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Introductions

**Taxation A
Very Short
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ntroductions**

'[William Doyle]
writes on the French
Revolution with
more understanding,
balance and clarity

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Introduction Very
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than any other
historian, living or
dead.' -Prof. Tim

Blanning, University
of Cambridge

Most of us recognize
that organizations
are everywhere. You
meet them on every
street corner in the
form of families and
shops, study in them,

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work for them, buy
from them, pay taxes
to them. But have
you given much
thought to where
they came from,
what they are today,
and what they might
become in the
future? How and
why do they have so
much influence over

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us, and what
influences them?

How do they

contribute to and

detract from the

meaningfulness of

lives, and how might

we improve them so

they better serve our

needs and desires?

This Very Short

Introductions

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addresses all of these questions and considers many more. Mary Jo Hatch introduces the concept of organizations by presenting definitions and ideas drawn from the a variety of subject areas including the

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physical sciences,
economics,
sociology,

psychology,

anthropology,

literature, and the

visual and

performing arts.

Drawing on

examples from

prehistory and

everyday life, from

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the animal kingdom
as well as from
business,

government, and
other formal
organizations, Hatch
provides a lively and
thought provoking
introduction to the
process of
organization.

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Introductions
combine facts,
analysis,
perspective, new
ideas, and

enthusiasm to make
interesting and
challenging topics
highly readable.

What is capitalism?
Is capitalism the
same everywhere? Is
there an alternative?

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Introductions

The word
'capitalism' is one
that is heard and
used frequently, but
what is capitalism
really all about, and
what does it mean?
This Very Short
Introduction
addresses questions
such as 'what is
capital?' before

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discussing the history and development of capitalism through several detailed case studies, ranging from the tulipomania of 17th century Holland, the Great Depression of the 1930s, and in this new edition, the

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impact of the global
financial crisis that
started in 2007-8.

James Fulcher looks
at the different forms
that capitalism takes
in Britain, Japan,
Sweden, and the
United States, and
explores whether
capitalism has
escaped the nation-

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state by going
global. It ends by
asking whether there
is an alternative to
capitalism,
discussing socialism,
communal and
cooperative
experiments, and the
alternatives
proposed by
environmentalists.

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Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable. Economics has the capacity to offer us deep insights into

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some of the most
formidable problems
of life, and offer

solutions to them

too. Combining a

global approach

with examples from

everyday life, Partha

Dasgupta describes

the lives of two

children who live

very different lives in

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different parts of the world: in the Mid-West USA and in Ethiopia. He compares the obstacles facing them, and the processes that shape their lives, their families, and their futures. He shows how economics

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uncovers these processes, finds explanations for them, and how it forms policies and solutions. Along the way, Dasgupta provides an intelligent and accessible introduction to key economic factors

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and concepts such as individual choices, national policies, efficiency, equity, development, sustainability, dynamic equilibrium, property rights, markets, and public goods. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very

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analysis,

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ideas, and

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interesting and

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Behavioural

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Short
The Palestinian-
Israeli Conflict: A
Very Short

Introduction

Economics: A Very
Short Introduction

The British

Constitution: A Very
Short Introduction

***After decades of
conservative
dominance, the***

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election of Barack Obama may signal the beginning of a new progressive era. But what exactly is progressivism? What role has it played in the political, social, and economic

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**history of
America? This
very timely Very
Short
Introduction
offers an
engaging
overview of
progressivism in
America--its
origins, guiding
principles, major**

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**leaders and
major accomplish
ments. A many-**

**sided reform
movement that
lasted from the
late 1890s until
the early 1920s,
progressivism
emerged as a
response to the
excesses of the**

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***Gilded Age, an
era that plunged
working***

***Americans into
poverty while a
new class of
ostentatious
millionaires built
huge mansions
and flaunted their
wealth. As
capitalism ran***

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***unchecked and
more and more
economic power
was concentrated
in fewer and
fewer hands, a
sense of social
crisis was
pervasive.***

***Progressive
national leaders
like William***

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Jennings Bryan,

Theodore

Roosevelt,

Robert M. La

Follette, and

Woodrow Wilson,

as well as

muckraking

journalists like

Lincoln Steffens

and Ida Tarbell,

and social

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**workers like Jane
Addams and
Lillian Wald**

**answered the
growing call for
change. They
fought for
worker's
compensation,
child labor laws,
minimum wage
and maximum**

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*hours legislation;
they enacted anti-
trust laws,
improved living
conditions in
urban slums,
instituted the
graduated
income tax, won
women the right
to vote, and laid
the groundwork*

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***for Roosevelt's
New Deal. Nugent
shows that the pr
ogressives--with
the glaring
exception of race
relations--shared
a common
conviction that
society should be
fair to all its
members and***

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***that governments
had a
responsibility to
see that fairness
prevailed.***

***Offering a
succinct history
of the broad
reform movement
that upset a
stagnant
conservative***

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***orthodoxy, this
Very Short
Introduction***

