



By Dr. Telly Kamelia

Key Decision Summary

- **Edition Fit:** ISBN 9780190088859 matches the third edition hardcover of *Handbook of Religion and Health*.
- **Best Short-Term Value:** Rental is the cheapest route, with the 180-day eTextbook also slightly below the current print listing.
- **Best Ownership Logic:** Print has a stronger case when the book will be used as a long-term interdisciplinary reference rather than for one seminar alone.
- **Price Snapshot Date:** April 15, 2026

If you only need the buying answer

If you only need access for a limited period, rental at **\$84.99** is the cheaper route, and the 180-day eTextbook at **\$120.99** also sits below the current print listing. If you want a keepable reference copy, the current print listing at **\$129.94** still compares favorably with the sampled hardcover market, where full-price print is much higher.

| Store | Format | Condition | Price | Link |
|------------------|-----------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Merybook | Print | New | \$129.94 | Check listing |
| Stanza Textbooks | Rental | 150-day rental | \$84.99 | Check price |
| VitalSource | eTextbook | 180-day access | \$120.99 | Check price |
| Walmart | Hardcover | New | \$199.00 | Check price |

This is a large interdisciplinary handbook, and that changes the buying logic. Such

volumes are rarely read straight through. They are usually opened chapter by chapter as questions shift across medicine, chaplaincy, behavioral health, public health, and research. That gives temporary access a clear role, but it also explains why some readers still want a permanent copy.

What this book actually teaches

Handbook of Religion and Health gathers research and scholarship at the intersection of religion, health, medicine, and well-being. Its value lies in breadth and depth of reference, not in functioning like a conventional semester textbook. Readers tend to consult it for specific questions, literatures, and perspectives over time.

That means the right decision depends less on the title alone and more on whether the reader expects repeated long-term consultation. If yes, print has a real case. If not, temporary access is easier to justify.

When print is worth keeping

If you only need the book for a limited period, rental is the cleaner economic route. If you expect to return to it as a research or clinical-reference volume, the current print listing is more appealing because it stays well below the sampled hardcover alternatives.

Sources checked

- Oxford University Press product page for *Handbook of Religion and Health*, 3rd edition: oup.com
- Current market pricing reviewed on April 15, 2026.