colonial science and its aftermath. Its annotated bibliographies and cross-referenced chapters facilitate deep dives into specialized topics.

Educators can also leverage this handbook to design courses on the history of science, empire, or global knowledge systems. Its accessible yet scholarly prose makes it suitable for advanced undergraduate and graduate students.

In the context of ongoing debates about decolonizing science and knowledge institutions, this handbook offers valuable historical insights that inform contemporary policy and academic reform efforts.

The Routledge handbook of science and empire ultimately challenges readers to rethink the seemingly objective nature of science by placing it within the fraught histories of empire and colonialism. Through its meticulous scholarship and broad analytical reach, it remains a cornerstone

text in understanding how knowledge and power have been historically intertwined on a global scale.

The Routledge Handbook Of Science And Empire

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the routledge handbook of science and empire: The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire Andrew Goss, 2021-07-05 The Routledge Handbook of Science and Empire introduces readers to important new research in the field of science and empire. This compilation of inquiry into the inextricably intertwined history of science and empire reframes the field, showing that one could not have grown without the other. The volume expands the history of science through careful attention to connections, exchanges, and networks beyond the scientific institutions of Europe and the United States. These 27 original essays by established scholars and new talent examine: scientific and imperial disciplines, networks of science, scientific practice within empires, and decolonised science. The chapters cover a wide range of disciplines, from anthropology and psychiatry to biology and geology. There is global coverage, with essays about China, Southeast Asia, the Pacific, Australia and New Zealand, India, the Middle East, Russia, the Arctic, and North and South America. Specialised essays cover Jesuit science, natural history collecting, energy systems, and science in UNESCO. With authoritative chapters by leading scholars, this is a guiding resource for all scholars of empire and science. Free of jargon and with clearly written essays, the handbook is a valuable path to further inquiry for any student of the history of science and empire.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: Routledge Handbook of Science, Technology, and Society Daniel Lee Kleinman, Kelly Moore, 2014-06-05 Over the last decade or so, the field of science and technology studies (STS) has become an intellectually dynamic interdisciplinary arena. Concepts, methods, and theoretical perspectives are being drawn both from long-established and relatively young disciplines. From its origins in philosophical and political debates about the creation and use of scientific knowledge, STS has become a wide and deep space for the consideration of the place of science and technology in the world, past and present. The Routledge Handbook of Science, Technology and Society seeks to capture the dynamism and breadth of the field by presenting work that pushes the reader to think about science and technology and their intersections with social life in new ways. The interdisciplinary contributions by international experts in this handbook are organized around six topic areas: embodiment consuming technoscience digitization environments science as work rules and standards This volume highlights a range of theoretical and empirical approaches to some of the persistent - and new - questions in the field. It will be useful for students and scholars throughout the social sciences and humanities, including in science and technology studies, history, geography, critical race studies, sociology, communications, women's and gender studies, anthropology, and political science.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: The Routledge Handbook of the Political Economy of Science David Tyfield, Rebecca Lave, Samuel Randalls, Charles Thorpe, 2017-04-28 The political economy of research and innovation (R&I) is one of the central issues of the early twenty-first century. 'Science' and 'innovation' are increasingly tasked with driving and reshaping a troubled global economy while also tackling multiple, overlapping global challenges, such as climate change or food security, global pandemics or energy security. But responding to these demands is made more complicated because R&I themselves are changing. Today, new global

