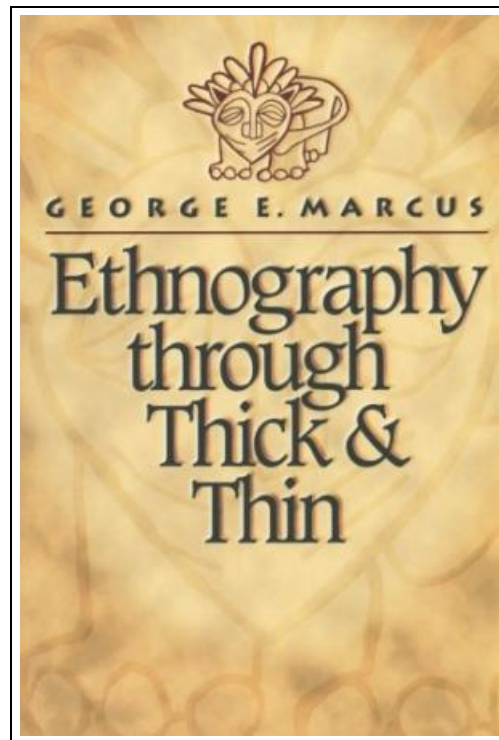


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ETHNOGRAPHY THROUGH THICK AND THIN

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Princeton University Press. Paperback. Condition: New. 288 pages. Dimensions: 9.1in. x 6.1in. x 0.8in. In the 1980s, George Marcus spearheaded a major critique of cultural anthropology, expressed most clearly in the landmark book *Writing Culture*, which he coedited with James Clifford. *Ethnography through Thick and Thin* updates and advances that critique for the late 1990s. Marcus presents a series of penetrating and provocative essays on the changes that continue to sweep across anthropology. He examines, in particular, how the disciplines central practice of ethnography has been changed by multi-sited approaches to anthropology and how new research patterns are transforming anthropologists careers. Marcus rejects the view, often expressed, that these changes are undermining anthropology. The combination of traditional ethnography with scholarly experimentation, he argues, will only make the discipline more lively and diverse. The book is divided into three main parts. In the first, Marcus shows how ethnographers tradition of defining fieldwork in terms of peoples and places is now being challenged by the need to study culture by exploring connections, parallels, and contrasts among a variety of often seemingly incommensurate sites. The second part illustrates this emergent multi-sited condition of research by reflecting it in some of Marcuss own past research on Tongan elites and dynastic American fortunes. In the final section, which includes the previously unpublished essay *Sticking with Ethnography through Thick and Thin*, Marcus examines the evolving professional culture of anthropology and the predicaments of its new scholars. He shows how students have increasingly been drawn to the field as much by such powerful interdisciplinary movements as feminism, postcolonial studies, and cultural studies as by anthropologys own traditions. He also considers the impact of demographic changes within the discipline--in particular the fact that anthropologists are no longer almost exclusively Euro-Americans studying non-Euro-Americans. These changes raise new issues about the...

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