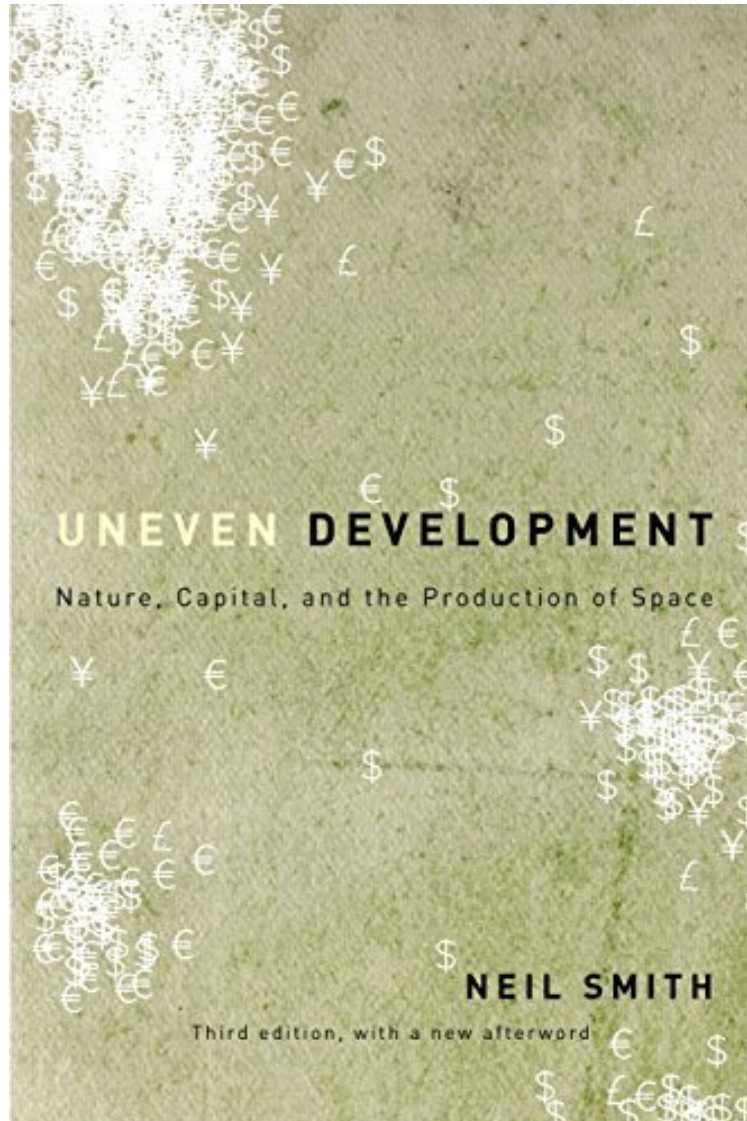


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# Uneven Development: Nature, Capital, and the Production of Space

*Neil Smith*

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**Neil Smith : Uneven Development: Nature, Capital, and the Production of Space** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Uneven Development: Nature, Capital, and the Production of Space:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. ExcellentBy DavidAlthough I am not extremely well versed in Geography, this book is an excellent work about space and creation of uneven development in capitalism. The first two chapters are especially interesting, and deal with the general understanding of space on a philosophical level. The comparison between earlier views, such as relative space, against Newton's absolute space. As far as I understand it relative space saw space as a relation between specific matter or objects. Absolute space is the way we see space now

in common parlance, signifying space as a large capsule where things are contained within. After reading this book, I seemed to have come to the conclusion that capitalism has aspects of both philosophies in practice. Neil Smith also distinguishes between various theories of nature, how society has come to see nature as external to man. He ties this in later with Marx's theories on spatial relations and 'production of nature'. Good companion to David Harvey's *Urban Experience or Condition of Postmodernism*, who incorporates Marx's theories in application to space. Slightly difficult, and abstract, but well worth the effort. 5 of 14 people found the following review helpful. great development  
By Georgina Caldero  
n Arago  
n I think that it is a great book, for all those geographers or of other disciplines interested in the space aspects, the ones that are in this book in a very good fundamental argument about the development of the term space production and the factors that influence in the unequal production in a capitalist system

In *Uneven Development*, a classic in its field, Neil Smith offers the first full theory of uneven geographical development, entwining theories of space and nature with a critique of capitalist development. Featuring pathbreaking analyses of the production of nature and the politics of scale, Smith's work anticipated many of the uneven contours that now mark neoliberal globalization. This third edition features an afterword updating the analysis for the present day.

Smith provides a brilliant formulation of how the production of a particular kind of nature and space under historical capitalism is essential to the unequal development of a landscape that integrates poverty with wealth, industrial urbanization with agricultural diminishment. (Edward Said) Smith attempts no less than the integration of nature and space in the Marxian theory of capitalist development. The aim is to link two radical traditions? geographical and political? by theoretically illuminating the reality of uneven development. . . . Smith raises the level of the debate on the fundamental question by taking a definite stance. He improves the clarity even of the arguments made in disagreement with him. His book should be widely read, used, and discussed. (Environment and Planning) This book is a classic. It deals with fundamental issues that simply do not go away, and demonstrates the enduring relevance of Marxist political economy. (Noel Castree coauthor of *Spaces of Work*) *Uneven Development* is one of the most important books of specifically geographical social theory to be written in the English language in the last 30 years. As rapid environmental change and attendant political divisions and struggles return to the fore (propelled in no small part by global climate change), this remains one of the few places to turn in social theory for a rigorous and insightful explanation. (W. Scott Prudham author of *Knock on Wood: Nature as Commodity in Douglas-Fir Country*)  
About the Author  
Neil Smith is Distinguished Professor of Anthropology and Geography at the City University of New York and serves as director for the Center for Place, Culture, and Politics. He is author or editor of nine books that explore the broad intersection between space, nature, social theory, and history and is co-organizer of the International Critical Geography Group.