patterns of R&I are transforming the very structures, institutions and processes of science and innovation, and with it their claims about desirable futures. Our understanding of R&I needs to change accordingly. Responding to this new urgency and uncertainty, this handbook presents a pioneering selection of the growing body of literature that has emerged in recent years at the intersection of science and technology studies and political economy. The central task for this research has been to expose important but consequential misconceptions about the political economy of R&I and to build more insightful approaches. This volume therefore explores the complex interrelations between R&I (both in general and in specific fields) and political economies across a number of key dimensions from health to environment, and universities to the military. The Routledge Handbook of the Political Economy of Science offers a unique collection of texts across a range of issues in this burgeoning and important field from a global selection of top scholars. The handbook is essential reading for students interested in the political economy of science, technology and innovation. It also presents succinct and insightful summaries of the state of the art for more advanced scholars.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: The Routledge Handbook of Transregional Studies Matthias Middell, 2018-11-08 The Routledge Handbook of Transregional Studies brings together the various fields within which transregional phenomena are scientifically observed and analysed. This handbook presents the theoretical and methodological potential of such studies for the advancement of the conceptualization of global and area-bound developments. Following three decades of intense debate about globalization and transnationalism, it has become clear that border-crossing connections and interactions between societies are highly important, yet not all extend beyond the borders of nation-states or are of truly world-wide reach. The product of extensive international and interdisciplinary cooperation, this handbook is divided into ten sections that introduce the wide variety of topics within transregional studies, including Colonialism and Post-Colonial Studies, Spatial Formats, International Organizations, Religions and Religious Movements, and Transregional Studies and Narratives of Globalization. Recognizing that transregional studies asks about the space-making and space-formatting character of connections as well as the empirical status of such connections under the global condition, the volume reaches beyond the typical confines of area and regional studies to consider how areas are transcended and transformed more widely. Combining case studies with both theoretical and methodological considerations, The Routledge Handbook of Transregional Studies provides the first overview of the currently flourishing field of transregional studies and is the ideal volume for students and scholars of this diverse subject and its related fields. The Open Access version of this book, available at <http://www.taylorfrancis.com>, has been made available under a Creative Commons [Attribution-Non Commercial-No Derivatives (CC-BY-NC-ND)] 4.0 license.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: The Cambridge Companion to John Herschel Stephen Case, Lukas M. Verburgt, 2024-05-02 It has been said that being scientific in Victorian England meant to be as much like John Herschel as possible. This volume shows readers what it meant to be John Herschel (1792-1871), one of England's most prominent polymaths. Drawing on his published oeuvre and recent scholarship, as well as an immense amount of surviving archival material and correspondence, these essays present the first ever comprehensive account of Herschel's life, work, and legacy. From mathematics and astronomy, to philosophy and politics, the volume sheds new light on his crucial role in the history of Victorian science and explores a wide array of issues in the history of nineteenth-century culture, philosophy, mathematics, and beyond.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: Meteorology in Nineteenth-Century Society Aitor Anduaga, 2025-10-20 This four-volume set of thematically focused and curated primary sources examines meteorology in nineteenth-century society. Knowing the history of meteorology and climatology since their inception as physical sciences in the nineteenth century is fundamental to understanding the causes and historical patterns of the severe weather and climate change that greatly preoccupy today's society. Thematically focused collections of primary sources support the research and study needs not only of scholars, but also graduate and postgraduate

