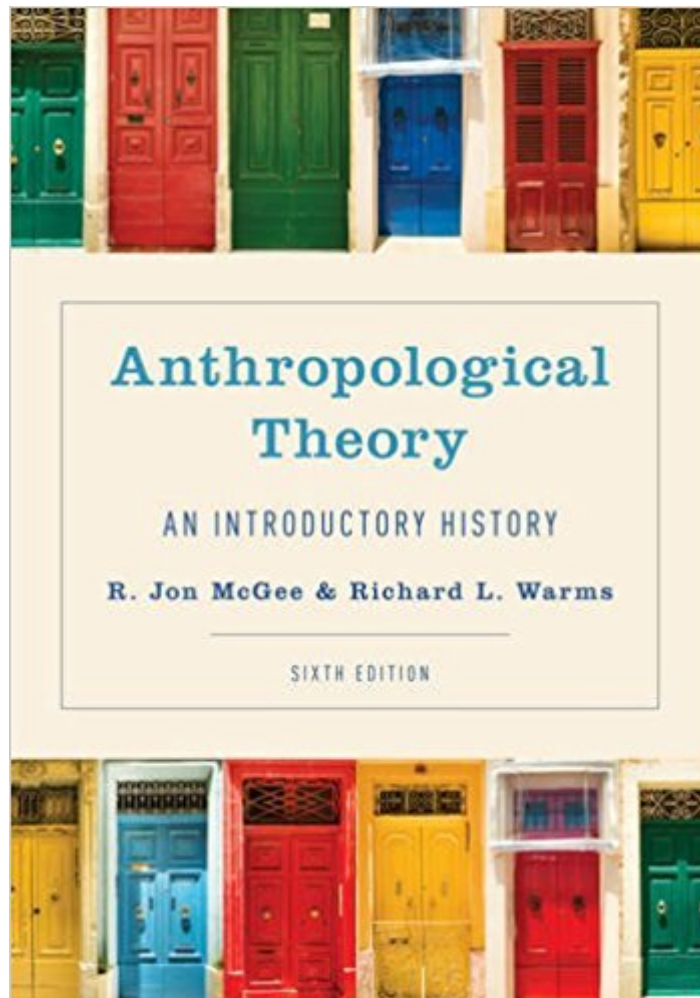




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# Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History



## Synopsis

The sixth edition of this market-leading introduction to anthropological theory offers 43 seminal essays from 1860 through the present day, including six new essays from Kroeber, Benedict, Spradley, Wardlow, Ortner, and Gomberg-Munoz. Accessible introductions and commentary provide necessary background information and historical context of each article. This edition also features a new timeline and recommended additional readings. Presenting a selection of critical essays in anthropology from 1860 to the current day, this sixth edition of *Anthropological Theory* includes classic authors such as Tylor, Marx, Boas, Malinowski, Foucault, Turner, and Geertz as well as contemporary thinkers such as Appadurai, Abu-Lughod, and Bourgois. Most essays are reprinted without abridgement. Those that are shortened include notes explaining how much and what was removed. What sets McGee and Warms's text apart from other readers are its introductions, footnotes, and index. Detailed introductions examine critical developments in theory, introduce key people and discuss historical and personal influences on theorists. In extensive footnotes the editors provide commentary that puts the writing in historical and cultural context, defines unusual terms, translates non-English phrases, identifies references to other scholars and their works, and offers paraphrases and summaries of complex passages. The notes identify and provide background information on hundreds of scholars and concepts important in the development of anthropology. This makes the essays more accessible to both students and current day scholars. An extensive index makes this book an invaluable reference tool.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Anthropological Theory is an impressive work dealing, as promised, with both the theory and the history behind the development of anthropological ideas. The sixth edition contains both a wide-ranging collection of important articles and well-researched and significant introductions and annotations. I don't know of any better introduction to the history of anthropology. (Herbert S. Lewis, University of Wisconsin-Madison) McGee and Warms have definitively established themselves as the benchmark for readers in the history of anthropological theory. Their selection of readings is intelligent and comprehensive, and they carefully maintain a balance between classic sources and contemporary writers. They deserve the highest praise for demonstrating to students that primary sources are interesting, indeed inspiring, and for carefully placing them in historical context. (Robert Launay, Northwestern University) This is an excellent introduction: one that gives essential historical depth to crucial theoretical debates. (David Shankland, Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland)

R. Jon McGee is professor of anthropology at Texas State University. He is author or editor of numerous books, including *Watching Lacandon Maya Lives*, *Theory in Social and Cultural Anthropology: An Encyclopedia* (edited with Richard L. Warms), and *Sacred Realms: Readings in the Anthropology of Religion* (co-edited with Warms and James Garber), now in its second edition. Richard L. Warms is professor of anthropology at Texas State University. In addition to his books with McGee, he has co-authored (with Serena Nanda) the best-selling textbooks *Cultural Anthropology*, now in its eleventh edition, and *Culture Counts*, now in its third edition.

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