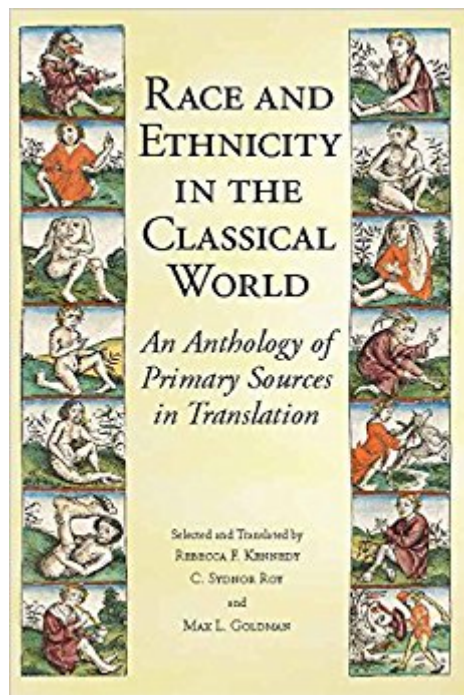


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Race And Ethnicity In The Classical World: An Anthology Of Primary Sources In Translation



Synopsis

By offering fluent, accurate translations of extracts and fragments from a wide assortment of ancient texts, this volume allows a comprehensive overview of ancient Greek and Roman concepts of otherness, as well as Greek and Roman views of non-Greeks and non-Romans. A general introduction, thorough annotation, maps, a select bibliography, and an index are also included.

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Customer Reviews

This collection of translated excerpts from Greek and Latin authors, from the 8th c. BCE to the 3rd c. CE, brings together a wide range of texts, chosen from historians, epic poets, geographers, medical writers, satirists and others, marvelously illustrating the curiosity of Greeks and Romans about 'race' and 'ethnicity,' self and other. Since for ancient Greeks and Romans one essential element of identity and difference was customs, we learn a lot from these texts about sex and marriage, funerals, and warfare in the Mediterranean and surrounding lands. But the ancient authors also featured banalities such as clothing, horse bits, cooking, and even trash talking. The translations are fresh, accurate, and accessible. . . . In a brisk and smart Introduction [the editors] point out the absence of fixed words for race and ethnicity in classical antiquity even as they provide some good references for exploring the complexity of these modern concepts. --Mary T. Boatwright, Duke University Will allow students to understand for themselves how ancient Greeks and Romans conceived of foreign populations and how they thought about issues of racial, ethnic, and cultural difference. --Jonathan Hall, University of Chicago Very rich. . . . Following an introduction to classical environmental, genetic, and cultural theories of difference, the sources range over the many

peoples of the ancient Mediterranean and beyond, from Egypt to Europe. The reach of this text and its emphasis on the Greek and Roman views of the 'other' will make it particularly useful for courses on ethnicity taught in Ancient Mediterranean Studies programs.

--Molly Myerowitz Levine, Howard University

Rebecca Futo Kennedy is Assistant Professor of Classics, Denison University. C. Sydnor Roy is Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics, Haverford College. Max L. Goldman is Senior Lecturer, Vanderbilt University.

This is a great anthology--well-organized, thorough, and containing ALL the relevant authors, notable and obscure, from ALL the time periods. I'd recommend it to any Latin teacher who, like me, will be teaching culture alongside the language and wants to impress upon students that: no, the Roman Empire and ancient world as a whole were NOT heterogeneous and white; yes, the Romans and Greeks were racist; and no, not in the same way. It proceeds in mostly chronological order, with different chapters for different cultural perspectives looking both outward (at non-Greeks and non-Romans) and inward at race and ethnicity. Authorial citations are good and listed with the selections themselves, so it's easy to find the source material or an alternate translation online quickly. One note: I bought the Kindle edition and regretted it. The rights on the Kindle version don't allow owners to copy and paste excerpts from the book, or to do so from a downloaded version. This is a serious downside as a teacher, as I'd like to give students excerpts of excerpts at times, or just be able to combine multiple selections from different parts of the book on the same page. Copying quotas are irritating. If you're a newcomer to ideas of race and ethnicity in the ancient world, I really recommend buying a companion to this book that explains things a bit more. This is an anthology, obviously, so it's pretty light on anything beyond that. McCoskey's "Race: Antiquity and Its Legacy" is great and a pretty easy read given the complexity of the subject.

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0195381882/ref=cm_cr_ryp_prd_ttl_sol_8. As of today there's only one other review for McCoskey (the other book) on Amazon, but it's for pricing reasons that have since been corrected. And if you're looking for a good all-around anthology on Roman culture--something less specialized than this book--you can't go wrong with Shelton's "As The Romans Did." I swear by it. Most Latin teachers do. <http://amzn.com/019508974X>

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