students. To this end, the volumes contextualize and explain the contents of these sources. The collection brings together the most relevant themes in current scholarship: weather forecasting and nation-state building; cyclones, trade, and navigation; meteorology and religion; and weather, climate, and empire.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: *Research Handbook on the Sociology of Knowledge* Fran Collyer, 2025-07-15 This timely Handbook celebrates and contributes to the recent revitalisation of the sociology of knowledge. A diverse group of leading experts from the global North and South provide a state of the art overview of a field, which is developing rapidly with the growth of poststructuralist, postcolonial, and feminist approaches.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: *José Celestino Mutis and Newtonianism in New Granada, 1762-1808* Sebastián Molina-Betancur, 2023-06-17 This book presents the process of circulation and adoption of Newtonianism in the Viceroyalty of New Granada (modern-day Colombia) in the eighteenth century by examining José Celestino Mutis's lectures at the Colegio del Rosario between the 1760s and 1770s. Mostly famous for his botanical activities as director of the botanical expedition, Mutis lectured the first course of mathematics ever created in New Granada on his arrival in Bogota in 1762, in which he included several lectures on physics that encompassed multiple aspects of his interpretation of Newton's experimental physics.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: *The Natuurkundige Commissie in the Netherlands Indies (1820-1850)* Pieter van Wingerden, 2025-04-14 The Natuurkundige Commissie in the Netherlands Indies was one of the largest state-sponsored colonial collecting endeavours of the early nineteenth-century world. As a result, the newly founded 's Rijks Museum van Natuurlijke Historie (present-day Naturalis Biodiversity Center in Leiden) was filled with countless specimens. The Commissie consisted of thirty naturalists and was active for thirty years (1820-1850). This book shows how its stakeholders had different objectives that evolved over time: what started as a collection vehicle to showcase the 'glory' of the Dutch colonial empire became a useful surveying tool for the Indies government. This volume is the first detailed study of the Commissie in English. It tells the story of naturalists from the Netherlands, France, and German-speaking lands and of countless indigenous people working alongside the Commissie as knowledge brokers, hunters, preparators, and porters. This long overlooked indigenous contribution to European knowledge was both substantial and fundamental.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: *History of Intellectual Culture 3/2024* Charlotte A. Lerg, Johan Östling, Jana Weiß, Anne Kwaschik, Claudia Roesch, 2024-10-21 The third issue of the yearbook History of Intellectual Culture (HIC) devotes a thematic section to experimental spaces for knowledge production. The articles in this section investigate the role of experimental environments as sites for knowledge production during the long nineteenth century, thereby extending the scope beyond the confines of traditional academic institutions such as academies, laboratories, and universities. By focusing on intentional communities, colonial gardens, agricultural colonies, and artistic colonies as experimental spaces, the authors investigate the intertwined social, natural, and aesthetic aspects of environments. An overarching aim is to develop a distinct perspective rooted in the history of knowledge, wherein experiments are conceptualized both as a category employed by the historical actors and as a methodological concept. In addition, the third issue comprises several individual papers covering a wide range of topics, stretching from the U.S. patent system in the 1930s and anti-intellectualism in interwar Britain to the cultural translation of knowledge in the wake of the Holocaust and the circulation of economic knowledge in postwar Sweden. The issue also contains several theoretical, historiographical, and methodological interventions and reflections, including a conversation on decolonizing knowledge in academia and beyond.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: *Climate, Science and Society* Zeke Baker, Tamar Law, Mark Vardy, Stephen Zehr, 2023-12-13 Climate, Science and Society: A Primer makes cutting-edge research on climate change accessible to student readers. The primer consists of 37 short chapters organized within 11 parts written by Science and Technology Studies (STS) and other

social science scholars. It covers a range of key topics including communication, justice and inequality, climate policy, and energy transitions, situating each one within the context of STS studies. Each reading translates a focused area of climate change research into short, accessible, and lively prose. Chapter authors open debates where relevant, consider policy implications, critique existing areas of research, and otherwise situate their reading within a larger body of research relevant to climate change courses. Designed as a jumping-off point for further exploration, this innovative book will be essential reading for students studying climate change, STS, environmental sociology, and environmental sciences. The Open Access version of this book, available at www.taylorfrancis.com, has been made available under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-No Derivatives 4.0 license.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: The Certification of Insanity Filippo Maria Sposini, 2023-11-30 This book represents the first systematic study of the certification of lunacy in the British Empire. Considering a variety of legal, archival, and published sources, it traces the origins and dissemination of a peculiar method for determining mental unsoundness defined as the 'Victorian system'. Shaped by the dynamics surrounding the clandestine committal of wealthy Londoners in private madhouses, this system featured three distinctive tenets: standardized forms, independent medical examinations, and written facts of insanity. Despite their complexity, Victorian certificates achieved a remarkable success. Not only did they survive in the UK for more than a century, but they also served as a model for the development of mental health laws around the world. By the start of the Second World War, more than seventy colonial and non-colonial jurisdictions adopted the Victorian formula for making lunacy official with some countries still relying on it to this very day. Using case studies from Europe, the Americas, and the Pacific, this book charts the temporal and geographical trajectory of an imperial technology used to determine a person's destiny. Shifting the focus from metropolitan policies to colonial dynamics, and from macro developments to micro histories, it explores the perspectives of families, doctors, and public officials as they began to deal with the delicate business of certification. This book will be of interest to scholars working on mental health policy, the history of medicine, disability studies, and the British Empire.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: India and the Early Modern World Jagjeet Lally, 2023-12-20 India and the Early Modern World provides an authoritative and wide-ranging survey of the Indian subcontinent over the fifteenth to eighteenth centuries, set within a global context. This book explores questions critical to our understanding of early modern India. How, for instance, were Indians' religious beliefs, their ways of life, and the horizons of their learning changing over this period? What was happening in the countryside and towns, to culture and the arts, and to the state and its power? Were such experiences comparable or linked to those in other parts of the world? Can we speak of a global early modernity, therefore, within which India played an important role? Organised thematically, each chapter engages with such key issues, debates, and concepts, covering wide ground as it connects, compares, and contrasts developments witnessed across early modern South Asia to those around the globe. Drawing on the fruits of research in numerous fields over the past fifty years and rich in detail, India and the Early Modern World is a pathbreaking volume written engagingly and accessibly with scholars, students, and non-specialists in mind.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: Imperial Weather Fiona Williamson, 2025-04-29 Tropical weather in colonial Malaya presented an unknown atmosphere that manifested in extremes and uncertainties. From 1840 to 1940, the Indigenous landscapes of Singapore and Penang Islands were altered in ways that will never be reclaimed, the natural ecology of much of the peninsula forever changed by the British colonial government. With this book, Fiona Williamson revisits the fraught relationship between climate, weather science, and empire within the Straits Settlements in the long nineteenth century. Her book examines official and scientific responses to local weathers within the multicultural ports and peripheries of Singapore and George Town, Malaysia. The challenges of creating a livable environment in tropical conditions, she explains,

