

# KENNETH BURKE

## FROM MYTH TO ECOLOGY

LAURENCE COUPE

### Information and Pricing

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KENNETH BURKE: FROM MYTH TO ECOLOGY is the first full-length study of a remarkable thinker's approach to those founding narratives, those essential structures of thought, which cannot be credited to any one individual but rather belong to the whole community. As such, it explores the way Burke developed an increasingly "green" perspective on the stories we tell one another in order to make sense of our world. In celebrating Burke's achievement, Laurence Coupe presents us with a complete picture of a mind that is comprehensive, compassionate, and "comic." For Burke, myth is the chief means by which humanity can come to terms with itself and its own dangerous ambitions. Hence to be alert to the way myth functions is to become responsible toward the planet that is our home. In emphasizing this aspect of Burke's work, Coupe argues that Burke's theory of myth is urgently contemporary.

LAURENCE COUPE is Senior Lecturer in English at Manchester Metropolitan University, where he has pioneered the study of the mythic and ecological aspects of both literature and culture. He is the author of *Myth* (Routledge, 2nd ed. 2009) and the editor of *The Green Studies Reader: From Romanticism to Ecocriticism* (Routledge, 2000). Other books include *Marina Warner* (Northcote House, 2006) and *Beat Sound, Beat Vision: The Beat Spirit and Popular Song* (Manchester University Press, 2007).

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