## **Contents**

| Lis | t of Tables, Figures, and Boxes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | viii |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Ac  | knowledgments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | X    |
| 1   | Education and Work: Establishing Some Terrain                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1    |
|     | The Ambiguous Relationships Between Education and<br>Work / Education and Work: What Are We Talking<br>About? / The Contested Nature of Sociological Concepts<br>/ Education, Work, and What Else? / Education and<br>Work in the United States and Elsewhere / Education<br>and Not-work / Plan of the Book |      |
| 2   | Schooling and Socioeconomic Success: Establishing Their Relationship                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 14   |
|     | Schooling and Socioeconomic Attainment / Does the<br>Myth of Schooling and Socioeconomic Success Hold? /<br>How Do We Explain the Grip of the "School for Success"<br>Model Among Americans: Schooling as Panacea /<br>Some Dissenting Views                                                                 |      |
| 3   | Two Models of the Relationships Between Education and Work                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 37   |
|     | Meritocrats and Credentialists / The Meritocracy<br>/ Credentialism                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |
| 4   | Is the United States a Meritocratic or a Credentialist Society?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 61   |

The Status Attainment Model as an Organizing Framework / Some General Findings on Status Attainment: What Are the Overall Trends and Patterns? / How Do Employers Think About and Act Upon Education and Other Credentials? / Summary

## 5 Education and Work in the Postindustrial Society

The Structure of Contemporary Society / Daniel Bell's Formulation of the Postindustrial Society / More Specific Features of Postindustrialism and How They Shape the Relationships Between Education and Work / Education and Work in the Postindustrial Society

## 6 Demographic Booms and Busts, Aging, and the New Cultural Diversity

A Demographic Perspective on Education and Work / Some Demographic Preliminaries / The Baby Boom, The Baby Bust, and So On / Racial and Ethnic Differences in Fertility / The Movement of People: Immigration and Internal Migration / The Changing Life Course / Putting the Demographic Changes Together: The Racialized, Disorderly, and Forevermore Aging of America / What Does All of This Add Up To?

## 7 The Transformation of the High School, the Coming of Mass Higher Education, and the Youth Labor Market

Changing Linkages Between Education and Work / The Shifting Role of High School as Preparation for Work: Schooling and Socialization / How Schooling Prepares Students for the World of Work / Departures from the Ideal Type of Socialization for Work / The Formal Curriculum / Vocational Education / The Hidden Curriculum and School Socialization / Interim Summary and an Unresolved Issue / The Advent of the Youth Labor Market / The Transition from High School to Work in the United States / Conclusion: Young People, Schooling, and Jobs 83

112

141

| 8 | The Possibilities of a Learning Society                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 179 |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
|   | Lifelong Learning and Adult Education in the United States<br>/ The Rise and Fall (and Rise and Fall) of Job Training<br>/ Apprenticeships, Community Colleges, and Other Adult<br>Learning Settings / Other Forms of Postsecondary<br>Education / Learning by Long Distance: The Possibilities<br>of Information Technology for Bridging School and Work<br>/ Certifying the New Modes of Training / Summary |     |

| 9          | The Future of Education and Work                                                                                             | 200 |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
|            | Can the Linkage between Education and Work Tighten<br>Forever? / Conclusion: Education and Work in the<br>"New Modern Times" |     |
| Re         | ferences                                                                                                                     | 210 |
| Name index |                                                                                                                              | 238 |

| Name index    | 238 |
|---------------|-----|
| Subject index | 243 |

Vii