



be recommended before reading this book because the author does not represent them sufficiently. **Summing Up:** ★ Optional. Researchers/faculty.—*S. M. Weiss, Rochester Institute of Technology*

52-3728 HQ1061 2014-7924 CIP
Greenstein, Mindy. **Lighter as we go: virtues, character strengths, and aging**, by Mindy Greenstein and Jimmie Holland. Oxford, 2014. 285p bibl index afp ISBN 9780199360956 cloth, \$27.95

This book presents a well thought out historical view of growing old in today's world. Greenstein and Holland (both, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center) do a wonderful job of placing aging in historical context. The book is intended to help readers consider aging not in terms of old age per se but as a process of growing lighter, of becoming "lighter as we go." The authors situate aging in positive aspects of character, strength, and continuity, all virtues that allow one to absorb and accept the inevitable changes in life as natural. The authors draw on real stories and events readers can relate to in order to help develop images of themselves as they age. A major contribution to the field of aging and adult studies, this study provides a new way to view, consider, and teach aging. **Summing Up:** ★★★ Highly recommended. All readers.—*A. L. Lewis, University of Arkansas Monticello*

52-3729 HQ535 2013-48779 CIP
Harris, Leslie J. **State of the marital union: rhetoric, identity, and nineteenth-century marriage controversies**. Baylor, 2014. 213p bibl index afp ISBN 9781481300513 cloth, \$49.95

Using a rhetorical lens, Harris (communication, Univ. of Wisconsin, Milwaukee) explores the role of 19th-century marriage controversies in the development of American identity. In five chapters, the author covers topics such as domestic abuse and marital murder, divorce, polygamy, free love, and miscegenation. This discussion is framed by an introduction and a conclusion, the latter demonstrating the relationship between controversies in 19th-century marriage and contemporary debates, such as those surrounding same-sex marriage. Relying on extensive archival research, this examination of marriage in the US is well written, readable, and timely. It will be valuable to those interested in rhetoric and gender studies. **Summing Up:** ★★ Recommended. All readers.—*D. Shepherd, Boise State University*

52-3730 BL2747 2014-6584 CIP
Joas, Hans. **Faith as an option: possible futures for Christianity**, tr. by Alex Skinner. Stanford, 2014. 184p bibl index afp ISBN 9780804788731 cloth, \$70.00; ISBN 9780804792776 pbk, \$22.95; ISBN 9780804792783 ebook, \$22.95

This wide-ranging essay in religious sociology wades through many scholarly debates and swims through many topics to arrive at conclusions for the most part commonsensical and observable. During the modern era, secularization has made major inroads in society, especially in the West. Religious non-belief has become an option. However, religious faith remains a strong and living option too; it is not disappearing in the modern world. The two will coexist, and "believers and non-believers will have to live with and accept one another into the future." Societies must tolerate a diversity of options concerning belief and open up "a new space for dialogue" between people who differ. In addition to secularization and modernization, sociologist Joas (Chicago) explores questions of religion, violence, and the future of Christianity. Although certainly an intellectual achievement that should interest scholars

(theologians, sociologists of religion, and historians of ideas), this short book presumes that readers are already largely familiar with the theoretical issues addressed and the extensive literature referenced. The level of discourse would not be accessible to average undergraduates or general readers. **Summing Up:** ★★ Recommended. Graduate students, faculty, professionals.—*J. Stauder, University of Massachusetts—Dartmouth*

52-3731 HM1261 2014-18672 MARC
Kohlrausch, Martin. **Building Europe on expertise: innovators, organizers, networkers**, by Martin Kohlrausch and Helmuth Trischler. Palgrave Macmillan, 2014. 390p ISBN 9780230308053 cloth, \$95.00

This book is the second in a series that seeks to examine the evolution of Europe "through the lens of technology rather than war." Kohlrausch and Trischler have succeeded brilliantly in fulfilling this demanding charge, producing a book that is certain to become a standard reference in the emerging field of global technology studies, and that establishes a high bar for successive works it will likely inspire. The authors examine the evolution of Europe via a series of seminal developments, including the rise of the technical expert as both practitioner and icon; information and depiction technologies; technology in relationship to totalitarian governments; international technical transfer, whether forced or voluntary; Europe's entry into the nuclear age; and Europe as a player in international space. The range of subjects covers the spectrum of modern technologies, but the authors avoid the pitfall of producing simply a classification guide to technology studies. Gracefully and cogently written, superbly illustrated, and meticulously sourced, this is an invaluable work for those studying modern Europe and its engagement with global science and technology. **Summing Up:** ★★★★★ Essential. All levels/libraries.—*R. P. Hallion, Hallion Associates*

52-3732 DT613 2014-18073 CIP
Rabaka, Reiland. **Concepts of Cabralism: Amilcar Cabral and Africana critical theory**. Lexington Books, 2014. 371p bibl index afp ISBN 9780739192108 cloth, \$100.00; ISBN 9780739192115 ebook, \$99.99

Rabaka (ethnic studies, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder) contributes to radical black politics and Africana critical social theory and exceeds expectations on both counts. Six chapters guide readers through a corpus that "draws from a diverse array of often eclectic and enigmatic sources and, therefore, offers no closed system or absolute truths." Nonetheless, the book offers significant contributions to those who do not become lost within the complex and often conflated intellectual streams presented throughout. Rabaka's critical introduction outlines Cabral's biography and the genealogy of his thought. Chapter 1 begins with a provocative claim: "in many respects Frantz Fanon and Amilcar Cabral represent the pillars and pinnacle of the Africana tradition of critical theory in the second half of the 20th century." The author situates the dialectic task before black thinkers as "challenging both whites' demonization and Blacks' romanticism" of Africa. Chapter 2 carefully outlines Fanon's challenge to negritude. Fanon's method for apprehending the totalizing effects of European colonialism becomes cartographic in Rabaka's reading of Cabral's engagement with colonialism, neocolonialism, imperialism, Marxism, and history. The book ends by articulating Cabral's usefulness for Rabaka's larger vision of Africana critical theory. An original contribution to Africana philosophy and studies, critical theory, and currently reemerging anticolonial paradigms throughout the academy. A must-have. **Summing Up:** ★★★★★ Essential. Upper-division undergraduates and above.—*T. J. Curry, Texas A&M University*