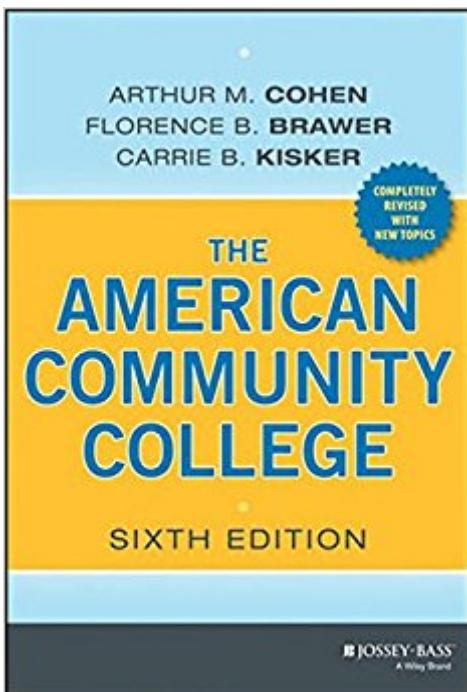


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The American Community College



Synopsis

Praise for the Previous Edition of The American Community College "Projecting the future for the community colleges of the early twenty-first century involves projecting the future for the nation in general: its demographics, economy, and public attitudes.... At heart is a discourse on how the institutions may adapt historical structures and practices to a changing world, and how those changes may ultimately affect students, the community, and society at large." ¹from the Conclusion, "Toward the Future" "Since 1982, The American Community College by Cohen and Brawer has been the authoritative book on community colleges. Anyone who wants to understand these complex and dynamic institutions¹;how they are evolving, the contributions they make, the challenges they face, the students they serve, and the faculty and leaders who deliver the services and the curricula¹;will find The American Community College both essential reading and an important reference book." ¹George R. Boggs, former president and CEO, American Association of Community Colleges "I have been a community college president for over forty-one years and a graduate professor for three decades. This book has been an inspiration to generations of students, faculty members, and administrators. It has become the classic of the field because it has great 'take-home' value to us all." ¹Joseph N. Hankin, president, Westchester Community College "Cohen and Brawer's classic work is the touchstone for a comprehensive overview of the American community college. This is a seminal book for graduate students as well as seasoned professionals for understanding this uniquely American institution." ¹Charles R. Dassane, former president, Central Florida Community College

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Customer Reviews

For more than thirty years, The American Community College has been the go-to reference for faculty, administrators, trustees, state-level officials, and researchers concerned with the role of community colleges in the American educational system, the services they provide, and their effects on students and surrounding communities. Now in its sixth edition, The American Community College includes a new chapter on student outcomes and accountability; a case for reconceptualizing general education around critical thinking, civic engagement, and sustainable development; and an appendix examining the ascendant for-profit sector. The sixth edition also incorporates expanded analyses of recent trends within the community colleges, including vertical expansion; cross-sector collaboration; student and faculty characteristics; enrollment patterns; revenue generation and state allocation patterns, including performance-based funding; distance learning; and statewide efforts to improve transfer and articulation. In addition, the authors include a response to contemporary criticisms of the institution. Comprehensive in scope, the sixth edition of The American Community College is designed for anyone concerned with the role and purpose of community institutions in American higher education. The descriptions and analyses of each of the institution's functions can be used by administrators who want to learn about practices that have proven successful at other colleges, curriculum planners involved in program revisions, faculty members seeking ideas for modifying their courses, students preparing for careers in community colleges, and trustees and officials concerned with college policies and student progress and outcomes. Each chapter of the book includes guiding questions for reflection and discussion.

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It is unfortunate that this book is so popular among instructor's teaching a course on the US community college. The authors' express a bias in their tonality throughout the book. This comes in various forms throughout the book. For example, they insert these little judgmental comments after statements that seemingly they disagree with as if in an attempt to discredit the source. This went way too far for me on page 368 of this edition: They did not see anything wrong with using the word "hagiographers" to describe social science researchers whom presents alternative views to the conception and purpose of the U.S.-American community college. In other words, if a concept, idea, or actual research goes against their views, the authors have no qualms interjecting immature comments. Sure, it is fine to express opposing viewpoints or feelings. But this isn't a blog. This is (suppose to be) a TEXTBOOK. And in case they still haven't received the memo: filling paragraphs with rhetorical questions is quite annoying and fruitless. Please, someone out there write another book on the U.S. American community college system to replace this one.

I am working through an independent study course on two-year institutions with a focus on student retention efforts and the employment of adjunct faculty members. The American Community College provides an in depth review of key topics relating to community colleges while providing examples of policies, changes in direction, funding plans, and a look towards the future. Each chapter was organized in an easy to read consistent fashion that allowed a topic to be introduced, dissected, made relevant by supporting research, and a look to continuing issues. The reader will come out of the experience with an understanding on two-year institutions that will allow them to thoughtfully contribute to a round table conversation.

Good book if you're interested in the American community college experience. Thorough in it's

analysis and factual discussion.

I used this book in one of my masters degree classes, I passed with "A". Happy with this vendor, the book arrived earlier than expected and new. Highly recommend this vendor. Rochelle Miller

Such odd points of view/personal opinions introduced into the reading by the authors. It is also SUCH DRY READING. Come on, the history of community colleges and their structures can be worth learning about, but I feel like sleep is impending every time I try and read this. UGH

had to read for school. loved it

I had to purchase this book for a college class. I am not really into history and this book is the history of community college. It was boring, but I learned what I needed to pass the class.

This book really opens your mind to many things regarding our community colleges. I've not yet gotten very far into it, but thus far I have been impressed with its coverage of the community college role in our ever-changing society. I will look forward to working my way through this book and enjoy the anticipation of understanding more about community colleges and the impact they make on our lives.

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