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Travel Writing (The New Critical Idiom)



Synopsis

An increasingly popular genre – “addressing issues of empire, colonialism, post-colonialism, globalization, gender and politics” – travel writing offers the reader a movement between the familiar and the unknown. In this volume, Carl Thompson: introduces the genre, outlining competing definitions and key debates – provides a broad historical survey from the medieval period to the present day explores the autobiographical dimensions of the form looks at both men and women’s travel writing, surveying a range of canonical and more marginal works, drawn from both the colonial and postcolonial era utilises both British and American travelogues to consider the genre’s role in shaping the history of both nations. Concise and practical, *Travel Writing* is the ideal introduction for those new to the subject, as well as a crucial overview of current debates in the field.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Given the popularity of travel studies and the quality of Thompson’s effort, this book seems likely to become required reading for those interested in the genre. Summing Up: Highly recommended." - P. A. Riggle, Truman State University in CHOICE "...a really exceptional introduction to the genre ... as exhaustive in its coverage as it is scrupulous in its analysis of the different forms and effects of travel writing." Robert Spencer, University of Manchester, *Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, 48.4

Carl Thompson is Senior Lecturer in English at Nottingham Trent University.

Carl Thompson's overview of several centuries of travel accounts and the study of travel writing provides an excellent introduction to this branch of literary studies. Thompson's definitions and history of the genre are readable and informative. Having taught a Travel Literature course for the last decade or so, I have been in the hunt for a text that intelligently articulates the field--and Thompson delivers. This book brings insightful appreciation of the unique constraints placed on travel writers as well as updates critical viewpoints of the genre.

Book is a solid introduction to the interpretation of travel writing.

This book is really difficult to get through just because it's very academic. Overall, it contains lots of information on the history of travel writing. I would recommend it.

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