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Title: Review of *The Craft of Social Anthropology* by A. L. Epstein (ed.)

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The Craft of Social Anthropology. A. L. Epstein, ed. 263 pp. Pergamon Press, 1979. \$20.

When first published in 1967, this set of essays on field methods filled a real gap in the contemporary anthropological literature. Despite numerous publications during the intervening years, this reissue is still very welcome; the collection remains the best available exposition of field methods in social anthropology.

The text consists of nine chapters contributed by eight distinguished social anthropologists, all of whom worked with the late Max Gluckman at the former Rhodes-Livingstone Institute, Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia (Zambia), and later at the Department of Social Anthropology, Manchester University. Following an Introduction by Gluckman, the essays are grouped in two sections, the first dealing with orientations and techniques, the second with various topics and methods for studying them.

In the first part, Colson outlines the group's technique for intensive study of small communities, Mitchell discusses the conditions, methods, and value of quantification in social anthropology, and Barnes illustrates problems that arise in calculating divorce frequencies and in collecting and analyzing genealogical data. This section concludes with an account of the school's methods of extended-case study and situational analysis by van Velsen.

These approaches and techniques are applied in Part 2 to selected topics: T. S. Epstein describes the systematic study of rural economies, Turner the documentation and analysis of ritual and shamanism, Alfred Epstein the use of case data to study law and disputes, and Marwick the application of case data to studies of witchcraft. Thus, besides participant observation, village censuses, and other systematic surveys designed to facilitate statistical analysis, this volume stresses and illustrates the value of situational analysis and case methods for the study of various important ethnographic topics. The book is of equal value to the professional concerned with social anthropological field methods and to teachers of advanced studies in social science.—*M. G. Smith, Anthropology, Yale University*