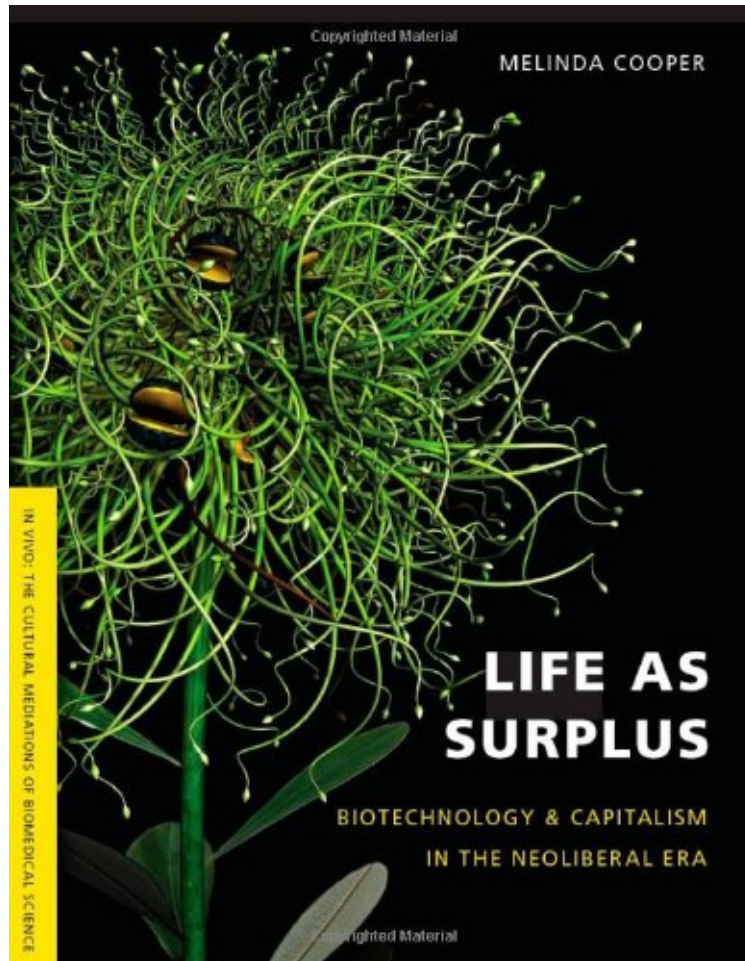


(Ebook pdf) Life As Surplus: Biotechnology and Capitalism in the Neoliberal Era

Life As Surplus: Biotechnology and Capitalism in the Neoliberal Era

Melinda E. Cooper

audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#310477 in Books University of Washington Press 2008-02-20Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.02 x .53 x 5.98l, .82 #File Name: 029598791X208 pagesUniversity of Washington Press | File size: 43.Mb

Melinda E. Cooper : Life As Surplus: Biotechnology and Capitalism in the Neoliberal Era before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Life As Surplus: Biotechnology and Capitalism in the Neoliberal Era:

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommendedBy Jake O'ConnorInsightful, innovative, highly readable, though at times dense. Cooper provides a novel analysis of the encounter between neoliberal innovation economies, biotechnology and the religious right. The strength of the book lies in its theoretical rigour and historical detail. It also advances some provocative ideas about the nature of neoliberal economics, namely that its long-term success is fed by its own regulation/deregulation dynamics.2 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Prescient, smart vitalBy C. BerriganA prescient insightful contribution not only to Science Technology

Studies, but to broader dialogues about biopolitics, markets, capitalism and environmentalism. I find myself recommending this book to many people whose interests and scholarship cross a wide spectrum. I can't wait for her next book.

Focusing on the period between the 1970s and the present, *Life as Surplus* is a pointed and important study of the relationship between politics, economics, science, and cultural values in the United States today. Melinda Cooper demonstrates that the history of biotechnology cannot be understood without taking into account the simultaneous rise of neoliberalism as a political force and an economic policy. From the development of recombinant DNA technology in the 1970s to the second Bush administration's policies on stem cell research, Cooper connects the utopian polemic of free-market capitalism with growing internal contradictions of the commercialized life sciences. The biotech revolution relocated economic production at the genetic, microbial, and cellular level. Taking as her point of departure the assumption that life has been drawn into the circuits of value creation, Cooper underscores the relations between scientific, economic, political, and social practices. In penetrating analyses of Reagan-era science policy, the militarization of the life sciences, HIV politics, pharmaceutical imperialism, tissue engineering, stem cell science, and the pro-life movement, the author examines the speculative impulses that have animated the growth of the bioeconomy. At the very core of the new post-industrial economy is the transformation of biological life into surplus value. *Life as Surplus* offers a clear assessment of both the transformative, therapeutic dimensions of the contemporary life sciences and the violence, obligation, and debt servitude crystallizing around the emerging bioeconomy.

"Melinda Cooper's forceful *Life as Surplus* is a political economy of the exploitation of life in the biotech era that exposes the modes of re/production attuned to late twentieth-century neoliberal capitalism..Cooper's brilliant and inventive mapping of prevailing contemporary biopolitical imaginaries is precious."Biosocieties"A fascinating study of speculative impulses that serve as the foundation of increasingly commercialized life sciences."Book News"Life as Surplus is interesting, and examines some of the fundamentals of science practice. . .Well written, and well documented. Useful for professionals and for academic coursework on science and society. Recommended."Choice "A book of topical timeliness and conceptual and political importance. Cooper reads two terms-biopolitics and neoliberalism-in exciting, exceptional ways, and provides an astute account of contemporary American political culture."Kaushik Sunder Rajan, author of *Biocapital: The Constitution of Postgenomic Life*From the Publisher"A book of topical timeliness and conceptual and political importance. Cooper reads two terms-biopolitics and neoliberalism-in exciting, exceptional ways, and provides an astute account of contemporary American political culture." - Kaushik Sunder Rajan, author of *Biocapital: The Constitution of Postgenomic Life*