



Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice

By Chris Barker, Emma A. Jane



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With over 40,000 copies sold, **Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice** has been the indispensable guide to studying culture for generations of students. Here is everything students need to know, with all the key concepts, theories and thinkers in one comprehensive, authoritative yet accessible resource.

Teaching students the foundations of cultural studies - from ideology, representation and discourse to audiences, subcultures and cultural policy - this revised edition:

- Fully explores the ubiquity of **digital media culture**, helping readers analyse issues surrounding **social media**, **surveillance**, **cyber-activism** and more
- Introduces students to all the key thinkers they'll encounter, from **Stuart Hall** and **Michel Foucault** to **Judith Butler** and **Donna Haraway**
- Balances the classics with cutting edge theory, including **case studies on e-commerce**, the **self-help industry**, the **transgender debate**, and **representations of race**
- Embraces popular culture in all of its diversity, from **drag kings** and **gaming**, to **anime fandom** and **remix cultures**
- Is re-written throughout with a **new co-author**, making it a more enjoyable read than ever.

Unmatched in coverage and used world-wide, this is the essential companion for all students of cultural studies, culture and society, media and cultural theory, popular culture and cultural sociology.

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- Sales Rank: #426498 in Books
- Brand: imusti
- Published on: 2016-08-15
- Original language: English
- Dimensions: 9.10" h x 1.40" w x 7.30" l, .84 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 760 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

It is a pleasure to welcome a new edition of *Cultural Studies*, the most comprehensive, dispassionate and insightful treatment of this turbulent field. With Emma A. Jane's additions, new topics are opened up with a sure-footed adventurousness that is both scholarly and thought-provoking, adding a distinctive update to a reliable resource.

(John Hartley)

This book presents a magisterial overview of Cultural Studies, and of studies of culture more broadly. It synthesises a bewildering range of writers and ideas into a comprehensible narrative. It's respectful to the history of ideas and completely cutting edge. I learned a lot – you will too. (Alan McKee)

The role of culture in spatial, digital and political settings is a vital aspect of contemporary life. Barker and Jane provide an excellent introduction to Cultural Studies' relationship to these core issues, both through a clear explanation of key concepts and thinkers, alongside well chosen examples and essential questions.

(David O'Brien)

The 5th edition of Cultural Studies by Chris Barker and Emma A. Jane has been carefully and reflectively updated to keep abreast of the ongoing kaleidoscopic changes in culture and cultural theory. Particularly noteworthy is the heavily updated chapter on digital media and the section on digital youth culture, where new terms and theories are presented. The book is very pedagogical in its use of bullet-points, summaries, and questions which provoke critical reflection. I fully endorse this new edition of the book and warmly recommend it as an extremely valuable teaching and learning resource!

(Antoinette Fage-Butler)

About the Author

Chris Barker is a teacher and researcher with over 25 years experience. He has worked in a number of schools and universities in both England and Australia. He is currently Associate Professor of Cultural Studies at the University of Wollongong, NSW, Australia. Chris is the author of six previous books that are linked together by an interest in culture, meaning and communication. At present he is exploring questions of emotion in contemporary cultural life.

Emma A. Jane is a Senior Research Fellow in the School of the Arts and Media at the University of New South Wales, Australia. She is currently involved in two major research projects: one on gendered cyberhate, and another on the ethics of cognitive enhancement or 'smart drugs'. Prior to commencing her academic career, Emma spent nearly 25 years working in the Australian print, electronic, and on-line media. She has written seven previous books including a novel, *Deadset*, which won the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Asia and the South Pacific for Best First Novel in 1997.

Users Review

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