

Contents

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	xi
<i>Preface to the Fourth Edition</i>	xiii
<i>About the New Edition</i>	xvi

PART I

Environmental Anthropology: History, Theory, and Method 1

1	People in Ecosystems	3
	<i>Introduction</i>	3
	<i>Human Adaptability as a Response to Constraints</i>	7
	<i>Modeling</i>	11
	<i>Energy</i>	15
	<i>Matter</i>	18
	<i>Information</i>	20
	<i>Ecosystems and Global Change</i>	21
	<i>Suggested Readings and Useful Websites</i>	23
2	Theories of Human–Habitat Interaction	26
	<i>Introduction</i>	27
	<i>Environmental Determinism</i>	27
	<i>Cultural Determinism: Nature as a Limiting Factor</i>	30
	<i>Human Adaptation to Environment</i>	33
	<i>Cultural Ecology: Comparison in Human-Environment Research</i>	37
	<i>Applications of the Cultural Ecological Method</i>	40
	<i>Ecological Anthropology</i>	45
	<i>Ethnoecological and Cognitive Approaches</i>	48
	<i>Historical Ecology</i>	49
	<i>Political Ecology</i>	50
	<i>Political Economy and Human Adaptability</i>	52
	<i>Suggested Readings and Useful Websites</i>	53

3	Fundamental Concepts and Methods	57
	<i>Introduction</i>	57
	<i>Ecosystem Relationships</i>	58
	<i>Soils and Plant Productivity</i>	63
	<i>Physiological Responses</i>	67
	<i>Sociocultural Regulatory Adjustments</i>	74
	<i>Information and Decisions: Toward Actor-Based Approaches</i>	77
	<i>Suggested Readings and Useful Websites</i>	79
4	Environmental Change and Spatial Analysis	82
	<i>Introduction</i>	82
	<i>The Challenge of Scale and Levels of Analysis</i>	83
	<i>Human Adaptability to Global Environmental Change</i>	86
	<i>The Use of Remote Sensing and GIS in the Social Sciences</i>	89
	<i>Experimental Approaches and the Study of Institutions</i>	97
	<i>Suggested Readings and Useful Websites</i>	99
PART II		
	Studies of Human Adaptability	103
5	Human Adaptability to Arctic Zones	105
	<i>Introduction</i>	105
	<i>The Arctic Ecosystem</i>	107
	<i>Adaptation to Cold Stress</i>	112
	<i>Coping with Snow and Sea Ice</i>	118
	<i>Adaptation to Prolonged Light and Darkness</i>	119
	<i>Coping with Low Biological Productivity</i>	122
	<i>Change in the Arctic</i>	127
	<i>Suggested Readings and Useful Websites</i>	132
6	Human Adaptability to High Altitudes	137
	<i>Introduction</i>	137
	<i>Mountain Ecosystems</i>	139
	<i>Adaptation to Hypoxia</i>	144
	<i>Adaptability to Cold Stress in the Andes</i>	151
	<i>Aridity and Low Productivity</i>	153
	<i>Climate Change and Highland Ecosystems</i>	157
	<i>Suggested Readings and Useful Websites</i>	158
7	Human Adaptability to Arid Lands	162
	<i>Introduction</i>	163
	<i>Desert Ecosystems</i>	164
	<i>Adjustments to Dry Heat</i>	169
	<i>Utilization of Resources</i>	173

	<i>Irrigation</i>	178
	<i>Change in Desert Ecosystems</i>	186
	<i>Suggested Readings and Useful Websites</i>	189
8	Human Adaptability to Grasslands	192
	<i>Introduction</i>	192
	<i>Grasslands Ecosystems</i>	195
	<i>Herd Management</i>	201
	<i>Adaptive Strategies in the Northern Plains</i>	210
	<i>Global Change and the Future of Grasslands and Pastoralism</i>	214
	<i>Suggested Readings and Useful Websites</i>	216
9	Human Adaptability to the Humid Tropics	219
	<i>Introduction</i>	220
	<i>Tropical Rain Forest Ecosystems</i>	222
	<i>Coping with Ecosystem Complexity</i>	228
	<i>Adaptability to Humid Heat</i>	236
	<i>Global Change Processes and Alternatives to Deforestation</i>	238
	<i>Suggested Readings and Useful Websites</i>	242
PART III		
	Urban Sustainability and New Directions in Human Adaptability	249
10	Urban Ecology and Urban Sustainability	251
	<i>Introduction</i>	251
	<i>The History of Cities</i>	254
	<i>The Ecology of Cities</i>	256
	<i>Spatial Aspects of the City: Compact versus Sprawl Patterns</i>	259
	<i>Reducing Dependence on the Automobile</i>	261
	<i>Cities and the Upcoming Water Crisis</i>	263
	<i>An Integrative View of the Urban Ecosystem</i>	265
	<i>The Urban LTERs</i>	268
	<i>Final Remarks</i>	271
	<i>Suggested Readings and Useful Websites</i>	273
11	New Directions in Human Adaptability Research	278
	<i>Introduction</i>	278
	<i>Global Change and Human Adaptability</i>	279
	<i>Human Adaptability to Extreme Events and Hazards</i>	285
	<i>Decarbonizing the Economy and Moving away from a Fossil Fuel-Driven Economy</i>	288
	<i>Agroecological Sustainability</i>	290
	<i>Infectious and Emergent Diseases as a Disruptive Force</i>	293

x Contents

Gendered Research 297

*Environmental Justice: Bringing Justice and Equity to Adaptability
Research* 300

The Future of Human Adaptability Studies 301

Suggested Readings and Useful Websites 303

Glossary 305

Bibliography 322

Index 428