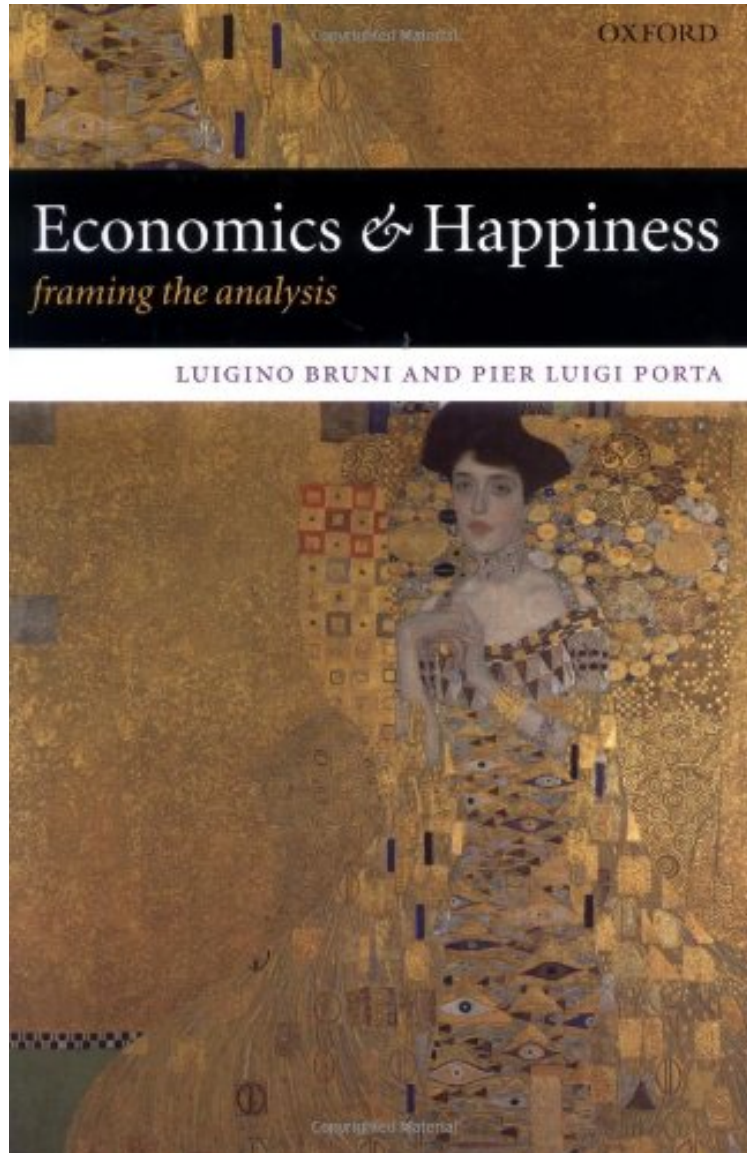


(Library ebook) Economics and Happiness: Framing the Analysis

Economics and Happiness: Framing the Analysis

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From Oxford University Press : Economics and Happiness: Framing the Analysis before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Economics and Happiness: Framing the Analysis:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. What do economics and happiness have to do with each other?By Claude H. BlancThis is a seminal book that gives an overview of the relationship between happiness and economics with a particular emphasis on the more recent developments in the field of happiness.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Excellent overview of the fieldBy A. J. SutterThe editors of this volume have provided an excellent

cross-section of views of the happiness field. To calibrate: I read this book as an outsider, not a participant in that field, so I don't necessarily know what's omitted. My assessment is based on the variety of styles of argumentation represented in the articles, and on the fact that I agreed strongly with a couple, mildly with a couple more, and disagreed with the rest, but for a variety of reasons. Several essays approach the field from a "hedonic" (pleasure-based) view of happiness (e.g., Layard, Stark Wang, van Praag, Veenhoven), several others from a "eudaimonic" (life well-lived) view (e.g., R. Easterlin, R. Frank, Frey Stutzer), and the rest avoid analytical models or econometrics in favor of a more philosophical style. Personally, I preferred this last bunch, with the standouts being an essay by Martha Nussbaum on J.S. Mill and especially the essay by Stefano Zamagni on reciprocity and the gift principle. (The Zamagni chapter also includes one of the few discussions I've seen in English about the relevance of the work of early 20th Century anthropologist Marcel Mauss to economics, and the anti-utilitarianism of A. Caill, J. Godbout and other contemporary French thinkers a/k/a the M.A.U.S.S. school). The editors also provide a very helpful introductory chapter. A great tool for getting your feet wet in "happiness".

The set of papers collected in this volume aims to provide an overview of happiness studies to date, with a special emphasis on its relationship with economic thought. This volume discusses the state of the art and the main strands and contributions to the "economics of happiness", as a sub-discipline related to political economy. However, the main thrust of the volume is in focuses on the relationship between happiness studies and economics. Moreover, this volume makes a specific contribution in highlighting the comparative role and influence in the subjectivist approach vis--vis the objectivist approach to human happiness in the current literature in the field. The ambition of this book is to present the reader with a conceptual framework for a critical understanding of happiness studies and its relationship with economics. While the economic perspective is central, the focus here is on economics and happiness rather than the economics of happiness.

About the Author Luigino Bruni is Lecturer in Economics at the University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy. He has been a visiting scholar at the University of East Anglia and the University of Florence. His main interests are in the field of ethics in economics, the history of economic thought, and the methodology of economics, sociality, and happiness in economics. Pier Luigi Porta is Chair at the University of Milano-Bicocca. He has been a Lecturer at the University of Cambridge, Universit de Fribourg, Duke University, New York University, and the University of Bologna. He is also Secretary of ESHET, the European Society for the History of Economic Thought.