The essays collected in Governing Modern Societies arose from a lecture series of the same name held at Green College, University of British Columbia, in 1997 and 1998. Distinguished scholars in political science, philosophy, sociology, and economics from Canada, the United States, England, Germany, and Australia advance not only the most recent theories of how modern societies are governed, but also the ideological and political relevance of these theories. The focus of this collection is on the extent to which the nature and practice of governance has dramatically changed. The realities of cutbacks in social security expenditures, changes in technology, shifts in labour markets, politics of identity and group rights, loss of political autonomy by nation-states, and management by surveillance and audit all underscore the evolution of governing. The fact that such shifts are also connected to new forms of governance beyond the state (at the community level, for example, within corporate institutions and through the influence of social movements and economic markets) makes the task of governing modern societies all the more challenging.

Since the publication of Georg Simmel's Philosophy of Money more than a century ago, social science has primarily considered money a medium of exchange. This new book treats money as a more inclusive social concept that has profoundly influenced the emergence of modern society. Money is also a moral and political category. It communicates prices and thus embodies innumerable evaluations and judgments of objects and services, of social relationships and associations. At the same time, modern societies are undergoing fundamental transformations in which money assumes an ever-important role, while banking and financial services constitute the new primary sector of modern service economies. In this book, the authors trace the transformational scope of monetarization and financialization along the four classical productive forces—land, capital, labor, and knowledge—and evaluate the consequences of an irrepressible urge to quantify and monetarize almost everything social. What happens to a society in which the tangible products of the real economy lose their preeminent status, and everything is judged purely according to its economic value? The authors identify an increasing disconnect between market prices and social values with serious social, political, economic, and environmental consequences.

The relationship between ignorance and surprise and a conceptual framework for dealing with the unexpected, as seen in ecological design projects. Ignorance and surprise belong together: surprises can make people aware of their own ignorance. And yet, perhaps paradoxically, a surprising event in scientific research—one that defies prediction or risk assessment—is often a window to new and unexpected knowledge. In this book, Matthias Gross examines the relationship between ignorance and surprise and suggests strategies for successful and creative work.

Higher Education, Globalization and Eduscapes

The relationship between ignorance and surprise and a conceptual framework for dealing with the unexpected, as seen in ecological design projects. Ignorance and surprise belong together: surprises can make people aware of their own ignorance. And yet, perhaps paradoxically, a surprising event in scientific research—one that defies prediction or risk assessment—is often a window to new and unexpected knowledge. In this book, Matthias Gross examines the relationship between ignorance and surprise and suggests strategies for successful and creative work.

Society And Climate: Transformations And Challenges

Antiracist educator Robin DiAngelo deftly illuminates the phenomenon of white fragility and "allows us to understand racism as a practice not restricted to 'bad people' (Claudia Rankine). Referring to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially, white fragility is characterized by emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt, and by behaviors including argumentation and silence. These behaviors, in turn, function to reinstate white racial equilibrium and prevent any meaningful cross-racial dialogue. In this in-depth exploration, DiAngelo examines how white fragility develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what we can do to engage more constructively.
knowledge and risk in the information age 1st edition

between ignorance and surprise, proposing a conceptual framework for handling the unexpected and offering case studies of ecological design that demonstrate the advantages of allowing for surprises and including ignorance in the design and negotiation processes. gross draws on classical and contemporary sociological accounts of ignorance and surprise in science and ecology and integrates these with the idea of experiment in society. he develops a notion of how unexpected occurrences can be incorporated into a model of scientific and technological development that includes the experimental handling of surprises. gross discusses different projects in ecological design, including chicago's restoration of the shoreline of lake michigan and germany's revitalization of brownfields near leipzig. these cases show how ignorance and surprise can successfully play out in ecological design projects, and how the acknowledgment of the unknown can become a part of decision making. the appropriation of surprises can lead to robust design strategies. ecological design, gross argues, is neither a linear process of master planning nor a process of trial and error but a carefully coordinated process of dealing with unexpected turns by means of experimental practice.

