

# Contents

List of Illustrations and Figures	ix
Preface	xi
<b>1 Economic Anthropology: An Undisciplined Discipline</b>	<b>1</b>
Controversy and Social Science, 1	
The Formalist-Substantivist Debate, 3	
Economic Anthropology After the Great Debate, 13	
Conclusion? 24	
Notes, 24	
<b>2 Economics and the Problem of Human Nature</b>	<b>27</b>
Defining the Economy, 28	
Redefining Economic Anthropology, 34	
Notes, 41	
<b>3 Self-Interest and Neoclassical Microeconomics</b>	<b>43</b>
The History of Self-Interest, 43	
The Foundations of Modern Economics, 48	
Neoclassical Microeconomics, 50	
Critiques of Formal Economics, 64	
Summary, 70	
Notes, 71	
<b>4 Social and Political Economy</b>	<b>73</b>
Social Humans, 73	
Power and Politics, 75	
Durkheim and the Social Organism, 77	
Karl Marx: Putting Politics into the Economy, 83	
Varieties of Social and Political Economy, 90	
Summary: The Problems of Structure and Agency, 98	
Notes, 100	
<b>5 The Moral Human: Cultural Economics</b>	<b>103</b>
Morals, Ideology, Symbols, 103	



The Roots of Moral Economics, 106	
The Question of Rationality and Culture, 120	
Problems with Cultural Economics, 122	
Cultural Economics, Round Two, 123	
Summary: How Much Does Culture Determine? 130	
Notes, 132	

## 6. Conclusions: Complex Economic Human Beings 135

The Case of the Leaking Houses, 135	
The Problem of Explaining Things, 137	
Resolving the Fundamental Issues, 140	
Rethinking Human Nature, 146	
Conclusions, 153	
Notes, 154	

Appendix: Where to Look for More—Finding Literature in Economic Anthropology	157
Bibliography	165
About the Book and Author	181
Index	183