

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910454464903321
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Titolo	Navigators of the contemporary [[electronic resource]] : why ethnography matters // David A. Westbrook
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chicago, : University of Chicago Press, 2008
ISBN	1-282-07041-X 9786612070419 0-226-88753-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (163 p.)
Disciplina	305.8001
Soggetti	Ethnology - Philosophy Ethnology - United States Applied anthropology - Philosophy Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Chapter 1. The Venture -- Chapter 2. Culture Everywhere and Nowhere -- Chapter 3. Conversation as Another Kind of Solution -- Chapter 4. This Book and Other Books -- Chapter 5. What? -- Chapter 6. Where? -- Chapter 7. Who? -- Chapter 8. When? -- Chapter 9. How? -- Chapter 10. Why? -- Chapter 11. Rupture and Continuity -- Chapter 12. Theory -- Chapter 13. Fieldwork -- Chapter 14. Writing -- Chapter 15. One Discipline among Others -- Chapter 16. The Intellectual's Situation -- Chapter 17. The Imaginary and the Political -- Chapter 18. Ethnography and the Bureaucratic University -- Chapter 19. From Science to Romance -- Chapter 20. Reprise
Sommario/riassunto	As the image of anthropologists exploring exotic locales and filling in blanks on the map has faded, the idea that cultural anthropology has much to say about the contemporary world has likewise diminished. In an increasingly smaller world, how can anthropology help us to tackle the concerns of a global society? David A. Westbrook argues that the traditional tool of the cultural anthropologist-ethnography-can still function as an intellectually exciting way to understand our

interconnected, yet mysterious worlds. Navigators of the Contemporary describes the changing nature of ethnography as anthropologists use it to analyze places closer to home. Westbrook maintains that a conversational style of ethnography can help us look beyond our assumptions and gain new insight into arenas of contemporary life such as corporations, financial institutions, science, the military, and religion. Westbrook's witty, absorbing book is a friendly challenge to anthropologists to shed light on the present and join broader streams of intellectual life. And for those outside the discipline, his inspiring vision of ethnography opens up the prospect of understanding our own world in much greater depth.
