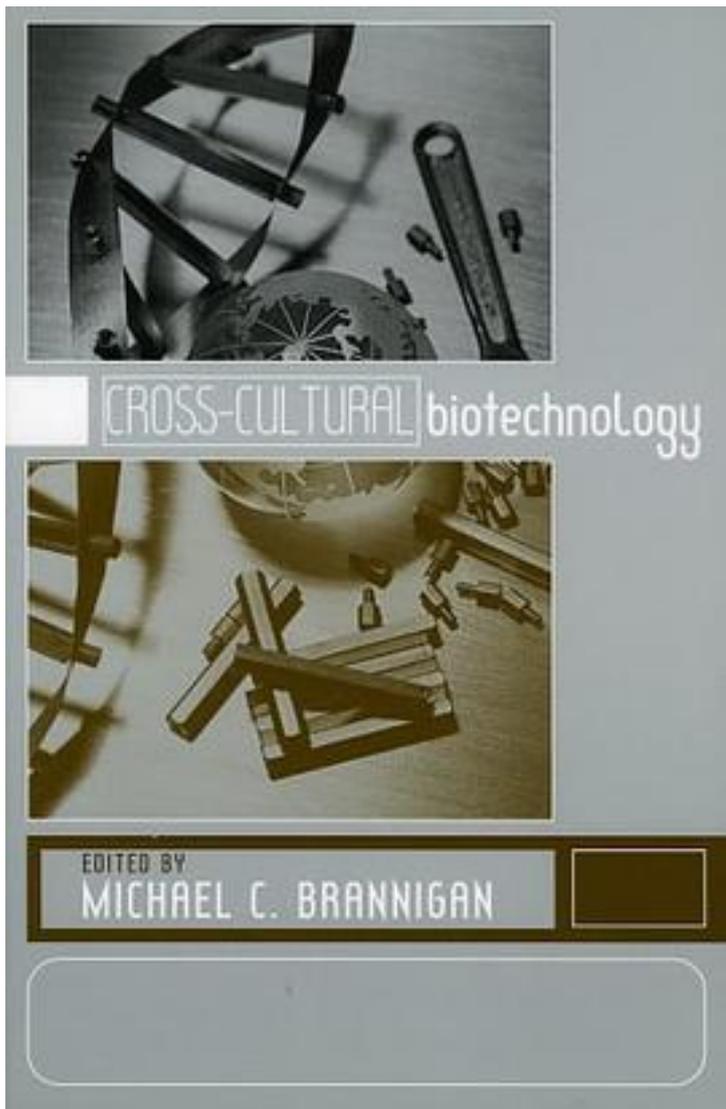


# Crosscultural Biotechnology



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What is biotechnology? What are its goals? Are there global benefits, or are there more perils than promises? Why is it that the poor remain poor? This book exposes biotechnology within a global context and challenges us to cultivate a shared humane vision. Part one outlines major global issues and international policies. Here we see the ubiquitous tension between commercialization and equitable access. The need for global partnership is clear. Part two examines specific biotechnological challenges in various cultures: genetic research in the U.S.A.; genetic testing and regulatory concerns in Canada; embryonic research in Europe; overcoming past legacies in the former Soviet republic; Jewish and Islamic perspectives on biotechnologies; food security issues in Africa; Confucianism in Asia; and the role of indigenous cultures. Part three explores global challenges: the need to balance intellectual property rights and fair access; the need for media sensitivity to cultural contexts; finally, the need to better understand and prepare for bioterrorism. Although western voices still dominate the discussion, it is time to listen to other viewpoints from other cultures. This book embraces a global voice and message: Cross-cultural bridge-building is needed now, more than ever.

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