

Review of: "American Higher Education Curricula in 19th Century"

Rachel Smydra¹

¹ Oakland University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The authors offer a general overview with regard to the contextual, societal, and cultural shifts in higher education in the 19th century. The writers could provide slightly more content dedicated to the state of universities in the prior century to offer readers a grander sense of the sweeping changes. For example, the roles of the American Revolution exiting the 18th century and the American Civil War. What are the social underpinnings that drove curricula changes?

With the overwhelming amount of historical and cultural shifts, the writers do an effective job narrowing the focus to key figures and contexts in higher education; however, reorganizing in spots and adding headers to guide readers within sections may enhance content connections. They could also dedicate more space to addressing the emergence/purpose of women colleges, HBUs, and land grant institutions to reflect societal aspects. What differences between private and public colleges were in play with regard to curricula? Watch tense in spots.