tragic drama and modern society

this is one of the first systematic discussions of the nature of trust as a means of social cohesion, discussing the works of leading social theorists on the issue of social solidarity.

state in modern society

a study that examines the relationship between tragic drama of the late 19th and 20th centuries and present-day society. the author's theories are presented with excerpts from relevant plays, such as "look back in anger", "the glass menagerie", "the iceman cometh" and "hedda gabler".

the sociology of radical commitment

this book examines transnational scapes and flows of higher education: arguing that the educational and political vision of a national, regional and global knowledge society needs to be perspectivized beyond its ethnocentric conditions and meanings. using eduscapes as its most important concept, this book explores the educational landscapes of individual as well as institutional actors; particularly the agential aspects of how global eduscapes are imagined, experienced, negotiated and constructed. in addition, the authors highlight the critical potential of anthropology, using this perspective as a resource for cultural critique where the western experience and assumed 'ownership' of the global knowledge economy will be put into question. this comprehensive book will appeal to students and scholars of educational policy, the sociology of education and the globalization of education.

the fragility of things

this unique volume brings together a selection of the most important texts of nicola stehr for the first time and puts them in dialogue with original research that draws on his prolific work. covering five decades of pioneering sociological research on the theory of society and knowledge, the book introduces the reader to stehr's seminal inquiries into the economic, political and social role of knowledge. original concepts, such as his groundbreaking studies on the knowledge society, are introduced as the volume traces stehr's pursuit of social scientific research as a source of practical knowledge for modern society. the book comprises three parts devoted to the many facets and the remarkable range of nicola stehr's oeuvre. part 1 provides an introduction to the significance of his pioneering work and career. part 2 demonstrates the practical application of nicola stehr's research as seen through the eyes of eminent scholars. part 3 presents a selection of the milestones of his publications.

the governance of knowledge

politics of globalization presents an up-to-date perspective on the kaleidoscopic politics of globalization. the authors analyze the existing definitions of capitalism and argue that globalization and the consequent growing multi-polarity in world politics is not a crisis but a proliferation of capitalisms. this network of capitalisms becomes the framework of the politics of the new globalization. this compilation by social scientists across the globe is an empirical and theoretical exploration of the political responses to globalization. the authors examine the impacts of the decline of us domination in trade and finance and compare it to the rise of asian economies, with special focus on china and india. the articles explore the multiple impacts of globalization: the impact of new global political relations on 21st century international division of labour, the relation between gender equality and globalization, trade union politics and globalization, ecological politics and globalization discourse, dual citizenship and global politics, and globalization of language and culture. they also discuss the anti-globalization movements and argue that these might change the course of current trends in globalization processes. this book will be hold great value for social scientists and economists as well as politicians, social activists, and other professionals interested in the study of globalization and its consequences.
...
individuals and communities to rebuild their lives against all odds. The book is based on case-studies that draw from meaningful individual and social lives. It is about the “taming of fate”. This notion means and accounts for the ability of ignorance and surprise human life in the image of technology. Living in the Labyrinth of Technology argues that the twenty-first century will be social and physical world, the experiences of this world ‘grow’ people’s minds and society’s cultures, thereby re-creating understanding the spectacular successes and failures of contemporary ways of life. As technology continues to change the and technology changing people. The latter aspect, although rarely considered, turns out to be the more critical one for understanding. Vanderburg focuses on two interdependent forces in his narrative, namely, people changing technology and making sense of and living in the world, but on highly specialized desymbolized knowing stripped of all peripheral technical doing. Western civilization may well be creating humanity’s third megaproject, based not on symbolization for did for the twentieth, Willem H. Vanderburg’s Living in the Labyrinth of Technology seeks to create for the twenty-first century: an attempt at understanding the world in a manner not shackled to overspecialized scientific knowing and further symbolization of the human community and its relation to nature led to the from a tree became a lever; a tree trunk floating in the river became a canoe. Homo logos created communities based on taking immediate experience for granted. Everything was symbolized according to its meaning and value: a fallen branch From the very beginnings of their existence, human beings have distinguished themselves from other animals by not the philosophy of the social sciences and helps to promote novel modes of thinking about some of its classic problems. unprecedented hybrid disciplinary areas. The Encyclopedia serves a further dual purpose: it contributes to the renewal of central significance but also those that are both controversial and on the cutting-edge, underlining the unique mark of this interrelated: interwoven at certain times but also differentiated and contrasted at others. The Entries cover topics of conveying a clear sense of how philosophy looks at the social sciences and to mark out a detailed picture of how the two are interwoven. It is not only about the philosophy of the social sciences but, going beyond narrower conceptions of philosophy and the social sciences. It will be an invaluable resource for students and researchers in either or both fields, and to anyone working on the interrelations between them.” William Outhwaite, Newcastle University The Encyclopedia of Philosophy and the Social Sciences is the first of its kind in bringing the subjects of for all those who are interested in the interrelation between philosophy and the many facets of the social sciences. A must read for every student of the humanities.” Wulf Gaertner, University of Osnabrueck, Germany “Like all good works of this encyclopedia, magnificently edited by Byron Kaldis, will become a valuable source both of reference and inspiration to students and researchers in sociological and political theory. It offers a comprehensive survey of the subject, covering a wide range of topics and providing a valuable resource for both students and researchers.” David Bloor, Edinburgh University “This splendid and possibly unique work steers a skilful course between reference this Encyclopedia of Philosophy and the Social Sciences is not to be treated passively: it provides clear and balanced editorial team. It is comprehensively cross-referenced and all larger entries carry bibliographies. There is a full index.

