

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910792223103321
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Titolo	Contextualizing Cassian [[electronic resource]] : aristocrats, asceticism, and reformation in fifth-century Gaul / / Richard J. Goodrich
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford, : Oxford University Press, 2007
ISBN	9786611149185 1-281-14918-7 0-19-152660-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (309 p.)
Collana	Oxford early Christian studies
Disciplina	271.0092
Soggetti	Monastic and religious life - History of doctrines Asceticism - History - Early church, ca. 30-600 Gaul Religion
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; List of figures; List of tables; List of abbreviations; Introduction; 1. The world of Gallic asceticism; 2. Experientia vs Gallic inexperience; 3. Experientia vs other builders; 4. Instituta as independent authority; 5. Renuntiatio and the 'Rhetoric of Renunciation'; Conclusion; Appendix 1: Cassian of Marseilles?; Appendix 2: Textual problems in De institutis 3; Bibliography; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; L; M; O; P; R; S; T; V; W; Z
Sommario/riassunto	A study of how John Cassian, a fifth-century Gallic author, tried to direct and reshape the development of Western monasticism. Richard J. Goodrich focuses on how Cassian's ascetic treatises were tailored to persuade a wealthy, aristocratic audience to adopt a more stringent, Christ-centred monastic life. - ;Richard J. Goodrich examines the attempt by the fifth-century ascetic writer John Cassian to influence and shape the development of Western monasticism. Goodrich's close analysis of Cassian's earliest work (The Institutes) focuses on his interaction with the values and preconceptions of a