



2020. XXI, 282 p. 6 illus.

### Printed book

Hardcover

€ 99,99 | £ 89,99 | \$ 119.99

<sup>[1]</sup> € (D) 106,99 | € 109,99 |

CHF 118.00

### eBook

€ 79,99 | £ 71,50 | \$ 89.00

<sup>[2]</sup> € (D) 85,59 | € (A) 85,59 |

CHF 94.00

Available from your library or  
springer.com/shop

### MyCopy <sup>[3]</sup>

Printed eBook for just

€ | \$ 24.99

springer.com/mycopy

Order online at palgrave.com / or for the Americas call (toll free) 1-800-SPRINGER / or email us at: customerservice@springernature.com. / For outside the Americas call +49 (0) 6221-345-4301 / or email us at: customerservice@springernature.com.

The first € price and the £ and \$ price are net prices, subject to local VAT. Prices indicated with <sup>[1]</sup> include VAT for books; the €(D) includes 7% for Germany, the €(A) includes 10% for Austria. Prices indicated with <sup>[2]</sup> include VAT for electronic products; 19% for Germany, 20% for Austria. All prices exclusive of carriage charges. Prices and other details are subject to change without notice. All errors and omissions excepted. <sup>[3]</sup> No discount for MyCopy

Lifelong 40% discount for authors



**Special offer / Get 20% off the printed book or eBook!**

Use the following token on palgrave.com

FxNCXTKa7Fx39cX / Valid Dec 7, 2020 – Jan 4, 2021

I. Voléry, M. Julien

# From Measuring Rods to DNA Sequencing

Assessing the Human

- Offers an original approach to the metrology of human bodies and to individual and group classification/identification, cutting across sociology, biomedical science, biotechnology studies and the anthropology of material culture
- Uniquely examines measurements of age, a topic so far neglected by researchers who have tended to focus on gender or racialization
- Alternating theoretical and historical contributions with contemporary case studies, this book will appeal to sociologists, anthropologists, philosophers and historians working in the fields of science, medicine, techniques, gender, racialization and age, and also postgraduate students following specialties in these fields and professionals or civil society actors intervening on these issues (NGOs, forensics, health practitioners, etc.)

"This collection is more than a sum of its superb studies at various sites, ranging from bone age in nineteenth century forensic medicine to intensive care units today, of the measurement and mis-measurement of the human body. Together these studies provide a window into how we know and think about what it means, politically and ethically, to be embodied in the modern age." Thomas W. Laqueur, Helen Fawcett Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Department of History, University of California Berkeley

"Why do you measure and why are you also measured? What measurement tools are used to offer a quantified vision of the body and its parts, its growth, and of human life itself? Is measurement the same thing as quantification? Based on in-depth historical investigations and case studies from the 19th century up to the present day, this book proposes enlightening answers to such questions. Combining basic insight from the 'classics'—Foucault, Rose—on the political dimension of measurement with contextualizing epistemologies, it brilliantly shows how ontologies emerge from various social 'assemblages'."

Marie Gaïlle, philosopher, senior researcher, Université de Paris-CNRS

"From Measuring Rods to DNA Sequencing is a masterful series of explorations into the biopolitics of bodily measurement, exposing the scientific truths of patterns, curves, averages, biomarkers, probabilities, weights, and standards as templates of imperialist modernity itself. Ingrid Voléry and Marie-Pierre Julien have created an inspiring text, compelling readers to rethink the power of quantifying knowledges in the history of human governance, while pointing ahead to liberating transformations of what it means to be human."

Professor Stephen Katz, Trent University, Canada

"This book splendidly shows to what extent the measurement of the body is a complex operation: it is part of a system of social transactions, it is shaped by situated configurations of knowledge, it organizes cognitive and technical conditions under which bodies can be scientifically appropriated. By rooting epistemological reflection in the historicity of tools, practices and institutional and disciplinary spaces, this book powerfully enriches the field of the political, social, and intellectual history of the modes of production of the body."

Rafael Mandressi, historian, senior researcher, CNRS-EHESS