***reveals many
parallels, even
lessons, highly
appropriate to
our own time.***

***About the Series:
Combining
authority with wit,
accessibility, and***

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style, Very Short

**Short
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offer an**

**introduction to
some of life's
most interesting
topics. Written by
experts for the
newcomer, they
demonstrate the
finest**

contemporary

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***thinking about
the central
problems and***

***issues in
hundreds of key
topics, from
philosophy to
Freud, quantum
theory to Islam.***

***Aristocracies or
nobilities
dominated the***

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***social, economic,
and institutional
history of all
European
counties until
only a few
generations ago.
The relics of their
power, in
traditions and
behaviour, in
architecture and***

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Introduction Very
***the arts, are still
all around us.***

***This short
introduction
shows how ideas
of aristocracy
originated in
ancient times,
were transformed
in the middle
ages, and have
only fallen apart***

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***over the last two
centuries. The
myths in which
aristocracies
have always
sought to shroud
themselves are
stripped away,
but the true
sources of their
enduring power
are also revealed.***

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*Their outlook and
behaviour
affected the rest
of society in
innumerable and
sometimes
surprising ways,
but perhaps most
surprising was
the way in which
a centuries-old
aristocratic*

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hegemony

crumbled away

over the last two

hundred years. In

this Very Short

Introduction

William Doyle

considers why

this happend and

what remains

today. ABOUT

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new subject
Short
Introductions

*quickly. Our
expert authors
combine facts,
analysis,
perspective, new
ideas, and
enthusiasm to
make interesting
and challenging
topics highly
readable.*

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How ought we to live? What really exists? How do we know? This book introduces important themes in ethics, knowledge, and the self, via readings from Plato, Hume, Descartes, Hegel,

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***Darwin, and
Buddhist writers.***

Short
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***It emphasizes
throughout the
point of doing
philosophy,
explains how
different areas of
philosophy are
related, and
explores the
contexts in which***

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***philosophy was
and is done.***

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Introductions
***make interesting
and challenging
topics highly
readable.***

***This book
provides an
historical
account of
feminism,
exploring its
earliest roots and
key issues such***

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***as voting rights
and the liberation
of the sixties.***

***Margaret Walters
brings the
subject
completely up to
date by providing
a global analysis
of the situation of
women, from
Europe and the***

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**United States to
Third World
countries.**

**The Crusades: A
Very Short
Introduction**

**Stuart Britain: A
Very Short
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**North American
Indians: A Very**

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: A Very Short

Introduction

Environmental law is the law concerned with environmental problems. It is a vast area of law that operates from the local to the global, involving a range of

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different legal and
regulatory techniques.

In theory,

environmental
protection is a no
brainer. Few people
would actively argue
for pollution or
environmental
destruction. Ensuring
a clean environment
is ethically desirable,
and also sensible
from a purely self-

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interested

perspective. Yet, in
practice,

environmental law is a
messy and complex
business fraught with
conflict. Whilst
environmental law is
often characterized
in overly simplistic
terms, with a law
being seen as be a
magic wand that
solves an

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environmental
problem, the reality is
that creating and

maintaining a body of
laws to address and
avoid problems is not
easy, and involves
legislators, courts,
regulators and
communities. This

Very Short
Introduction provides
an overview of the
main features of

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Short

environmental law,
and discusses how
environmental law
deals with multiple
interests, socio-
political conflicts, and
the limits of
knowledge about the
environment. Showing
how interdependent
societies across the
world have developed
robust and legitimate
bodies of law to

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address

environmental

problems, Elizabeth

Fisher discusses

some of the major

issues involved in

environmental law's:

nation statehood,

power, the reframing

role of law, the need

to ensure real

environmental

improvements, and

environmental justice.

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Introduction Very
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As Fisher explains,
environmental law is,
and will always be,
necessary but
inherently

controversial. ABOUT

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highly readable.

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of the best-selling The

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Short History of Britain,

John Guy's Very

Short Introduction to

The Tudors is the

most authoritative

short introduction to

this age in British

history. It offers a

compelling account of

the political, religious

and economic

changes of the

country under such

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leading monarchs as
Henry VIII and

Elizabeth I. The work
has been substantially
revised and updated
for this edition. In
particular, the reigns
of Henry VII, Edward
VI, and Philip and
Mary are
comprehensively
reassessed.

The programmes that
make up the welfare

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state vary from nation
to nation and from
time to time, and the
balance between
markets and
government, and free
enterprise and social
protection is
perennially in
question. In
contemporary political
debate the welfare
state seems to be
mostly viewed as a

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problem rather than a
solution, and welfare

programmes appear
constantly on the
defensive. This Very

Short Introduction
describes the modern

welfare state,
explaining its

historical and
contemporary

significance and
arguing that far from

being 'a failure' or 'a

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Introduction

problem', welfare states are an essential element of contemporary capitalism, and a vital concomitant of democratic government. In this accessible and entertaining account, David Garland cuts through the fog of misunderstandings to explain in clear and

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Introduction
simple terms, what
the welfare state is,
how it works, and why
it matters.

