Reviews for
Understanding People in Context
The Ecological Perspective in Counseling
edited by Ellen P. Cook

“Dr. Ellen Cook and her colleagues depict an ecological perspective in understanding human behavior and provide elegant applications of ecological theory in practice settings. This is an enormous contribution and one they have accomplished with great depth and clarity. Understanding the highly nuanced and powerful role of human ecology is of critical importance in training the next generation of counselors.”
—Mary J. Heppner, PhD
University of Missouri–Columbia

“This book is a wonderful contribution to the literature, bringing forward a critical issue in counseling with new perspectives. A must read for mental health professionals and students who want to better understand and apply the broader ecological context of counseling in their work.”
—Fred Bemak, EdD
George Mason University

“This innovative, yet practical resource on ecological counseling for counselors and counselors-in-training provides a clear method for applying ecological principles to counseling, community work, and the education of counselors. After reading this book, counselors will have a better understanding of themselves and how to enhance their effectiveness with clients.”
—Karen O’Brien, PhD
University of Maryland, College Park

This exceptional book emphasizes uniquely designed interventions for individual counseling, group work, and community counseling that consider clients as individuals within the contexts of families, cultural groups, workplaces, and communities. Part I describes the theoretical research base and major tenets of the ecological perspective and its applications to counseling practice. In Part II, experts who have used the ecological perspective in their work discuss its usefulness in various applications, including counseling diverse clients with specific life challenges; assessment, diagnosis, and treatment planning; and in schools, substance abuse programs, faith-based communities, and counselor training programs.