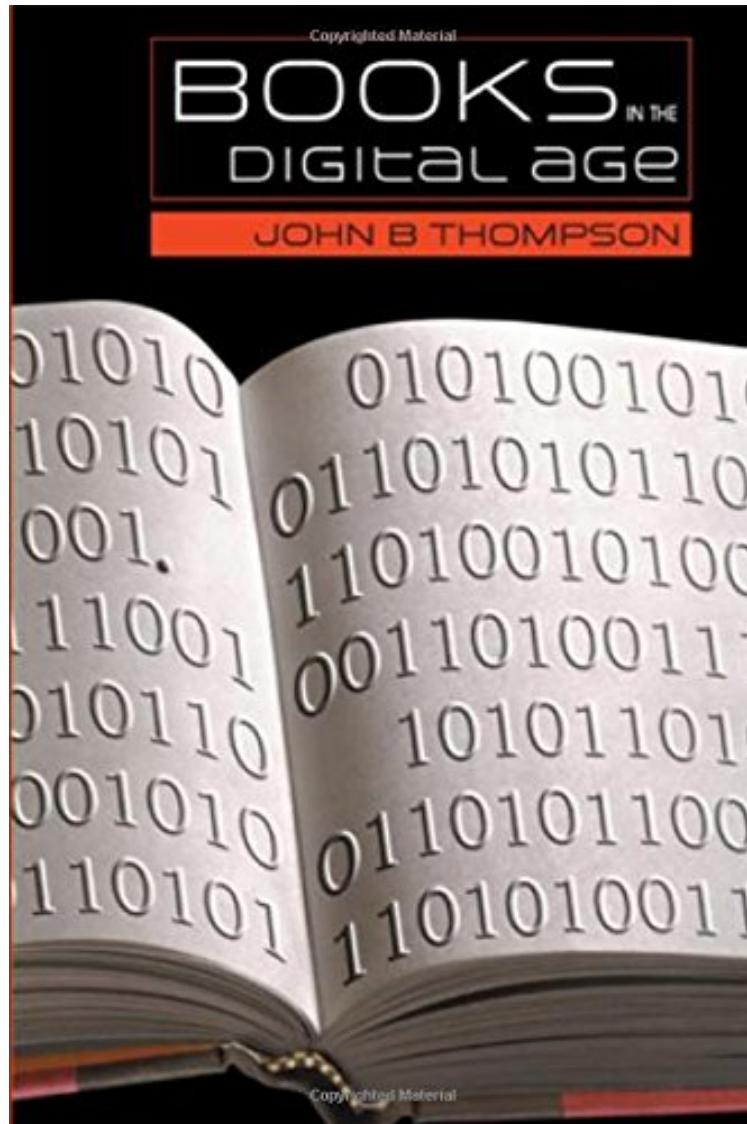


[Free] Books in the Digital Age: The Transformation of Academic and Higher Education Publishing in Britain and the United States

# Books in the Digital Age: The Transformation of Academic and Higher Education Publishing in Britain and the United States

*John B. Thompson*

*audiobook / \*ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



#1612444 in Books Polity 2005-06-13Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.70 x 1.30 x 6.80l, 1.87 #File Name: 0745634788480 pages | File size: 25.Mb

**John B. Thompson : Books in the Digital Age: The Transformation of Academic and Higher Education Publishing in Britain and the United States** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Books in the Digital Age: The Transformation of Academic and Higher Education Publishing in Britain and the United States:

11 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Report on a Revolution Underway By John Matlock While mostly concerned with the university presses this book investigates the changes that the digital revolution has brought to book publishing. This includes: The rise and fall of the (...) and its thoughts of e-books. The advent of the super on-line stores with all but infinite inventory - .com and barnsandnoble.com. The advent of the super chains - (...) Print on Demand publishing. With all of these changes underway, the total book output (conventional printed on paper editions) has continued to rise. In 2002 there were 147,120 new books published in the U.S. Books covering the printing industry in depth do not come around very often. This book represents new research into a revolution that is still in process. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Deborah Gelcinsky An important and timely study for scholars in academic publishing.