The Encyclopedia of Social Theory contains over 500 entries varying from concise definitions of key terms and short biographies of key theorists to comprehensive surveys of leading concepts, debates, themes and schools. The object of the work is on the elucidation of ideas rather than intellectual biography. The Encyclopedia covers the leading concepts in the methodology and philosophy of social science. Although 106 theorists are given entries, the emphasis of the specialisms of sociology in recent years. This is in part due to the considerable overlaps of social theory with other new developments in the global self-understanding of sociology. Social theory has become one of the most vigorous contemporary domains of debate on social theory and the classical legacies of social thinkers from the nineteenth and the nature of theoretical approaches such as feminism and psychoanalysis, and new fields such as postcolonial studies. The disciplinary areas, such as cultural and media studies, anthropology, and political theory, and to the cross-disciplinary field of cultural studies. The Encyclopedia of Social Theory offers a comprehensive and up-to-date guide to the key concepts, debates, and schools of thought in contemporary social theory. It is an essential resource for students, researchers, and anyone interested in understanding the social world.
The fragility of modern societies

Theoretical insights derived from the sociology of disasters. It addresses some limitations of the sociology of risk, chief among which is the rejection of the relevance of the notion of risk to the study of technologically non-advanced societies. The book argues that this rejection has deprived the study of the human condition of an important analytical asset. The book claims that risk is a property of social action which can best be understood through the analytical scrutiny of its role in the historical constitution of social relations.

The role of religion in modern societies

In the 21st century sociology: a reference handbook provides a concise forum through which the vast array of knowledge accumulated, particularly during the past three decades, can be organized into a single definitive resource. The two volumes of this reference handbook focus on the corpus of knowledge garnered in traditional areas of sociological inquiry, as well as document the general orientation of the newer and currently emerging areas of sociological inquiry.

The network society

Das englischsprachige Buch zieht eine Bilanz der widersprüchlichen intellektuellen Entwicklung der Soziologie über ein halbes Jahrhundert. Die Disziplin braucht diese Aufarbeitung der eigenen Erfahrung, um mit den neuen sozialen und kognitiven Herausforderungen fertig zu werden.

Money

This title was first published in 2001. This book tackles the important issue of the tasks that confront sociology in the third millennium. It examines the sociological interpretations of the World-Wide revolution which - amid unprecedented scientific and technological progress and the globalization of markets - has generated new inequalities, poverty, structural unemployment and mass conditionings. A number of the most distinguished living sociologists (including Boudon, Beck, Eisenstadt, Tiryakian, Wieviorka) furnish profound and innovative interpretations of changes in world society, while outlining the frontiers of sociological research for the 21st Century. The contributions to the book not only prompt reflection on the structure and organization of sociological research, but also revitalize sociological inquiry by conducting original and stimulating analysis of theoretical and methodological issues - an undertaking essential for the survival of the discipline itself.