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combine facts,
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and enthusiasm to
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challenging topics
highly readable.

In a miracle of
concision, Paul S.
Boyer provides a wide-
ranging and

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authoritative history of
America, capturing in
a compact space the
full story of our nation.

Ranging from the
earliest Native
American settlers to
the presidency of
Barack Obama, this
Very Short

Introduction offers an
illuminating account of
politics, diplomacy,
and war as well as the

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full spectrum of social, cultural, and scientific developments that shaped our country. Here is a masterful picture of Americas achievements and failures, large-scale socio-historical forces, and pivotal events. Boyer sheds light on the colonial era, the Revolution and the birth of the new

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nation; slavery and
the Civil War;

Reconstruction and
the Gilded Age; the
Progressive era, the
Roaring Twenties and
the Great Depression;
the two world wars
and the Cold War that
followed; right up to
the tragedy of 9/11,
the wars in Iraq and
Afghanistan, and the
epoch-making

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election of Barack
Obama. Certain broad
trends shape much of
the
narrative--immigration
, urbanization,
slavery, continental
expansion, the global
projection of U.S.
power, the centrality
of religion, the
progression from an
agrarian to an
industrial to a post-

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industrial economic
order. Yet in

underscoring such
large themes, Boyer
also highlights the
diversity of the
American experience,
the importance of
individual actors, and
the crucial role of
race, ethnicity,
gender, and social
class in shaping the
contours of specific

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groups within the
nations larger
tapestry. And along
the way, he touches
upon the cultural
milestones of
American history,
from Tom Paines The
Crisis to Allen
Ginsbergs Howl.

American History: A
Very Short

Introduction is a
panoramic history of

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the United States, one
that covers virtually
every topic of
importance--and yet
can be read in a
single day.

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Very Short

Introduction

Choice Theory: A

Very Short

Introduction

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Environmental Law: a
Very Short

Introduction

Taxation is crucial to
the functioning of
the modern state.

Tax revenues pay for
public services -
roads, the courts,
defence, welfare

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assistance to the poor
and elderly, and in
many countries

much of health care
and education too.

More than one third
of national income in
the industrialized
(OECD) countries is
on average taken in
taxation. Taxes
affect individuals in

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many ways. Taxes
paid on income and
spending directly

reduce taxpayer
disposable income,
taxpayers face the
hassle of tax returns
and making
payments, and they
may be anxious
about the possibility
of investigation and

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enforcement action.

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People also adapt
their activities in
various ways to
reduce the impact of
taxation - putting
money into tax-free
savings accounts, or
making shopping
trips to other
countries where
taxes are lower.

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Taxation is therefore
central to politics
and public debate.

Politicians that make
reckless campaign
promises about
taxation then have to
live with the
uncomfortable
consequences if
elected. Businesses
lobby for tax breaks

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that they claim will
create jobs and
prosperity. In this

Very Short

Introduction Stephen
Smith shows how
taxes have real
effects on citizens
and the economy
that tax policy-
makers have to
balance. Although

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tax policy will

always be a highly
political issue, he

argues that public
decisions about

taxation would be

improved by a better
understanding of the

role of taxation, and

of the nature and

effects of different

taxes. ABOUT THE

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combine facts,
analysis, perspective,
new ideas, and

enthusiasm to make
interesting and
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The New Deal
shaped our nation's
politics for decades,
and was seen by
many as tantamount

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to the "American
Short
Way" itself. Now, in
Introductions
this superb compact
history, Eric
Rauchway offers an
informed account of
the New Deal and
the Great
Depression,
illuminating its
successes and
failures. Rauchway

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first describes how
the roots of the
Great Depression lay
in America's post-
war economic
policies--described
as "laissez-faire with
a vengeance"--which
in effect isolated our
nation from the
world economy just
when the world

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needed the United States most. He shows how the magnitude of the resulting economic upheaval, and the ineffectiveness of the old ways of dealing with financial hardships, set the stage for Roosevelt's vigorous

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(and sometimes
unconstitutional)

Short
Introductions
Depression-fighting

policies. Indeed,
Rauchway stresses
that the New Deal
only makes sense as
a response to this
global economic
disaster. The book
examines a key
sampling of New

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Deal programs,
ranging from the
National Recovery

Agency and the
Securities and
Exchange

Commission, to the
Public Works

Administration and
Social Security,
revealing why some
worked and others

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did not. In the end,

Rauchway

concludes, it was the

coming of World

War II that finally

generated the

political will to

spend the massive

amounts of public

money needed to put

Americans back to

work. And only the

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Cold War saw the full implementation of New Deal policies abroad--including the United Nations, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund.

Today we can look back at the New Deal and, for the first time, see its full

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complexity.

