

SOURCES

compiling information together into one location. While there are other works that compile sections of German military history into one edited work, this one covers a unique timeline others do not. One fault I have with this work is the alphabetical listing of the entries. It would have been more accessible had it been divided chronologically. The choice to divide it alphabetically means that information about World War II is mixed with information about Imperial Germany or the Thirty Years War. The work contains some pictures and illustrations that add to the readers' understanding of the topic.

The work provides a straightforward overview of the topic and the entries are enough to give the reader an understanding of the person, place, or event they are discussing. I would recommend this collection to community college libraries or high school libraries. A larger university will already have most of the material contained within these volumes so it will not be as useful.—*Michael Hawkins, Adjunct Reference and Instruction librarian, Kent State University*

Government and the Economy: An Encyclopedia. Ed. by David A. Dieterle, Kathleen C. Simmons. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2015. 552 pages. acid free \$100 (ISBN: 978-1-4408-2903-1). E-book available (978-1-4408-2904-8), call for pricing.

Government and the Economy explores the reciprocal relationship between the American government and the US economy. Oriented with respect to secondary school content standards, this work covers major economic events and policies in US history, with a specific focus on the twentieth century. This work functions as two reference works in one: an encyclopedic overview of major economic events, and an introductory macroeconomics biographical dictionary focused on American economic history. The interrelated and concurrent nature of major economic events is well served by this format choice, as the reader can easily move between essays on major economic events, and entries that outline and explain the economic topics at stake.

The extensive treatment of the relationship between Supreme Court case law and the economy is a noteworthy feature of this work. Citations point to multiple freely available access points for case transcripts, opinions, and facts on the case, simplifying content access to those who are unfamiliar with legal research. An appendix presents timelines of relevant Supreme Court cases for each of the Voluntary National Content Standards in Economics (K–12) from the Council for Economic Education. Other features are less helpful: for example, the list of “Legislative Acts with Economic Impact” is simply a list of popular names, many of which are not represented by entries in the encyclopedia, and the list lacks either full citations or suggested strategies for locating bill summaries.

While the encyclopedia is at some points inconsistent in language and tone, the entries are readable for high school and college students. The resources for teachers provide

categorized citations to primary and secondary sources that are valuable resources for lesson planning. *Government and the Economy* would be a useful addition to collections supporting introductory coursework in economics and US government, and those supporting educators in the secondary school environment.—*Shari Laster, Government Data and Information Librarian, UCSB Library, University of California, Santa Barbara*

Literature and Politics Today: The Political Nature of Modern Fiction and Drama. Ed. by M. Keith Booker. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2015. 377 pages. Acid free \$89 (ISBN: 978-1-61069-935-8). E-book (978-1-6106-9936-5), call for pricing.

The editor, M. Keith Booker, Professor of English at the University of Arkansas, has served as editor on many reference works in literature as well as many books on genres and literary movements, specific authors, and other critical works. Booker also edited the last reference work dedicated to literature and politics, *Encyclopedia of Literature and Politics: Censorship, Evolution, and Writing*, a three-volume set published in 2005 by Greenwood, which is surprisingly the only current reference work dedicated solely to examining the connection between literature and politics. There are many recent book-length critical works on literature and politics, but these monographs typically focus on a genre or other refined topic such as a literary movement or single author. The compact single-volume *Literature and Politics Today* is a welcome addition to reference work in literature and politics. Certainly, other reference works in literary criticism cover some of the topics related to the intersection of politics and literature, but do not have the political focus of *Literature and Politics Today*.

The coverage of *Literature and Politics Today* is intended to be “International in scope,” with representation of “authors and literary phenomena from the beginning of the twentieth century forward, with a special emphasis on literature written in English, whether from Great Britain and the United States or from other parts of the world” (xiii). With any brief reference work, there are bound to be gaps in coverage, especially for expansive topics. However, some of the gaps in coverage present issues with the work’s usefulness in a High School or beginning undergraduate setting, especially coverage past the end of the Cold War. The coverage of American literature and politics in the United States in the twentieth century and twenty-first century aren’t covered; specific examples include: literature related to the Vietnam War, the Iraq War, and September 11th. However, there are many entries on literary and cultural movements (i.e., Postmodernism, Harlem Renaissance, etc.), which are exemplary and extensive. The value of this work is multiplied if the available E-book edition is purchased, where entries as search results can help students further understand literature from a focused political perspective. An example is the entry on