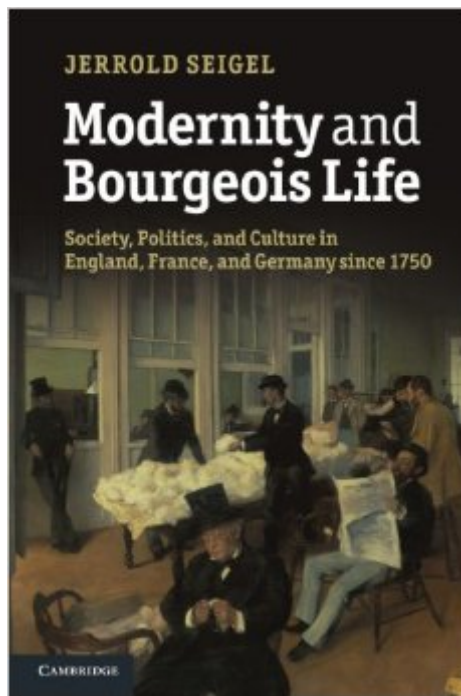


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Modernity And Bourgeois Life: Society, Politics, And Culture In England, France And Germany Since 1750



Synopsis

To be modern may mean many different things, but for nineteenth-century Europeans 'modernity' suggested a new form of life in which bourgeois activities, people, attitudes and values all played key roles. Jerrold Seigel's panoramic new history offers a magisterial and highly original account of the ties between modernity and bourgeois life, arguing that they can be best understood not in terms of the rise and fall of social classes, but as features of their common participation in expanding and thickening networks that linked together distant energies and resources across economic, political and cultural life. Exploring the different configurations of these networks in England, France and Germany, he shows how their patterns gave rise to distinctive forms of modernity in each country and shaped the rhythm and nature of change across spheres as diverse as politics, money and finance, gender relations, morality, and literary, artistic and musical life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The \$10,000 Laura Shannon Prize was awarded to Jerrold Seigel for this book, which the jury commended, stating "A work of erudite detail and stunning originality, Jerrold Seigel's *Modernity and Bourgeois Life* offers a magisterial account of the development of networks in terms of economy, politics, and aesthetic culture. In a volume that displays a lifetime of detailed research and reading, impeccably marshaled and prodigiously footnoted, Seigel argues for the emergence of a bourgeois form of life in which 'networks of means' link distant energies and resources in ways that amplify the agency and social power of individuals and groups. He examines the distinctive shapes this bourgeois form of life has taken in England, French, and Germany, building a compelling case

that brings apparently distinct factors and even antagonistic forces into focus in an original account of the constitutive features of modernity. Here is a work of scholarly synthesis and narrative power capable of informing many disciplines for decades to come." The final jury included eminent scholars Russell A. Berman (Walter A. Haas Professor in the Humanities, Stanford University), Thomas Elsaesser (Professor of Film and Television Studies Emeritus, University of Amsterdam), Jennifer Herdt (Gilbert L. Stark Professor of Christian Ethics, Yale Divinity School), Peter Holland (McMeel Family Chair in Shakespeare Studies, University of Notre Dame), Alasdair MacIntyre, (Professor of Philosophy Emeritus, University of Notre Dame).

Very fast shipping and excellent book, just as it was described

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