Rauchway captures
this complexity in a
remarkably short
space, making this
book an ideal
introduction to one
of the great policy
revolutions in
history. About the
Series: Oxford's
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trenchant and

provocative--yet

always balanced and

complete--discussion

s of the central issues

in a given topic.

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readable evolution of

the subject in

question,

demonstrating how it

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has developed and
influenced society.

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study, whatever the
topic that fascinates
the reader, the series
has a handy and
affordable guide that
will likely prove
indispensable.

Crusading fervour
gripped Europe for

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over 200 years,
creating one of the
most extraordinary,
vivid episodes in
world history.

Whether the
Crusades are
regarded as the most
romantic of
Christian
expeditions, or the
last of the barbarian

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invasions, they have
fascinated
generations ever

since. Were the
Crusaders motivated
by spiritual rewards,
or by greed? Were
they an experiment
in European
colonialism, or a
manifestation of
religious love? How

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were they organized
and founded?

Christopher

Tyerman picks his way through the many debates to present a clear and lively discussion of the Crusades; bringing together issues of colonialism, cultural exchange,

Get Free Taxation A Very Short Introduction Very economic

exploitation, and the
relationship between
past and present.

The Great
Depression forced
the United States to
adopt policies at
odds with its political
traditions. This title
looks at the
background to the

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Introduction
Depression, its social
impact, and at the
various

governmental
attempts to deal with
the crisis.

The Welfare State: A
Very Short
Introduction

Feminism: A Very
Short Introduction

History: A Very

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Revolutions: A Very
Short Introduction

Accounting: A Very
Short Introduction

*Early Americans
were suspicious
of centralized
authority and
executive
power. Casting
away the yoke*

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*Introduction Very
Short
Introductions*
*of England and
its king, the
founding*

*fathers shared
in this
distrust as
they set out to
pen the
Constitution.*

*Weighing a need
for
consolidated
leadership with*

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Short
Introductions
a demand for
states' rights,
they

established a
large federal
republic with
limited
dominion over
the states,
leaving most of
the governing
responsibility
with the former

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Introduction Very

*colonies. With
this dual
system of
federalism, the
national
government held
the powers of
war, taxation,
and commerce,
and the ability
to pass the
laws necessary
to uphold these*

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Introduction Very
functions.

*Although the
federal role
has grown
substantially
since then,
states and
local
governments
continue to
perform most of
the duties in
civil and*

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Short

*criminal law,
business and
professional
licensing, the
management of
infrastructure
and public
services:
roads, schools,
libraries,
sanitation,
land use and
development,*

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Introduction Very
and etc.

Despite the
critical roles
of state and
local
governments,
there is little
awareness-or un
derstanding-of
the nature and
operations of
the federal
system. This

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Introduction Very

Very Short

Introduction

provides a

concise

overview of

federalism,

from its

origins and

evolution to

the key events

and

constitutional

decisions that

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Introduction Very
Short
have defined
its framework.

Although the
primary focus
is on the
United States,
other federal
systems,
including
Brazil, Canada,
India, Germany,
Russia, South
Africa,

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Introduction Very
Short

*Switzerland,
and the EU, are
addressed.*

*In the
thirteenth and
fourteenth
centuries, the
Mongols carved
out the largest
land-based
empire in world
history,
stretching from*

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Introduction Very
Short
Korea to Russia
in the north
and from China
to Syria in the
south, and
unleashing an
unprecedented
level of
violence. But
as Morris
Rossabi reveals
in this Very
Short

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*Introduction, Very
Short*

*within two
generations of
their bloody
conquests, the
Mongols evolved
from conquerors
and predators
to wise rulers
who devised
policies to
foster the
economies of*

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Introduction Very
Short

*the lands they
had subjugated.*

*By adopting
political and
economic
institutions
familiar to the
local
populations and
recruiting
native
officials, they
won over many*

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Introduction Very

*of their non-
Mongol*

subjects. In

addition,

Mongol nobles

were ardent

patrons of art

and culture,

supporting the

production of

Chinese

porcelains and

textiles,

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Introduction Very
Short

*Iranian tiles
and illustrated
manuscripts,
and Russian
metalwork.*

*Perhaps most
important, the
peace imposed
by the Mongols
on much of Asia
and their
promotion of
trade resulted*

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Introduction Very
Short
Introductions
*in considerable
interaction
among*

*merchants,
scientists,
artists, and
missionaries of
different
ethnic groups--
including
Europeans.*

*Modern Eurasian
and perhaps*

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*global history
starts with the
Mongol empire.
When Europeans
first arrived
in North
America,
between five
and eight
million
indigenous
people were
already living*

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Introduction Very
Short
Introductions
there. But how
did they come
to be here?

What were their
agricultural,
spiritual, and
hunting
practices? How
did their
societies
evolve and what
challenges do
they face

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Introduction Very
Short
today? Eminent
historians

Theda Perdue
and Michael

Green begin by
describing how
nomadic bands

of hunter-
gatherers

followed the
bison and

woolly mammoth

over the Bering

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land mass

between Asia

and what is now

Alaska between

25,000 and

15,000 years

ago, settling

throughout

North America.