frequently pushed the colonial government beyond its capacities, and solutions often came at the expense of nature, which, ironically, made managing the weather more problematic. *Imperial Weather* offers a deep exploration of various official attempts to understand and apply structure to the previously unknown or uncontrollable through knowledge gathering, institutionalization, and technological and infrastructural change. Drawing from the history of science—especially the history of meteorology—and environmental history, it explores the multiple interests, capacities, and capabilities at play, including the state of scientific knowledge and the economy, funding, and importantly, socioenvironmental needs and practicalities.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: 3D Research Challenges in Cultural Heritage IV Marinos Ioannides, Giovanni Issini, Daniel Oliveira, 2025-08-15 This open access book presents a collection of papers focusing on a range of digital technologies and their use in the protection and restoration of cultural heritage. Digital tools - from 3D scanning and photogrammetry to Heritage Building Information Modeling (HBIM), Digital Twins, and Extended Reality (XR) - are transforming the way we understand and care for tangible heritage. These technologies are applied to both record the physical form and material conditions of a site and to permit simulations of deterioration, design interventions, and careful reconstruction. A central theme of this volume is post-disaster restoration and how the scientific and technical aspects of restoration can be made accessible to a broader audience through innovative visualizations, interactive platforms and storytelling. Digital tools should not only serve experts but also allow the public to participate both on-site and remotely via the web. This book advocates a holistic approach to heritage management, combining cutting-edge technology with local knowledge, risk analysis with creative reuse, and positioning the act of restoration as a bridge connecting the past, present and future.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: Everyday Islamic Law and the Making of Modern South Asia Elizabeth Lhost, 2025-02-20 Beginning in the late eighteenth century, British rule transformed the relationship between law, society, and the state in South Asia. But qazis and muftis, alongside ordinary people without formal training in law, fought back as the colonial system in India sidelined Islamic legal experts. They petitioned the East India Company for employment, lobbied imperial legislators for recognition, and built robust institutions to serve their communities. By bringing legal debates into the public sphere, they resisted the colonial state's authority over personal law and rejected legal codification by embracing flexibility and possibility. With postcards, letters, and telegrams, they made everyday Islamic law vibrant and resilient and challenged the hegemony of the Anglo-Indian legal system. Following these developments from the beginning of the Raj through independence, Elizabeth Lhost rejects narratives of stagnation and decline to show how an unexpected coterie of scholars, practitioners, and ordinary individuals negotiated the contests and challenges of colonial legal change. The rich archive of unpublished fatwa files, qazi notebooks, and legal documents they left behind chronicles their efforts to make Islamic law relevant for everyday life, even beyond colonial courtrooms and the confines of family law. Lhost shows how ordinary Muslims shaped colonial legal life and how their diversity and difference have contributed to contemporary debates about religion, law, pluralism, and democracy in South Asia and beyond.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: Mapping the Posthuman Grant Hamilton, Carolyn Lau, 2023-12-22 This book works to delineate some of the major routes by which science and art intersect. Structured according to the origin myths of the posthuman that continue to shape the idea of the human in our technological modernity, this volume gives space to narratives of alter-modernity that resonate with Ursula K. Le Guin's call for a new kind of story which exposes the violence and exploitation driven by a sustained belief in human exceptionalism, anthropocentrism, and cultural superiority. In this context, the posthuman myths of multispecies flourishing given in this collection, which are situated across a range of historical times and locations, and media and modalities, are to be thought of as kernels of possible futures that can only be realized through collective endeavour.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: The Routledge Handbook of Feminist Philosophy of Science Sharon Crasnow, Kristen Intemann, 2020-11-30 The Routledge Handbook of

