



# Studying Culture: A Practical Introduction

*By Judy Giles, Timothy Middleton*



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## **Studying Culture: A Practical Introduction** By Judy Giles, Timothy Middleton Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #5096409 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Wiley-Blackwell
- Published on: 1999-10-25
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.60" h x .90" w x 6.70" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 296 pages



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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“This is an invaluable introduction for students across the humanities and social sciences. A synthesis of carefully weighted comment, readings, images, and activities involves the reader in the pleasures, perils, and multiple meanings of that most complex word, ‘culture’.”

*Mary Eagleton, Leeds Metropolitan University*

#### From the Back Cover

This accessible introduction to the key areas in the study of culture is written specifically for those who are new to the subject. The authors' selection of readings, exercises and commentary open up the field of cultural studies, incorporating new work in cultural geography, gender studies and cultural history.

Part I opens with a discussion of the various interpretations of culture and cultural studies and goes on to explore identities, representation, histories and places and spaces. Part II extends the debate, introducing more complex issues including high and popular culture, subjectivities, consumption and new technologies. Each part ends with a case study which illustrates how abstract concepts can be applied to empirical material, and stresses the importance of an interdisciplinary approach to cultural analysis.

Extracts from key theorists and commentators are integrated into the text to guide students through the major issues, theories and debates. Throughout the book, exercises and activities encourage the reader to think analytically about the issues raised. A full bibliography, references and suggestions for suitable wider reading point the way for further study. *Studying Culture: A Practical Introduction* lays the foundations for an understanding of and continuing interest in the study of culture, in all its diversity and variety.

#### About the Author

**Dr Judy Giles** lectures in Women's Studies, Cultural Studies and Literature Studies at the University College of Ripon and York St. John. She is co-author of *Women Identity & Private Life 1900-1950* (1995) and co-editor of *Writing Englishness 1900-1950* (1995).

**Dr Tim Middleton** lectures in Literature Studies and Cultural Studies at the University College of Ripon and York St John. He has written papers on masculinity and national identity and is co-editor of *Writing Englishness, 1900-1950* (1995).

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