They describe

hunting

practices among

different

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*tribes, how
some made the
gradual*

*transition to
more settled,*

*agricultural
ways of life,*

*the role of
kinship and*

*cooperation in
Native*

societies,

their varied

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Introduction Very
Short

*burial rites
and spiritual
practices, and
many other
features of*

*Native American
life.*

*Throughout the
book, Perdue
and Green
stress the
great diversity
of indigenous*

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Introduction Very
Short

*peoples in
America, who
spoke more than
400 different
languages
before the
arrival of
Europeans and
whose ways of
life varied
according to
the
environments*

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Introduction Very
Short
Introductions
they settled in
and adapted to
so

successfully.

Most

importantly,

the authors

stress how

Native

Americans have

struggled to

maintain their

sovereignty--fi

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Introduction Very
Short

*rst with
European powers
and then with
the United
States--in
order to retain
their lands,
govern
themselves,
support their
people, and
pursue
practices that*

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Introduction Very
Short
Introductions
*have made their
lives
meaningful.*

*Going beyond
the stereotypes
that so often
distort our
views of Native
Americans, this
Very Short
Introduction
offers a
historically*

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Introduction Very

accurate,

deeply

engaging, and

often inspiring

account of the

wide array of

Native peoples

in America.

About the

Series:

Combining

authority with

wit,

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*Introduction Very
Short
Short*
accessibility,
and style, Very
Short

*Introductions
offer an
introduction to
some of life's
most
interesting
topics. Written
by experts for
the newcomer,
they*

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*demonstrate the
finest
contemporary
thinking about
the central
problems and
issues in
hundreds of key
topics, from
philosophy to
Freud, quantum
theory to
Islam.*

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*Greek and Roman
warfare
differed from
other cultures
and was unlike
any other forms
of warfare
before and
after. The key
difference is
often held to
be that the
Greeks and*

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Short

Romans

*practised a
'Western Way of
War', where the
aim is an open,
decisive
battle, won by
courage
instilled in
part by
discipline.*

Harry

Sidebottom

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*looks at how
and why this
'Western Way of
War' was
constructed and
maintained by
the Greeks and
Romans, why
this concept is
so popular and
prevalent
today, and at
whether or not*

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Short
this is an
accurate

interpretation.

All aspects of
ancient warfare
are thoroughly
examined - from
philosophy and
strategy to the
technical
skills needed
to fight. He
looks at war in

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Short

*the wider
context - how
wars could
shape classical
society, and
how the
individual's
identity could
be constructed
by war, for
example the
Christian
soldier*

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Short

*fighting in
God's name. He
also explores
the ways in
which ancient
society thought
about conflict:
Can a war be
just? Why was
siege warfare
particularly
bloody? What
role did divine*

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Introduction Very

intervention

play in the

outcome of a

battle? Taking

fascinating

examples from

the Iliad,

Tacitus, and

the Persian

Wars,

Sidebottom uses

arresting

anecdotes and

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Short
Introductions
*striking visual
images to show
that the any
understanding
of ancient war
is an ongoing
process of
interpretation.*

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enthusiasm to

make

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readable.

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Federalism

The French

Revolution: A

Very Short

Introduction

The Great

Depression and

the New Deal: A

Very Short

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Introduction

Short
First published
as part of the

best-selling

The Oxford

Illustrated

History of

Britain, John

Morrill's Very

Short

Introduction to

Stuart Britain

sets the

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Revolution into
its political,
religious,
social,
economic,
intellectual,
and cultural
contexts. It
thus seeks to
integrate what
most other
surveys pull
apart. It gives

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a graphic

Short
account of the
Introductions
effects of a

century-long

period during

which

population was

growing

inexorably and

faster than

both the food

supply and the

employment

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Short

market. It
looks at the
failed attempts
of successive
governments to
make all those
under their
authority
obedient
members of a
unified
national
church; it

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Short

looks at how
Charles I
blundered into
a civil war
which then took
on a terrifying
momentum of its
own. The result
was his trial
and execution,
the abolition
of the
monarchy, the

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house of lords,
the bishops,
the prayer book
and the
celebration of
Christmas. As a
result
everything else
that people
took for
granted came up
for challenge,
and this book

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shows how
painfully and
with what
difficulty
order and
obedience was
restored.

Vividly
illustrated and
full of
startling
detail, this is
an ideal

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Introduction Very
Short
Introductions

introduction to
those
interested in
getting into
the period, and
also contains
much to
challenge and
stimulate those
who already
feel at home in
Stuart England.

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perspective,
new ideas, and
enthusiasm to
make
interesting and
challenging

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Short
Introductions
topics highly
readable.

