The book analyses the study of the growing field of ethnicity and politics from a number of different angles. These include the nature of the subject itself, different theoretical approaches, ways of addressing political issues the relationship gives rise to, the impact of major global challenges and a survey of output in the field.

Questions of identity, particularly ethnicity, play an increasingly important role in people’s lives. They are also of growing significance in both domestic and international politics. The increased attention to these issues has been matched by the mushrooming of scholarship in the field of ethnicity and politics. The chapters in this survey of recent analytical developments examine the contribution that this literature has made within the broad area of comparative politics within the discipline of political science. They are written by experts active in the international network of scholars that has been devoted to the study of this subject. The question of what we mean when we use ethnic terminology is rigorously interrogated. And the major theoretical approaches to the study of ethnicity and politics are critically examined. Ways of addressing ethnic diversity are debated under the wide headings of accommodation and integration. The issue of ethnicity in world politics is considered through an analysis of how watersheds of the last 25 years, including the end of the Cold War, 9/11 and the global economic downturn have impacted on the study of the subject. Also analysed is the output of publications in scholarly journals that has addressed this subject area.

From the contents:
- Ethnicity – what are we talking about? (Jean Tournon)
- Ethnic and national mobilization (Eric Kaufmann and Daniele Conversi)
- The politics of accommodation and integration in democratic States (Brendan O’Leary and John McGarry)
- Global watersheds and the study of ethno-politics (Adrian Guelke)
- Who is doing what, where and how in the study of ethnicity and politics (Britt Cartrite and Dan Miodownik)

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Target groups:  
Students and scholars in the social sciences; political scientists; general public conversant with some of the many ethnic tensions of our time; Members of the International Political Science Association