The book publishing industry is going through a period of profound and turbulent change brought about in part by the digital revolution. What is the role of the book in an age preoccupied with computers and the internet? How has the book publishing industry been transformed by the economic and technological upheavals of recent years, and how is it likely to change in the future? This is the first major study of the book publishing industry in Britain and the United States for more than two decades. Thompson focuses on academic and higher education publishing and analyses the evolution of these sectors from 1980 to the present. He shows that each sector is characterized by its own distinctive logic or dynamic of change, and that by reconstructing this logic we can understand the problems, challenges and opportunities faced by publishing firms today. He also shows that the digital revolution has had, and continues to have, a profound impact on the book publishing business, although the real impact of this revolution has little to do with the ebook scenarios imagined by many commentators. *Books in the Digital Age* will become a standard work on the publishing industry at the beginning of the 21st century. It will be of great interest to students taking courses in the sociology of culture, media and cultural studies, and publishing. It will also be of great value to professionals in the publishing industry, educators and policy makers, and to anyone interested in books and their future.

"As compelling as it is thorough ... a fascinating study of the contemporary academic publishing world in the UK and US." *Times Higher Education Supplement* "Likely to become the standard work in the field." *British Journal of Educational Studies* "This is undoubtedly the best book I have read about publishing ... It is the only book about publishing I have ever read where every statement rings true." *Learned Publishing* "Faultless, fascinating ... a must-read." *Logos* "A first-rate piece of scholarship." *Academic Matters* "A truly landmark study." *Journal of Scholarly Publishing* "[Those] working within academic/higher education publishing and librarianship have much to gain from this title; it is a valuable resource that explores how textbook publishing programmes in the UK and US in the early stages of the new millennium have evolved from the 1980s industry landscape. It also provides an opportunity to learn directly from senior executives within the academic publishing arena, who speak frankly, on the condition of anonymity." *InPrint* "Extremely useful to use as a potted history of a new area of interest for me." *eLucidate* "Thompson has soaked himself in publishing fact and lore. [His findings] are consistently reliable." *Science* "The world of academic publishing owes a great debt of gratitude to John Thompson ... this extensive and rigorous study is our best guide to the key issues of the day." Drake McFeely, Chairman and President of W. W. Norton Company "A lucid, absorbing and accurate account of the university press world." Walter Lippincott, Director of Princeton University Press "Anyone wishing to know firsthand the issues that keep publishers awake at night would do well to start here. Anyone wishing to know where academic publishing is heading should look no further." William Sisler, Director of Harvard University Press "There is no other study of the publishing world, past or present, as comprehensive or fully researched as this." Professor Michael Schudson, University of California, San Diego "A masterly study." Paul Richardson, Oxford Brookes University

From the Back Cover The book publishing industry is going through a period of profound and turbulent change brought about in part by the digital revolution. What is the role of the book in an age preoccupied with computers and the internet? How has the book publishing industry been transformed by the economic and technological upheavals of recent years, and how is it likely to change in the future? This is the first major study of the book publishing industry in Britain and the United States for more than two decades. Thompson focuses on academic and higher education publishing and analyses the evolution of these sectors from 1980 to the present. He shows that each sector is characterized by its own distinctive logic or dynamic of change, and that by reconstructing this logic we can understand the problems, challenges and opportunities faced by publishing firms today. He also shows that the digital revolution has had, and continues to have, a profound impact on the book publishing business, although the real impact of this revolution has little to do with the ebook scenarios imagined by many commentators. *Books in the Digital Age* will become a standard work on the publishing industry at the beginning of the 21st century. It will be of great interest to students taking courses in the sociology of culture, media and cultural studies, and publishing. It will also be of great value to professionals in the publishing industry, educators and policy makers, and to anyone interested in books and their future.

About the Author John Thompson is Professor of Sociology at the University of Cambridge and Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge.