**The Instant Economist: Everything You Need to Know About How the Economy Works**
By: Taylor, Timothy
HB 171 .T36 2012

Review from: Choice August 1, 2012
Currently *The Instant Economist* is the most readable and up-to-date summary of a typical US college principles of economics course. Following the traditional table of contents—from microeconomics through macroeconomics and international topics—and using original, helpful metaphors (and only two graphs), Taylor takes the reader through the terminology, key concepts, and controversies dominant in today’s economics profession. Noteworthy additions to the standard textbook canon are a chapter on personal investing and detailed accounts of the minimum wage, corporate merger, and inequality debates, introducing readers to the data issues that lie behind these controversies...

**101 Quantum Questions: What You Need to Know About the World You Can’t See**
By: Ford, Kenneth W.
QC 174.13 .F67 2011

Review from: Choice September 1, 2011
This work provides the means for a lay reader to gain a basic understanding of much of the technical language and jargon that filters into popular accounts of quantum physics. Broad organizational categories, each consisting of responses to six to ten questions, include atoms, nuclei, particles, conservation laws, and technology (such as semiconductors and lasers)...Though Ford does not shy away from using numbers and graphs, there is not much in the way of mathematics aside from the mention of a handful of important equations. One could quibble with the choice of some topics (E = mc² fits less well in a book on quantum physics than in a book on relativity) or the completeness of some explanations (presenting spin in terms of classical angular momentum with no mention of magnetism). However, most of the questions are informative and answered clearly in ways that help a non-specialist grasp the basics.

**Equine Welfare**
By: McIlwraith, C. Wayne and Bernard E. Rollin, Ed.
HV 4749 .E68 2011

Review from: Reference & Research Book News June 1, 2011
Veterinarians and other professionals engaged with horses in various ways explore the growing intersection between animal rights movements and traditional uses of horses. They begin with essays on respecting the horse's needs and nature, then focus on a range of human uses and abuses of horses. The topics include health and disease, equine psychological needs and quality of life, euthanasia as a welfare tool, alternative medicine, horse racing, welfare issues in the rodeo horse, raising welfare standards for endurance riding, the carriage horse, and the welfare of wild horses in the western US.

**El Cinco de Mayo: an American Tradition**
By: Hayes-Bautista, David E.
F 870 .S75 H384 2012 eBook

Review from: Choice September 1, 2012
Immigrants did not import Cinco de Mayo, according to this book, nor is the holiday a recent invention of US businesses seeking access to Latino consumers. Hayes-Bautista persuasively shows that it is instead "a genuine American holiday, spontaneously created during the Civil War by ordinary Latinos living in California." Through in-depth analysis of Spanish-language newspapers, the author explores the political culture of 1850s-60s California that first shaped the holiday, the involvement of ethnic Mexicans in the US Civil War, the importance of the French occupation of Mexico for Latinos between 1861 and 1867, and the way the celebration was then taken up by 20th-century Mexican immigrants who arrived in the 1910s and 1920s. A fine cultural history and the best historical analysis of this North American holiday...one of the few book-length histories of Mexican Americans during the 1860s. Undergraduate readers and advanced researchers interested in Latino communities, cultural nationalism, the California gold rush, popular support for Abraham Lincoln and Benito Juarez, the Civil War, and print journalism will find this an important source.

**The Killing of Crazy Horse**
By: Powers, Thomas
E 99 .O3 C7255 2011

Review from: Booklist October 15, 2010
Despite the title, this beautifully written and absorbing work is less about the death of Crazy Horse and more about the personality and life of the Native American icon. It is also an insightful and scrupulously fair examination of the culture of Plains Indian bands and their interaction with advancing white civilization in the nineteenth century...
**101 Tips for Graduates: a Code of Conduct for Success and Happiness in Your Professional Life**

By: Morem, Susan  
HF 5386 .M754 2010

Review from: *Reference & Research Book News*  
May 1, 2010

Morem gives commonsense career and workplace advice to recent graduates. Seven sections of 1-3 page entries cover work skills, communication (turn off your cell phone at work), leadership, social skills (surviving the company party), self-discipline, positive attitude, and how to live an extraordinary life. This edition offers new material on using technology in the job search, staying employed in a sluggish economy, job loss, money management, the value of internships, and the pitfalls of social networking. An appendix provides insights and advice from real people working in a variety of industries...

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**Dancing in the Dark: a Cultural History of the Great Depression**

By: Dickstein, Morris  
E 806 .D57 2009

Review from: *Reference & Research Book News*  
November 1, 2009

The Great Depression of the 1930s had an undeniable impact on the economics and politics of the United States. Less studied is the impact it had on the country's cultural makeup. The Depression reshaped the American dream. How that dream, and the contemporary reality, was portrayed by artists, photographers, dancers, poets, novelists, and filmmakers of the era is the subject of this impressive, highly-readable history. Dickstein delves deeply, but not ponderously, into the works of individuals shaping the culture of the day, as well as provides readers with an excellent overview of the times and their cultural meaning.

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**The African American Experience During World War II**

By: Wynn, Neil A.  
D 810 .N4 W89 2010 eBook

Review from: *Publishers Weekly*  
April 5, 2010

...Drawing on primary sources and recent scholarship, the author explores the "contradictory experience" of African-Americans during the war—"a mixture of progress and resistance"—and concludes that "the war years were crucial in the development of the emerging civil rights movement." Wynn's evenhanded analysis of the paradoxical nature of African-Americans' wartime experience yields a balance between the hard-won successes—including significant economic progress—and the inevitable setbacks: foremost among them, the heightened racial divisions that led to widespread violence and the lack of any real progress in the struggle for social equality. The author argues that African-Americans' wartime experience prompted postwar advances—e.g., President Harry Truman's 1948 executive order ending racial segregation in the armed forces—but notes that, despite the gains, African-Americans still had a long way to go. A diverse selection of correspondence, editorials, government documents, and memoirs enhance the survey's value for general readers.

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**Radioactivity: a History of a Mysterious Science**

By: Malley, Marjorie C.  
QC 794.6 .R3 M35 2011 eBook

Review from: *Choice*  
January 1, 2012

One of the best things about this excellent short history of radioactivity is the way Malley portrays the development of ideas; she explains how eventually accepted ideas emerged from a sea of interesting but mostly wrong ones. Around a century ago, a small community of physicists and chemists in Europe and North America were fascinated by the mysteries of the newly emerging phenomenon of radioactivity...The story of radioactivity flows into the 1930s when radioactivity as a discipline was absorbed into the emerging fields of nuclear and particles physics. Malley places the scientific work on radioactivity within the culture and conflicts of the time...

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**Encyclopedia of Microbiology**

By: Maczulak, Anne  
REF QR 9 .M33 2011

Review from: *Booklist*  
October 1, 2011

This volume examines microorganisms, bacteria, viruses, and other organisms invisible to the naked eye. Author Maczulak, a microbiologist, possesses excellent subject-matter credentials. The encyclopedia contains more than 200 entries, organized alphabetically and covering laboratory techniques, specific microorganisms, diseases, recent advances, and more. Major themes of the encyclopedia include the diversity of microorganisms as well as their relationships to both higher organisms and inanimate objects...