



The Autism Spectrum in the 21st Century: Exploring Psychology, Biology and Practice

By *Ilona Roth*

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Highly Commended in the Popular Medicine Category of the 2011 BMA Medical Book Awards

The Autism Spectrum in the 21st Century is the definitive guide to the autism spectrum, introducing the reader to key concepts and developments in diagnosis, psychological and biological research, theoretical models, evidence-based intervention, educational strategies and family issues. The book charts how developments in theory, research and practice have shaped, and continue to shape, the evolving concept of autism which is at the core of this field.

The book explores:

- Diagnostic principles and practice and their implications for prevalence
- Psychological functioning in autism, including sensory-perceptual, cognitive and socio-cognitive processes
- Genetics and brain function in autism, and the neurobiological basis for autism spectrum conditions
- The range of therapeutic approaches available, including behavioural, communication-based and 'biological' interventions and their evidence base
- Educational implications, the options for individuals and families and the issue of inclusion
- How autism affects the family unit
- Overarching issues and challenges for research, practice and people

The Autism Spectrum in the 21st Century is essential reading for anyone

personally or professionally interested in the autism spectrum, such as individuals on the spectrum and their families, students and researchers, clinical practitioners, teachers, social workers and healthcare professionals.

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Editorial Review

Review

Teachers, students and family members will find this well-researched and clearly written volume a valuable aid to understanding the condition, recognising symptoms and helping autistic children to succeed in education... Topics are broken down into easily referenced chunks, and throughout the book there are helpful quotes, examples of real situations and longer case studies. -- Special Magazine This well-researched book provides a much needed opportunity for professionals working in the field of autism, third-sector staff, students and affected family members to access impartial, accurate and up-to-date knowledge of the Autism Spectrum across a wide range of topics... -- Professor Aline-Wendy Dunlop, National Centre for Autism Studies (NCAS), University of Strathclyde. The Autism Spectrum in the 21st Century is an essential compendium for everyone working with or supporting someone with an autism spectrum condition. It is a meaty book with nine very full and well researched chapters... a must have manual which is extraordinarily good value. -- Learning Disability Today

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This well-researched book provides a much needed opportunity for professionals working in the field of autism, third-sector staff, students and affected family members to access impartial, accurate and up-to-date knowledge of the Autism Spectrum across a wide range of topics... (Professor Aline-Wendy Dunlop, National Centre for Autism Studies (NCAS), University of Strathclyde.)

The Autism Spectrum in the 21st Century is an essential compendium for everyone working with or supporting someone with an autism spectrum condition. It is a meaty book with nine very full and well researched chapters... a must have manual which is extraordinarily good value. (Learning Disability Today)

About the Author

Dr Ilona Roth is senior lecturer in Psychology in the Department of Life Sciences at The Open University, UK. Chris Barson works as a consultant for The National Autistic Society, UK. Dr Rosa Hoekstra is a lecturer in Psychology in the Department of Life Sciences at The Open University, UK and honorary researcher at the Autism Research Centre, University of Cambridge, UK. Dr Greg Pasco is a research associate at the Autism Research Centre, University of Cambridge, UK. Dr Terry Watson is science staff tutor in the Department of Life Sciences at The Open University, UK.

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