The Psychology of the Human-Animal Bond
A Resource for Clinicians and Researchers

There have been dramatic increases in the financial, emotional, and psychological investment in pets over the past four decades. The increasing importance of animal companions in people’s lives has resulted in growing emphasis on the human-animal bond within academic literature. This book introduces practicing and emerging professionals to vital subject matter concerning this growing specialty area by providing an essential framework and information through which to consider the unique contextual backdrop of the human-animal bond. Such contexts include a wide array of themes including: issues of attachment and loss, success and frustration with making and sustaining connections, world views regarding animal ethics, familial history of neglect or abuse, and cultural dynamics that speak to the order of things between mankind and nature.

Features
- Extends current literature by utilizing a thematic approach based on a larger contextual conceptualization of various influences shaping the human-animal bond
- Includes perspectives from beyond the scope of psychology and mental health such as anthropology, philosophy, literature, religion, and history
- Assembles an international roster of scholars and clinicians

Fields of interest
Health Psychology; Rehabilitation; Social Work

Target groups
Research

Type of publication
Contributed volume

The Human Pursuit of Well-Being
A Cultural Approach

This book brings together the latest research on positive psychology from an international cast of researchers and particularly from the growing body of European researchers. The chapters describe research and practice from diverse fields of positive psychology, covering topics such as happiness and well-being, motivation and goals, personality, academic performance and coping, measurement and interventions. The book emphasizes a cultural approach to the human pursuit of well-being. It is unique in that it presents research from a range of cultures, such as Russia, Croatia, and Egypt, in addition to ten different Western cultures. This approach helps broaden our understanding of those aspects of human experience that make life worth living in diverse cultural conditions. The book includes well-known and new authors from the field and contains selected papers that were presented at the 4th European Conference of Positive Psychology held in 2008 in Croatia.

Features
- One of the few books that brings together European researchers in positive psychology
- Presents research in Positive Psychology from different cultures

Fields of interest
Personality and Social Psychology; Quality of Life Research; Health Psychology

Target groups
Research

Type of publication
Contributed volume

Affinograph
A Dynamic Method for Assessment of Individuals, Couples, Families, and Households

The need for a new method for assessment and imaging of families, couples, and individuals has emerged in response to changes in family forms during the twentieth century. In the twentieth century divorce, remarriage, out-of wedlock child bearing, and alternate life styles have replaced monogamy as predominant form of marriage and the family. The methods of representation and assessment on the other hand remain based on the nineteenth century eugenics models embedded in the modern day genograms. This book is based on the premise that changes in family structure require changes in methods of representation, assessment, research, and teaching.

Features
- Provides a model that uses relationships not individuals as fundamental units of analysis
- Links individual experience with theoretical and pedagogical models
- Presents a heuristic device for twenty-first century families
- Examines the full scope of relationships, from short-term to life-long

Contents

Fields of interest
Psychotherapy and Counseling; Social Work; Psychotherapy

Target groups
Research

Type of publication
Monograph
Self-Evaluation
Affective and Social Grounds of Intentionality

The book contains contributions by leading figures in philosophy of mind and action, emotion theory, and phenomenology. As the focus of the volume is truly innovative we expect the book to sell well to both philosophers and scholars from neighboring fields such as social and cognitive science. The predominant view in analytic philosophy is that an ability for self-evaluation is constitutive for agency and intentionality. Until now, the debate is limited in two (possibly mutually related) ways: Firstly, self-evaluation is usually discussed in individual terms, and, as such, not sufficiently related to its social dimensions; secondly, self-evaluation is viewed as a matter of belief and desire, neglecting its affective and emotional aspects. The aim of the book is to fill these research lacunas and to investigate the question of how these two shortcomings of the received views are related.

Features
► Provides a novel approach in the research of self-reflection, shifting the focus from knowledge to evaluation  
► Reveals specific dependencies of self-reflection on emotional and social attitudes  
► First collection of recent philosophical work on specifically evaluative ways of self-reflection

Fields of interest
Cognitive Psychology; Philosophy of Mind; Social Sciences, general

Target groups
Research

Type of publication
Contributed volume

Underemployment
Psychological, Economic, and Social Challenges

Underemployment – when people are employed in some way that is insufficient, such as being over-qualified or working part-time when one desires full-time employment – is a challenge faced by all industrialized nations and their organizations and individuals. Just like unemployment, some level of underemployment exists even in the best of times, but it becomes more pervasive when the job market is weak. Given the current economic climate in North America and abroad, researchers and scholars in various disciplines (psychology, business, sociology, economics) are becoming more interested in investigating the effects of underemployment and identifying possible practical solutions. Underemployment synthesizes the current understanding of the phenomenon by bringing together scholars with diverse perspectives and expertise with the aim of informing and guiding the next generation of underemployment research.

Features
► Offers a comprehensive review of the phenomenon of underemployment  
► Provides an interdisciplinary perspective  
► Covers all facets of underemployment Includes theoretical and methodological issues

Fields of interest
Industrial and Organisational Psychology; Sociology; Economics general

Target groups
Research

Type of publication
Monograph