We make choices
all the time -
about trivial
matters, about
how to spend
our money,
about how to
spend our time,
about what to
do with our
lives. And we

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are also
constantly
judging the
decisions other
people make as
rational or
irrational. But
what kind of
criteria are we
applying when
we say that a
choice is
rational? What

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Short

guides our own
choices,
especially in
cases where we
don't have
complete
information
about the
outcomes? What
strategies
should be
applied in
making

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decisions which
affect a lot of
people, as in
the case of
government
policy? This
book explores
what it means
to be rational
in all these
contexts. It
introduces
ideas from

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economics,
philosophy, and
other areas,
showing how the
theory applies
to decisions in
everyday life,
and to
particular
situations such
as gambling and
the allocation
of resources.

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enthusiasm to
make
interesting and

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challenging
Short
topics highly
readable.
Introductions

Tax revenues
pay for many
public
services,
including
roads, health
care, and
education.
However, it has
become a

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Introduction Very
contentious
Short
political issue
Introductions
of public
debate. In this
Very Short
Introduction,
Stephen Smith
explains its
history and its
main
principles;
arguing that
we'd all

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Introduction Very
Short
Introductions
benefit from an
understanding
of the role of
taxation in
society.

Should the hard
questions of
philosophy
matter to
ordinary
people? In this
down-to-earth,
nonhistorical

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Introduction Very

guide, Thomas

Nagel, the

distinguished

author of

Mortal

Questions and

The View From

Nowhere, brings

philosophical

problems to

life, revealing

in vivid,

accessible

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Short

prose why they
have continued
to fascinate
and baffle
thinkers across
the centuries.
Arguing that
the best way to
learn about
philosophy is
to tackle its
problems head-
on, Nagel turns

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Introduction Very
Short
Introductions
to some of the
most important
questions we

can ask about
ourselves. Do
we really have
free will? Why
should we be
moral? What is
the relation
between our
minds and our
brains? Is

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Short
Introductions

there life
after death?
How should we
feel about
death? In a
universe so
vast, billions
of light years
across, can
anything we do
with our lives
really matter?
And does it

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Short
Introductions

matter if it
doesn't matter?
These are

perennial
questions we
ask about the
human
condition, and
Nagel probes
them, and
others like
them,
thoughtfully,

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clearly, and
with humor. He
states his own
opinions freely
but with
refreshing
modesty, always
leaving it open
to readers to
entertain other
solutions,
encouraging
them to think

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Introduction Very
for themselves.

Short
Nagel is
Introductions
eminently
qualified to
introduce the
uninitiated to
the world of
philosophical
inquiry.

Singled out by
the Chicago
Literary Review
as "one of the

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Introduction Very

sharpest

analytic

philosophers in

America today,"

he has been

praised in the

New York Times

Book Review for

writing

"sensitively

and elegantly"

and in the

Times Literary

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Short

Supplement for
his ability,
rare among
philosophers,
to combine
"profundity
with clarity
and simplicity
of expression."
Never rarefied,
What Does It
All Mean? opens
our eyes to a

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Short

side of the
world we rarely
consider,

demonstrating
that philosophy
is no empty
study but an
indispensable
key to

understanding
our lives. It
challenges us
to think hard

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and clearly, to
ask questions,
to try out
ideas and raise
possible
objections to
them--in short,
to become
philosophers
ourselves.

Progressivism:
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Political

Short
Philosophy: A
Very Short

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Very Short

Introduction

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Modern Geography

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has come a long way from its historical roots in exploring foreign lands, and simply mapping and naming the regions of the world.

Spanning both physical and human Geography, the discipline today is unique as a subject

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*Introduction, Very Short
Short Introductions,
which can bridge
the divide between
the sciences and
the humanities, and
between the
environment and
our society. Using
wide-ranging
examples from
global warming and
oil, to urbanization
and ethnicity, this
Very Short*

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Introduction paints a broad picture of the current state of Geography, its subject matter, concepts and methods, and its strengths and controversies. The book's conclusion is no less than a manifesto for Geography's future.

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*Our expert authors
combine facts,
analysis,*

*perspective, new
ideas, and*

*enthusiasm to
make interesting
and challenging
topics highly
readable.*

*Environmental
economics can be
controversial, but it*

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Introduction Very

*is also central to
some key policy
issues facing*

*governments and
society today,
including industrial
pollution, global
warming, and
waste/recycling.*

*Stephen Smith
looks at how
economic activity
affects the*

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*environment in
which we live, and
how environmental*

*policies can most
effectively be used.*

*Poststructuralism
changes the way
we understand the
relations between
human beings,
their culture, and
the world.*

Following a brief

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Introduction Very

account of the

historical

relationship

between

structuralism and

poststructuralism,

this Very Short

Introduction traces

the key arguments

that have led

poststructuralists

to challenge

traditional theories

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Introduction Very Short Introductions
of language and culture. Whilst the author discusses such well-known figures as Barthes, Foucault, Derrida, and Lacan, she also draws pertinent examples from literature, art, film, and popular culture, unfolding the poststructuralist

