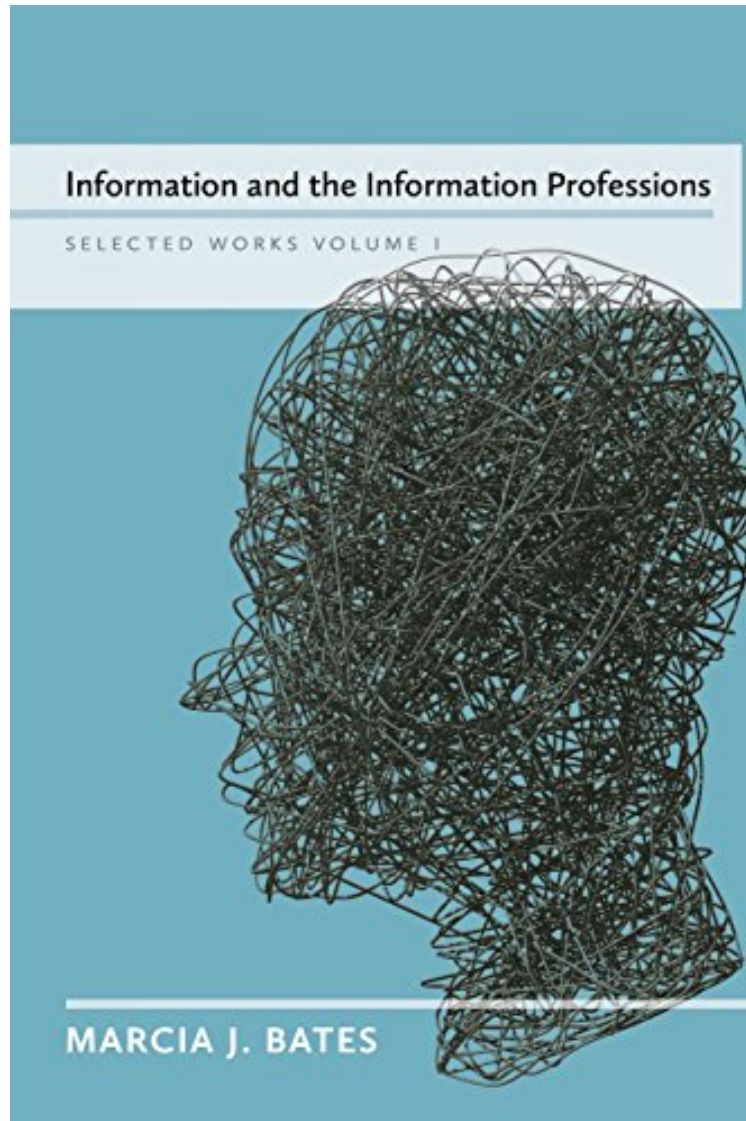


# Information and the Information Professions: Selected Works of Marcia J. Bates, Vol. I

*Marcia J. Bates*

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**Marcia J. Bates : Information and the Information Professions: Selected Works of Marcia J. Bates, Vol. I** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Information and the Information Professions: Selected Works of Marcia J. Bates, Vol. I:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. OBy JennaI am an Associate Professor in information studies and

have been waiting years for this book! It brings together the work of Marcia J. Bates, preeminent information scientist of her generation and my teacher at the University of California, Los Angeles. It is convenient and thrilling to have all of Bates' foundational statements on information alongside the award winning "Invisible Substrate of Information Science." Bates is the most accessible writer in our discipline and these papers are a joy to read; they make great introductory readings for students. At the same time, scholars can use these works to pin down elusive terms and concepts, such as "metatheory" and "model." Right now, information studies is having an identity crisis and this book provides desperately needed clarity on major concepts, the field, and its associated professions--whether librarianship or archives. I also appreciate the prefaces that place the original works in context. Of note, the price is right (a fraction the cost of most scholarly texts) and the design is elegant.

"Information" is a word that is much used and discussed, but with little agreement on its meaning. Yet information forms the professional focus and intellectual content of numerous disciplines and professions---information science, knowledge management, social studies of information, digital humanities, biomedical informatics, library science, archival science, records management, information systems, and many more. In this collection of eighteen professional papers and other texts by Professor Marcia Bates, of UCLA's Department of Information Studies, this pivotal concept is addressed in depth, and its relation to the information professions developed and discussed. A number of professional and disciplinary issues are considered, including definitions of the fields, research paradigms and methodologies, the role of the doctorate in a profession, and the major research content areas of the several fields, with special attention to information science. Finally, the distinctive experience of being a woman graduate student and professor, when that was still rare in American universities, is described. Bates' popular articles, "The Invisible Substrate of Information Science," "Fundamental Forms of Information," "The Information Professions: Knowledge, Memory, Heritage," "An Introduction to Metatheories, Theories, and Models," and "Many Paths to Theory: The Creative Process in the Information Sciences" are included, among others. This is Volume I of three containing selected works by Bates. The others are titled: Information Searching Theory and Practice (Vol. II), and Information Users and Information System Design (Vol. III).

"Over the years, Marcia Bates' work has continuously and substantially changed the thinking and direction of the information sciences. This compilation makes available her most influential publications, some difficult to access and retrieve. Conveniently organized in three volumes, it is an immensely valuable contribution to the literature of the field." CAROL COLLIER KUHLTHAU, Distinguished Professor Emerita, School of Communication and Information, Rutgers the state university of New Jersey. "One of the most highly cited information scientists has assembled her lucid and coherent life's work. Pick these berries." HOWARD D. WHITE, Professor Emeritus, College of Computing and Informatics, Drexel University. About the Author Marcia J. Bates is Professor Emerita at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) Department of Information Studies. A Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, she is a leading authority on information search, human-centered design of information systems, and information practices. She was Editor-in-Chief of the Encyclopedia of Library and Information Sciences, 3rd Ed., and is the recipient of many awards for her research and leadership. In addition to her teaching and scholarship, she has been a technical consultant to numerous organizations in government, foundations, and businesses, including technology startups. A graduate of Pomona College (B.A.) and the University California at Berkeley (M.L.S., Ph.D.), Bates also served in Thailand in the Peace Corps.