

AFTER FOUCAULT

The work of Michel Foucault is much read, widely cited, and occasionally misunderstood. In response to this state of affairs, this collection aims to clarify, contextualize, and contribute to Foucauldian scholarship in a very specific way. Rather than offering either a conceptual introduction to Foucault's work, or a series of interventions aimed specifically at experts, *After Foucault* explores his critical afterlives, situates his work in current debates, and explains his intellectual legacy. As well as offering up-to-date assessments of Foucault's ongoing importance in fields such as literary studies, sexuality studies, and history, chapters explore his relevance for urgent and emerging disciplines and debates, including ecology, animal studies, and the analysis of neoliberalism. Written in an accessible style, by leading experts, *After Foucault* demonstrates a commitment to taking seriously the work of a key twentieth-century thinker for contemporary academic disciplines, political phenomena, and cultural life.

LISA DOWNING is an internationally renowned specialist of history and theories of sexuality, who is currently Professor of French Discourses of Sexuality at the University of Birmingham, UK. She is author, co-author, and editor of scores of publications, including *The Cambridge Introduction to Michel Foucault* (2008). In 2009, her interdisciplinary work was recognized by the award of the prestigious Phillip Leverhulme Prize (for outstanding scholars under the age of thirty-six). Her publications on gender, sexuality, murder, and perversion have attracted considerable media interest, and she has most recently appeared on BBC Radio 4's *Thinking Aloud*.

AFTER SERIES

This series focuses on the legacy of several iconic figures, and key themes, in the origins and development of literary theory. Each book in the series attempts to isolate the influence, legacy and the impact of thinkers. Each figure addressed not only bequeathed specific concepts and doctrines to literary study, but they effectively opened up new critical landscapes for research. It is this legacy that this series tries to capture, with every book being designed specifically for use in literature departments. Throughout each book the concept of 'After' is used in 3 ways: After in the sense of trying to define what is quintessential about each figure: 'What has each figure introduced into the world of literary studies, criticism and interpretation?' After in a purely chronological sense: 'What comes after each figure?', 'What has his/her influence and legacy been?' and 'How have they changed the landscape of literary studies?' Lastly, After in a practical sense: 'How have their respective critical legacies impacted on an understanding of literary texts?' Each book is a collaborative volume with an international cast of critics and their level is suited for recommended reading on courses.

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AFTER FOUCAULT

*Culture, Theory, and Criticism in the
Twenty-First Century*

EDITED BY
LISA DOWNING
University of Birmingham



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
978-1-107-14049-3 — After Foucault
Edited by Lisa Downing
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
79 Anson Road, #06-04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781316506042
DOI: 10.1017/9781316492864

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First published 2018

Printed in the United States of America by Sheridan Books, Inc.

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-107-14049-3 Hardback
ISBN 978-1-316-50604-2 Paperback

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Acknowledgements

I would like to thank my commissioning editor at Cambridge University Press, Ray Ryan, and his assistant, Edgar Mendez, for their help and support in the course of the planning and production of this book. Thanks also to the anonymous expert readers for their enthusiasm for this project and for their suggestions. My postgraduate student Katie Masters is owed a debt of gratitude for her meticulous assistance with the preparation of the manuscript and proofs. Finally, to all of my contributors, thank you for your commitment and for making it a pleasure for me to work with you on this project.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-107-14049-3 — After Foucault
Edited by Lisa Downing
Frontmatter
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A Note on Editions Used

Authors refer to and quote from different versions of English translations of texts by Foucault throughout the book. This can, in some cases, be attributed to the differing availability of certain titles in the countries in which authors are based, and in others to the preference of an author for a given translation of a work, or, indeed, to draw attention to word choices made in translation in specific editions.

For these reasons, and for easy excerpting of individual chapters for use in teaching and research, each chapter is followed by complete references, in the form of endnotes, enabling each chapter to stand alone.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-107-14049-3 — After Foucault
Edited by Lisa Downing
Frontmatter
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