21st century sociology: a reference handbook

This book argues that knowledge is now central to the modern economy and its productive processes. It is also essential for social relations, social cohesion and conflict resolution. We have moved from a society based around heavy commodities to symbolic goods, from situated markets to non-place-specific locations, from machines to software and from things to ideas. These changes produce new forms of social interaction and new perspectives on identity, practice and association. This penetrating book slices through the cliches and blind alleys of discussions around the knowledge society to reveal the tendons of contemporary change. Written with insight and panache the book explains the momentous nature of the changes associated with the knowledge society.

Thinking and rethinking the university

Political compromise is emerging as a preferred solution for numerous apparently intractable problems. Many have pointed to the rising degree of political polarisation around issues such as climate change, immigration and abortion. These are 'wicked problems' that are clearly not conducive to any sort of political consensus. The groups and individuals who are party to these issues disagree, often both fully and fiercely. As an alternative, political compromise seemingly offers a way of respecting difference while simultaneously generating a decision upon which policy can move forward. But proponents of political compromise should also acknowledge its significant weaknesses and dangers. Invoking recent examples from various policy areas to illustrate their claims, the authors assert that compromise can disguise inequality, reduce plurality and heighten uncertainty. In short, compromise can weaken democracy and must not be seen as some sort of political panacea. This concise, accessible text offers a strong and provocative argument that provides a crucial counterpoint to the promise of compromise. It should prove of interest to students and scholars interested in compromise and consensus as well as democratic governance, social inequality, political apathy and environmental politics.

New horizons in sociological theory and research

The handbook of social theory presents an authoritative and panoramic critical survey of the development, achievement and prospects of social theory.

Advances in sociological knowledge

A bold extension of Marx's Capital for the twenty-first century: at once a critique of modern finance and of the societies under its spell.
The author argues that the countries that, at the end of the 20th century, have economic, social and ecological success will
not be unleashed market economies but "active and learning societies" that attempt to solve their problems via an
organization and society. With this understanding, we can more conscientiously participate in evaluation processes; better
position ourselves to understand many of the mysteries, tensions, and paradoxes in evaluation; and use evaluation in
building civil society and democracy in New Europe.

Evaluation—whether called by this name, quality assurance, audit, accreditation, or others—is an important social activity.
Any organization that "lives in public" must now evaluate its activities, be evaluated by others, or evaluate others. What
are the origins of this wave of evaluation? And, what worthwhile results emerge from it? The Evaluation Society argues
that if we want to understand many of the norms, values, and expectations that we, sometimes unknowingly, bring to
organization and society. With this understanding, we can more conscientiously participate in evaluation processes; better
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The Evaluation Society is the only international nongovernmental organization committed to the development and
improvement of evaluation as a field of study and practice. The Society's activities include the publication of Evaluations,
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evaluation.
Presenting a thorough understanding of the many ways in which religion interacts with modernization and its debates, respected scholars such as David Voas, Steve Bruce and Anthony Gill examine modern societies across the world in this splendid book.

The Information Society Reader

Social surveillance and regulation of knowledge will be one of the most important issues in the near future, one that will give rise to unending controversy. In The Governance of Knowledge, Nico Stehr predicts that such concerns will create a new political field, namely, knowledge policy, which will entail regulating dissemination of the anticipated results of rapidly increasing knowledge. The number and range of institutionalized standards for monitoring new knowledge has hitherto been relatively small. Only in cases of technological applications has social control, in the form of political regulation, so far intervened. All modern societies today have complex regulations and extensive concerns with the registration, licensing, testing, and monitoring of pharmaceutical products. The increasingly important and extensive area of intellectual property legislation and administration is an example of social control in which certain measures selectively determine the use of scientific finds and technical knowledge. The Governance of Knowledge assembles a range of essays that attempt to explore the new field of knowledge politics for the first time. It is divided into four parts: The Emergence of Knowledge Politics: Origins, Context, and Consequences; Major Social Institutions and Knowledge Politics; Case Studies on the Governance of Knowledge; and Issues in Knowledge Politics as a New Political Field. Individual chapters concern the emergence of knowledge policy, the embeddedness of such regulations in major social institutions, and offer case studies of the governance of knowledge and discuss controversial issues that are bound to accompany efforts to regulate new knowledge. Professionals and graduate students in the fields of sociology, political science, social science, and law, including policymakers and natural scientists, will find this book extremely informative.