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Introductions
*account of what it
means to be a
human being.*

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Revolutions have shaped world politics for the last three hundred years. This volume shows why revolutions occur, how they unfold, and where they created

democracies and dictatorships. Jack A. Goldstone

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*presents the history
of revolutions from
America and
France to the
collapse of the
Soviet Union,
'People Power'
revolutions, and the
Arab revolts.*

*The Tudors: A Very
Short Introduction
Ancient Warfare: A
Very Short*

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Introduction

*Citizenship: A Very
Short Introduction*

*Keynes: A Very
Short Introduction*

*What Does It All
Mean?: A Very*

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to Philosophy*

**The British
constitution is
regarded as
unique among**

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Introduction Very

the

**constitutions
of the world.**

**What are the
main**

**characteristics
of Britain's
peculiar
constitutional
arrangements?**

**How has the
British
constitution**

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Introduction Very
Short
Introduction
altered in
response to the
changing nature
of its state -
from England,
to Britain, to
the United
Kingdom? What
impact has the
UK's developing
relations with
the European
Union caused?

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Introduction Very

**These are some
of the
questions that
Martin Loughlin
addresses in
this Very Short
Introduction.**

**As a
constitution,
it is one that
has grown
organically in
response to**

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Introduction Very
Short

**changes in the
economic,
political, and
social**

environment,

and which is

not contained

in a single

authoritative

text. By

considering the

nature and

authority of

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Introduction Very
Short

**the current
British
constitution,
and placing it
in the context
of others,
Loughlin
considers how
the traditional
idea of a
constitution
came to be
retained, what**

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Short
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problems have
been generated
as a result of
adapting a
traditional
approach in a
modern
political
world, looking
at what the
future
prospects for
the British

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Short
Introductions**
**constitution
are. ABOUT THE
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titles in
almost every
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Introduction Very
Short
Introductions
**interesting and
challenging
topics highly
readable.**

**Traditionally
economists have
based their
economic
predictions on
the assumption
that humans are
super-rational
creatures,**

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Introduction Very

**using the
information we
are given
efficiently and
generally
making selfish
decisions that
work well for
us as
individuals.
Economists also
assume that
we're doing the**

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Introduction Very

**very best we
can possibly do
- not only for**

**today, but over
our whole
lifetimes too.**

But

**increasingly
the study of
behavioural
economics is
revealing that
our lives are**

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Short

**not that
simple.**

**Instead, our
decisions are
complicated by
our own
psychology.
Each of us
makes mistakes
every day. We
don't always
know what's
best for us**

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Short
Introductions

**and, even if we
do, we might
not have the
self-control to
deliver on our
best
intentions. We
struggle to
stay on diets,
to get enough
exercise and to
manage our
money. We**

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Introduction Very
Short
Introductions

**misjudge risky
situations. We
are prone to
herding:**

**sometimes peer
pressure leads
us blindly to
copy others
around us;
other times
copying others
helps us to
learn quickly**

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**about new,
unfamiliar
situations.**

**This Very Short
Introduction
explores the
reasons why we
make irrational
decisions; how
we decide
quickly; why we
make mistakes
in risky**

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Short
Introductions

**situations; our
tendency to pro
crastination;
and how we are
affected by
social
influences,
personality,
mood and
emotions. The
implications of
understanding
the rationale**

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for our own
financial
behaviour are

huge.

Behavioural
economics could
help policy-
makers to
understand the
people behind
their policies,
enabling them
to design more

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Introduction Very

effective

policies, while

at the same

time we could

find ourselves

assaulted by

increasingly

savvy

marketing.

Michelle

Baddeley

concludes by

looking

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forward, to see
what the future
of behavioural
economics holds
for us. ABOUT
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new ideas, and
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Measurement is
a fundamental
concept that
underpins
almost every
aspect of the

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modern world.

It is central
to the

sciences,
social
sciences,
medicine, and
economics, but
it affects
everyday life.

We measure
everything -
from the

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**distance of far-
off galaxies to
the temperature
of the air,
levels of risk,
political
majorities,
taxes, blood
pressure, IQ,
and weight. The
history of
measurement
goes back to**

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**the ancient
world, and its
story has been
one of gradual
standardization**

**. Today there
are different
types of
measurement,
levels of
accuracy, and
systems of
units, applied**

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in different
contexts.

Measurement
involves
notions of
variability,
accuracy,
reliability,
and error, and
challenges such
as the
measurement of
extreme values.

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**In this Very
Short
Introduction,
David Hand
explains the
common
mathematical
framework
underlying all
measurement,
the main
approaches to
measurement,**

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**and the
challenges
involved.**

**Following a
brief
historical
account of
measurement, he
discusses
measurement as
used in the
physical
sciences and**

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**engineering,
the life
sciences and
medicine, the
social and
behavioural
sciences,
economics,
business, and
public policy.**

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**John Maynard
Keynes**

**(1883-1946) is
a central
thinker of the
twentieth
century, not
just an
economic
theorist and
statesman, but
also in
economics,**

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**philosophy,
politics, and
culture. In**

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**Lord Skidelsky,
a renowned**

**biographer of
Keynes,**

**explores his
ethical and**

practical

philosophy, his

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monetary

**thought, and
provides an
insight into
his life and
works. In the
recent
financial
crisis Keynes's
theories have
become more
timely than
ever, and**

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remain at the
centre of
political and
economic
discussion.