Feminist Philosophy of Science is a comprehensive resource for feminist thinking about and in the sciences. Its 33 chapters were written exclusively for this Handbook by a group of leading international philosophers as well as scholars in gender studies, women's studies, psychology, economics, and political science. The chapters of the Handbook are organized into four main parts: I. Hidden Figures and Historical Critique II. Theoretical Frameworks III. Key Concepts and Issues IV. Feminist Philosophy of Science in Practice. The chapters in this extensive, fourth part examine the relevance of feminist philosophical thought for a range of scientific and professional disciplines, including biology and biomedical sciences; psychology, cognitive science, and neuroscience; the social sciences; physics; and public policy. The Handbook gives a snapshot of the current state of feminist philosophy of science, allowing students and other newcomers to get up to speed quickly in the subfield and providing a handy reference for many different kinds of researchers.

the routledge handbook of science and empire: Race and the Scottish Enlightenment

Linda Andersson Burnett, Bruce Buchan, 2025-08-19 How colonialism shaped the Scottish Enlightenment's conception of race and humanity In the decades after 1750, an increasing number of former medical students from the University of Edinburgh construed humanity as a subject of both intellectual curiosity and colonial interest. They drew on a shared educational background, blending medicine with natural history and moral philosophy, in a range of encounters with non-European and Indigenous peoples across the globe whom they began to classify as races. Focusing on a surprising number of these understudied students, this book reveals the gradual predominance of race in Scottish Enlightenment thought. Teaching provided a toolbox of concepts and theories for students who went on to careers as military and naval surgeons, colonial administrators, and natural historians. While some, such as Mungo Park--who traveled in Africa--are well known, many others such as the long-term residents in the Russian Empire, Matthew Guthrie and his wife, Maria Guthrie, or the Caribbean botanist Alexander Anderson are less remembered. Among this group were those such as the Pacific traveler Archibald Menzies and the circumnavigator of Australia, Robert Brown, who are known primarily as botanists rather than as ethnographers. Together they formed a global network of colonial travelers and natural historians sharing a common educational background and a growing interest in race.

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Volume 8, Modern Science in National, Transnational, and Global Context Hugh Richard Slotten, Ronald L. Numbers, David N. Livingstone, 2020-04-09 This volume in the highly respected Cambridge History of Science series is devoted to exploring the history of modern science using national, transnational, and global frames of reference. Organized by topic and culture, its essays by distinguished scholars offer the most comprehensive and up-to-date nondisciplinary history of modern science currently available. Essays are grouped together in separate sections that represent larger regions: Europe, Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, East and Southeast Asia, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Oceania, and Latin America. Each of these regional groupings ends with a separate essay reflecting on the analysis in the preceding chapters. Intended to provide a balanced and inclusive treatment of the modern world, contributors analyze the history of science not only in local, national, and regional contexts but also with respect to the circulation of knowledge, tools, methods, people, and artifacts across national borders.

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