

“Over the last twenty years, few concepts have been more investigated and used than the one of ‘biopolitics.’ However, only rarely has it been attempted to compare these uses in their variety and in their contradiction. This volume has the merit of offering a subtle and rich, complete and articulate view on what ‘biopolitics’ means today and in this way contributes to establishing a political grammar for the start of this century.”—**ANTONIO NEGRI**

“*The Government of Life* reminds us of how prescient Foucault was. We have so few guides in our present age of unbridled neoliberalism and biopolitics; Foucault was one of the few who saw what was coming. The authors in this volume richly plumb Foucault’s work in order to make sense of our predicament, to recuperate from the maw of biopolitics a more affirmative way of life. These authors speak to one another and to Foucault through a focus on common texts. In doing so they engage in critical questions about sovereignty, bodies, and human life that make essential reading for anyone interested in the underlying fabric of our time and our politics.”—**JAMES MARTEL**, San Francisco State University

“*The Government of Life* does not simply analyze Foucault’s ideas about governmentality. It reconsiders Foucault’s thought from the standpoint of recent developments in continental and especially Italian philosophy, with philosophers such as Giorgio Agamben, Roberto Esposito, and Antonio Negri.”—**MICHAEL BEHRENT**, Appalachian State University

“An extraordinarily incisive and comprehensive collection of essays by an internationally distinguished list of contributors, *The Government of Life* brilliantly discloses how Foucault’s thinking continues to challenge and provoke thirty years after his death. No memorializing of Foucault, these essays think with and against his work in a spirit of critical engagement that could provide no better tribute to him.”—**MICHAEL DILLON**, Professor Emeritus, Lancaster University

Foucault’s late work on biopolitics and governmentality has established him as a privileged source for our current understanding of neoliberalism and its technologies of power. In this volume, an international and interdisciplinary group of Foucault scholars examines his ideas of biopower and biopolitics and their relation to his project of a history of governmentality and to a theory of the subject found in his last courses at the College de France.

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