

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910450019403321
Autore	Wood Diana <1940->
Titolo	Medieval economic thought // Diana Wood [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2002
ISBN	1-107-12658-4 1-280-15180-3 0-511-81104-7 0-511-11610-1 0-511-03944-1 0-511-14834-8 0-511-33029-4 0-511-05281-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xii, 259 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	Cambridge medieval textbooks
Disciplina	330.15/12
Soggetti	Economics - History - To 1800 Aristotle
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [227]-242) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Half-title; Series-title; Title; Copyright; CONTENTS; PREFACE; ABBREVIATIONS; INTRODUCTION: PROBLEMS, EVIDENCE, AND BACKGROUND; 1 PRIVATE PROPERTY VERSUS COMMUNAL RIGHTS: THE CONFLICT OF TWO LAWS; 2 WEALTH, BEGGARY, AND SUFFICIENCY; 3 WHAT IS MONEY?; 4 SOVEREIGN CONCERNS: WEIGHTS, MEASURES AND COINAGE; 5 THE MERCANTILE SYSTEM; 6 THE JUST PRICE AND THE JUST WAGE; 7 THE NATURE OF USURY: THE USURER AS WINNER; 8 THE THEORY OF INTEREST: THE USURER AS LOSER; CONCLUSION; APPENDIX NOTES ON THE MAIN WRITERS AND ANONYMOUS WORKS MENTIONED IN THE TEXT; GLOSSARY OF TERMS; SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY; INDEX
Sommario/riassunto	This book is an introduction to medieval economic thought, mainly from the twelfth to the fifteenth centuries, as it emerges from the works of academic theologians and lawyers and other sources - from Italian merchants' writings to vernacular poetry, Parliamentary legislation, and manorial court rolls. It raises a number of questions

based on the Aristotelian idea of the mean, the balance and harmony underlying justice, as applied by medieval thinkers to the changing economy. How could private ownership of property be reconciled with God's gift of the earth to all in common? How could charity balance resources between rich and poor? What was money? What were the just price and the just wage? How was a balance to be achieved between lender and borrower and how did the idea of usury change to reflect this? The answers emerge from a wide variety of ecclesiastical and secular sources.

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