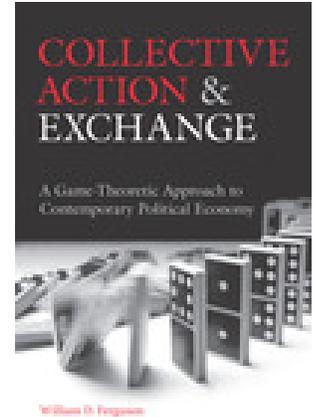


Endorsements for William D. Ferguson, [\*Collective Action and Exchange: A Game-Theoretic Approach to Contemporary Political Economy\*](#) (Stanford University Press, 2013)



"Why can economics courses be so dull when the economy itself is positively riveting and, recently, economic theory has bristled with novel insights? Ferguson's *Collective Action and Exchange* brings the excitement into the classroom, introducing students to some of the best research on networks, cooperation, institutions, and information."

—**Samuel Bowles**, Santa Fe Institute, author, *Microeconomics: Behavior, Institutions, and Evolution*

"Ferguson's book is a forceful introduction to the analytical techniques involved in this intellectual revolution, together with a presentation of the evidence supporting various models. It exhibits a deep appreciation for the long road ahead in improving our understanding of the political aspects of social life . . . Your students will love you for it because the material is so exciting and real world. Quite an antidote to traditional micro texts!"

—**Herbert Gintis**, Santa Fe Institute, Central European University and author of *Game Theory Evolving*

"The main accomplishment of the book is to establish collective action problems as a way to look at quandaries in political economy. It goes way beyond the standard models of self-interested rationality in economics and deals in detail with behavioral models of preference."

—**Sourav Bhattacharya**, University of Pittsburgh

"*Collective Action and Exchange* is a remarkably effective pedagogical tool. Ferguson's presentation highlights common themes that are too often hidden in specialized treatments of political economy. Particularly compelling is the way that he integrates the insights of Elinor Ostrom's Nobel prize-winning research on governing the commons into simple models based on core principles. This book demonstrates the value of modeling as an approach to policy analysis, and offers a power suite of economic tools to help us understand a wide range of individual and collective decisions."

—**Michael D. McGinnis**, Former Director, The Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, Indiana University

"Political economy has evolved in the past two decades from verbal gymnastics to a scientific study of how people form groups to solve collective action problems. Ferguson's book is a forceful introduction to the analytical techniques involved in this intellectual revolution, together with a presentation of the evidence supporting various models. It exhibits a deep appreciation for the long road ahead in improving our understanding of the political aspects of social life."

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