PREFACE

Whether we are interested in individuals praying, in how a small group heals through trance, or how Catholics have organized the mass over the centuries, I think that we learn the most when we look at how people engage with the practices of their religions: how they speak, cry, govern, or pontificate. I emphasize the appropriateness of an anthropological approach for large-scale religions, which for too long were studied mainly by historians and religious studies scholars but avoided by anthropologists: thus the treatment of Catholic and Protestant faiths within Christianity, as well as the running analysis of Islam, my own research specialty.

NEW TO THE SIXTH EDITION

Although I have revised and updated many sections of the book, here are some of the major changes.

• A new treatment of Islam in Chapter 13.
• A new chapter on Orthodox Judaism (Chapter 10), with attention to how rules and rituals shape the gendered development of the self; here I draw on the emphasis on the formation of the self discussed (new to this edition) in Chapter 2.
• New sections on Christianity in small-scale societies (Chapter 11).
• Rewritten chapters on healing and sorcery (Chapters 5–6) incorporate new material.
• I have added boxes summarizing the main features of seven religious traditions, and new sections for discussion and media resources at the end of each chapter.
• MySearchLab, an online resource for student research that includes access to articles from the EBSCO/ContentSelect database, can be packaged with this edition. Please see your Pearson sales representative for more information.

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STUDENT AND TEACHER RESOURCES

MySearchLab with eText
A passcode-protected website that provides engaging experiences that personalize learning, MySearchLab contains an eText that is just like the printed text. Students can highlight and add notes to the eText online or download it to an iPad. MySearchLab also provides a wide range of writing, grammar, and research tools plus access to a variety of academic journals, census data, Associated Press news feeds, and discipline-specific readings to help hone writing and research skills.

Instructor’s Resource Manual and Test Bank (0-205-92940-0)
For each chapter in the text, this valuable resource provides a chapter outline, lecture topics, research topics, and questions for classroom discussion. In addition, test questions
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in multiple choice and essay formats are available for each chapter; the answers are page-referenced to the text.

MyTest (0-205-92942-7)
This computerized software allows instructors to create their own personalized exams, to edit any or all of the existing test questions, and to add new questions. Other special features of this program include the random generation of test questions, the creation of alternative versions of the same test, scrambling question sequences, and test previews before printing.

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