



## Ceramics Science and Technology, Volume 3: Synthesis and Processing

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Although ceramics have been known to mankind literally for millennia, research has never ceased. Apart from the classic uses as a bulk material in pottery, construction, and decoration, the latter half of the twentieth century saw an explosive growth of application fields, such as electrical and thermal insulators, wear-resistant bearings, surface coatings, lightweight armour, or aerospace materials. In addition to plain, hard solids, modern ceramics come in many new guises such as fabrics, ultrathin films, microstructures and hybrid composites.

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### Bibliography

- Rank: #4921977 in Books
- Published on: 2011-12-12
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.60" h x 1.10" w x 6.80" l, 2.65 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 554 pages

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## **Editorial Review**

### From the Back Cover

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### About the Author

Ralf Riedel has been a professor at the Institute of Materials Science at the Darmstadt University of Technology in Darmstadt since 1993. He received a Diploma degree in chemistry in 1984 and he finished his dissertation in Inorganic Chemistry in 1986 at the University of Stuttgart. After postdoctoral research at the Max-Planck-Institute for Metals Research and the Institute of Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Stuttgart he completed his habilitation in the field of Inorganic Chemistry in 1992. Prof. Riedel is Fellow of the American Ceramic Society and was awarded with the Dionyz Stur Gold Medal for merits in natural sciences. He is a member of the World Academy of Ceramics and Guest Professor at the Jiangsu University in Zhenjiang, China. In 2006 he received an honorary doctorate from the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, Slovakia. In 2009 he was awarded with an honorary professorship at the Tianjin University in China. He published more than 300 papers and patents and he is widely known for his research in the field of polymer derived ceramics and on ultra high pressure synthesis of new materials.

I-Wei Chen has been Skirkanich Professor of Materials Innovation at the University of Pennsylvania since 1997, where he also gained his master's degree in 1975. He received his bachelor's degree in physics from Tsinghua University, Taiwan, in 1972, and earned his doctorate in metallurgy from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1980. He taught at the University of Michigan (Materials) during 1986 - 1997 and MIT (Nuclear Engineering ; Materials) during 1980 - 1986. He began ceramic research studying martensitic transformations in zirconia nano crystals, which led to work on transformation plasticity, superplasticity, fatigue, grain growth and sintering in various oxides and nitrides. He is currently interested in solid oxide fuel cells, nanotechnology of resistance memory and ferroelectrics, and nanoparticle-based medical imaging and drug delivery. A Fellow of American Ceramic Society (1991) and recipient of its Ross Coffin Purdy Award (1994), Edward C. Henry Award (1999) and Sosman Award (2006), he authored over 90 papers in the *Journal of the American Ceramic Society* (1986 - 2006). He also received Humboldt Research Award for Senior U.S. Scientists (1997).

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