With a look at
his major works
and his
contribution to
twentieth-
century
economic
thought,

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Skidelsky

considers

**Keynes's legacy
on today's**

society. ABOUT

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**covers the
establishment
of the Anglo-
Norman
monarchy in the
early Middle
Ages, through
to England's
failure to
dominate the
British Isles and
France in the**

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**later Middle
Ages. Out of the
turbulence came
stronger senses
of identity in
Scotland, Wales,
and Ireland. Yet
this was an age,
too, of growing
definition of
Englishness and
of a distinctive**

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**English cultural
tradition.**

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**Microeconomics
- individuals'
choices of
where to live
and work, how**

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**much to save,
what to buy,
and firms'**

**decisions about
location, hiring,
firing, and
investment -
involves issues
that concern us
on a daily basis.
But when
people think**

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about

**economics, they
tend to place**

**importance on
the bigger**

picture -

**macroeconomics
- including**

**issues such as
unemployment,
inflation, and
the**

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**competitiveness
of nations. In
this Very Short
Introduction,
Avinash Dixit
argues that the
microeconomy
has a large
impact on the
economic world,
arguably as
much as the**

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Short

**issues of macro
economics. Dixit
steers a clear
path through
the huge
number of
issues related to
microeconomics
, explaining
what happens
when things go
well, as well as**

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showing how

they fail, why

that happens,

**and what can be
done about it.**

Using real-life

examples from

around the

world, using the

minimum of

mathematics

and including

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**simple graphs,
he provides
insights into**

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psychology and
sociology to
explain
economic
behaviour and
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business and
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"The conflict
between

Palestine and

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**Israel is one of
the most highly
publicized and
bitter struggles
of modern
times, a
dangerous
tinderbox
always poised
to set the
Middle East
aflake, and to**

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**draw the United
States into the
fire. In this**

**volume the
author
illuminates the
history of the
problem,
reducing it to its
very essence.
He explores the
Palestinian-**

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**Israeli dispute
in twenty-year
segments, to
highlight the
historical
complexity of
the conflict
throughout
successive
decades. Each
chapter starts
with an**

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**examination of
the
relationships
among people
and events that
marked
particular years
as historical
stepping stones
in the evolution
of the conflict,
including the**

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**1897 Basel
Congress, the
1917 Balfour
Declaration and
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occupation of
Palestine, and
the 1947 U.N.
Partition Plan
and the war for
Palestine.
Providing an**

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**exploration of
the main issues,
the author**

**explores not
only the
historical basis
of the conflict,
but also looks at
how and why
partition has
been so difficult
and how efforts**

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**to restore peace
continue
today" --OCLC**

**If you read the
'business pages'
of a newspaper
or if you listen
to the financial
news on the
television or
radio, you will
often hear**

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**terms such as
'liability',
'balance sheet'
or 'earnings'.**

**These terms
turn up in non-
financial
contexts as
well: 'he was
more of a
liability than an
asset'. If you**

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**invest in shares,
have a building
society account,
or sit on a
committee of
the property
company which
owns your
apartment
block, you will
receive financial
statements**

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every year. If

**you are a
manager in a**

**company, a
hospital or a**

**school, you will
see accounting**

information

**often. This Very
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provides a guide

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**understanding
and using**

**accounting
information.**

**Christopher
Nobes explains
the main areas
of accounting
work, from
bookkeeping
and financial**

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auditing and
management
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this highly topical
issue.

By his writings, the
surviving bulk of
which exceeds that of
any other ancient
author, Augustine
came to influence not
only his
contemporaries but
also the West since
his time. This Very
Short Introduction
traces the

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development of
Augustine's thought,
discussing his
reaction to the
thinkers before him,
and themes such as
freedom, creation,
and the trinity.

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This book introduces readers to the concepts of political philosophy. It starts by explaining why the subject is important and how it tackles basic ethical questions such as 'how should we live together in society?' It looks at political authority, the reasons why we need politics

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at all, the limitations of politics, and whether there are areas of life that shouldn't be governed by politics. It explores the connections between political authority and justice, a constant theme in political philosophy, and the ways in which social justice can be used to regulate rather than

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destroy a market
economy. David Miller
discusses why

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natural units of
government and
whether the rise of
multiculturalism and
transnational co-
operation will change
this: will we ever see
the formation of a
world government?

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examination of how
historians work, this
"Very Short
Introduction" aims to
explore history in a
general, pithy, and
accessible manner,
rather than to delve

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into specific periods.

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