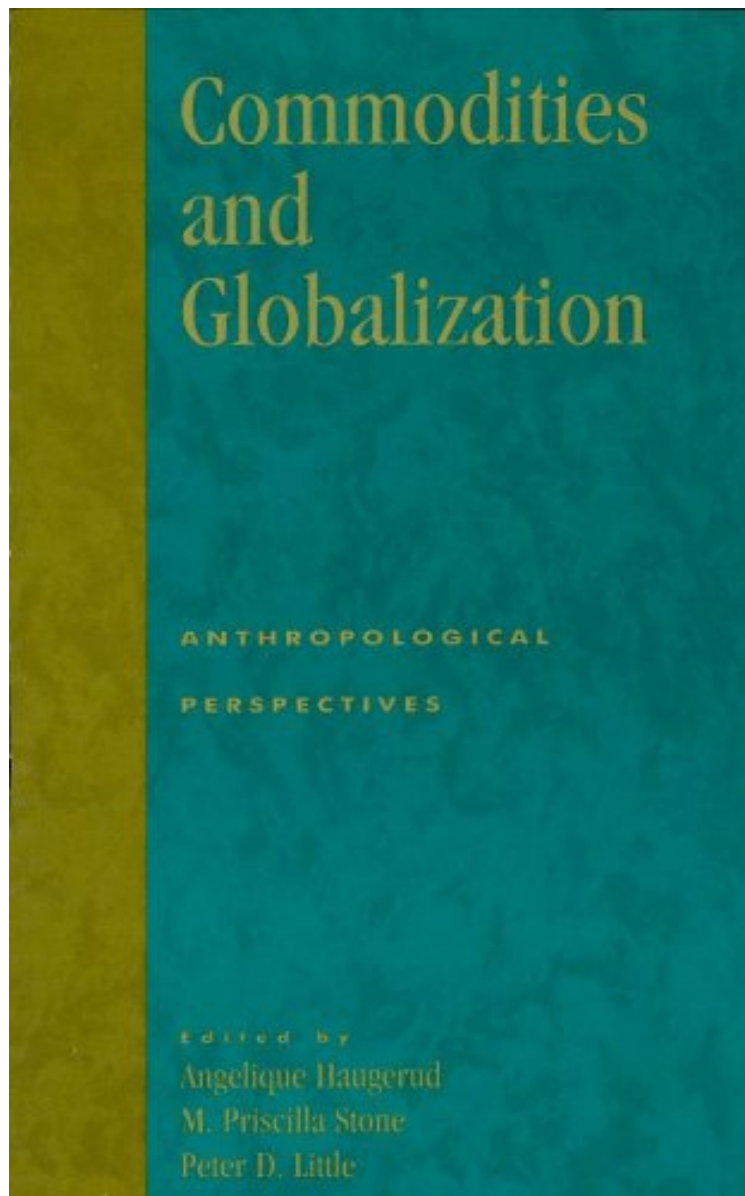


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Today's growing fascination with flows of people, commodities, technology, capital, images and ideas across national and other boundaries poses fresh theoretical and methodological challenges to anthropology. Commodities offer a particularly useful window on globalization because they, unlike electronically conveyed capital, transport cultural messages. These ideological or symbolic transfers are of particular interest to economic anthropology. This collection considers how conceptions and roles of commodities may change in response to widening spheres of economic interaction and exchange. The essays in this volume are ordered under two themes. Those included in the first section, *Commodities in a Globalizing Marketplace*, address historically and culturally defined variations in meanings and practices associated with commodities in globalizing markets. In Part Two, *The Circulation and Revaluation of Commodities*, contributors analyze how commodity producers' experiences are informed by colonial and post-colonial history, state directives in the marketplace, and locations in dependent or marginalized regions. The chapters all focus on the production process as it responds to, is distorted by and increasingly is controlled by the determination of the value of those commodities outside a locality.

About the Author Angelique Haugerud is associate professor of anthropology at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. M. Priscilla Stone is director of international studies, coordinator of African studies, and an adjunct associate professor of anthropology at Washington University in St. Louis. Peter D. Little is professor of anthropology at the University of Kentucky.