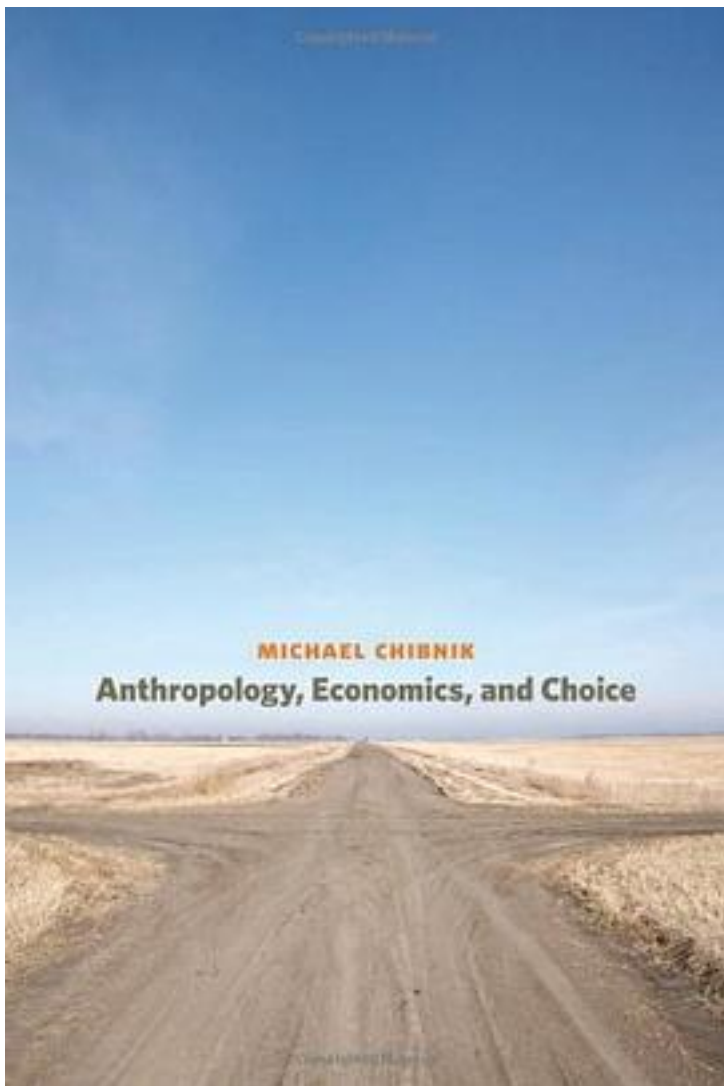


Anthropology, Economics, and Choice



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In the midst of global recession, angry citizens and media pundits often offer simplistic theories about how bad decisions lead to crises. Many economists, however, base their analyses on rational choice theory, which assumes that decisions are made by well-informed, intelligent people who weigh risks, costs, and benefits. Taking a more realistic approach, the field of anthropology carefully looks at the underlying causes of choices at different times and places. Using case studies of choices by farmers, artisans, and bureaucrats drawn from Michael Chibnik's research in Mexico, Peru, Belize, and the United States, *Anthropology, Economics, and Choice* presents a clear-eyed perspective on human actions and their economic consequences. Five key issues are explored in-depth: choices between paid and unpaid work; ways people deal with risk and uncertainty; how individuals decide whether to cooperate; the extent to which households can be regarded as decision-making units; and the "tragedy of the commons," the theory that social chaos may result from unrestricted access to commonly owned property. Both an accessible primer and an innovative exploration of economic anthropology, this interdisciplinary work brings fresh insight to a timely topic.

作者介绍:

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标签

经济人类学

人类学

economic

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评论

从一般人的习惯反应引出论题：不同职业、不同群体的人是如何做经济抉择的，进以人类学者的微观视角深入分析某些问题。这类有别于教材性著作的研究多被人冷落，但往往有自己的探索 and 发现。

充满着“人类学家很边缘化，经济学家受重视，但是他们没有注意到现实复杂性，为了理解真实世界，人们应该更关注人类学家”类似的论述，他的观点当然是对的，只是说话的语气让人觉得有点弱。。。

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书评

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