Biotechnology

Bringing together an international line-up of contributors, this collection provides a transnational examination of recent developments within the academic profession in the light of changes to higher education systems, globalization and marketization.

Portfolio Society

Pulling together contributions to the information society debate from some of the field's key figures, this book addresses and examines key topics, providing an invaluable resource for students and academics alike.

The Changing Face of Academic Life

In The Fragility of Things, eminent theorist William E. Connolly focuses on several self-organizing ecologies that help to constitute our world. These interacting geological, biological, and climate systems, some of which harbor creative capacities, are depreciated by that brand of neoliberalism that confines self-organization to economic markets and equates the latter with impersonal rationality. Neoliberal practice thus fails to address the fragilities it exacerbates. Engaging a diverse range of thinkers, from Friedrich Hayek, Michel Foucault, Hesiod, and Immanuel Kant to Voltaire, Terrence Deacon, Friedrich Nietzsche, and Alfred North Whitehead, Connolly brings the sense of fragility alive as he rethinks the idea of freedom. Urging the Left not to abandon the state but to reclaim it, he also explores scales of politics below and beyond the state. The contemporary response to fragility requires a militant pluralist assemblage composed of those sharing affinities of spirituality across differences of creed, class, gender, sexual orientation, and ethnicity.

Being a University

The link between liberty and knowledge is neither static nor simple. Until recently the mutual support between knowledge, science, democracy and emancipation was presupposed. Recently, however, the close relationship between democracy and knowledge has been viewed with skepticism. The growing societal reliance on specialized knowledge often appears to actually undermine democracy. Is it that we do not know enough, but that we know too much? What are the implications for the freedom of societies and their citizens? Does knowledge help or heed them in unraveling the complexity of new challenges? This book systematically explores the shifting dynamics of knowledge production and the implications for the conditions and practices of freedom. It considers the growth of knowledge about knowledge and the impact of an evolving media. It argues for a revised understanding of the societal role of knowledge and presents the concept of 'knowledge societies' as a major resource for liberty.

Crisis and Critique

Climate has for a long time been a taken-for-granted background against which social, political and economic interactions have taken place. But this taken-for-granted background is cleaving. It is becoming hard to ignore the potential repercussions of a changing climate, and the uneven impact of certain forms of human society and energy cultures that risk undermining their own environmental conditions. In a comprehensive and accessible way, this book:

Drawing on the insights of various disciplines and citing numerous examples, Society and Climate probes the interplay between society, and climate change and the need for action to mitigate its effects.
Building of Civil Society and Democracy in countries in transformation can draw on experiences from the countries used to be - imprinted by its special path between East and West and fear of being encircled by enemies. Although the membership. Poland is bigger than the other 2004 countries together and has a heavy historical legacy. It is - as Germany are "late children of 1848". For them, entering NATO was more important than joining the EU, and also preceded EU- regarding civility, corruption, and transparency, and expectations for democratic politics. Several of the "new" countries end of the cold war meant the fall of the iron curtain – but a mental remnant of the curtain remains, in terms of attitudes to the moment history provided. The presence of the "New kids on the block" meant both problems and prospects. The momentous event in post-Westphalian Europe. Even if acceptance of ten new countries was premature, it was appropriate Russian empire - an event of the same magnitude as 1815 and 1919. Like 1918-19, it was an "exit into history", a instead of Communists. A common European public sphere and civil society might emerge, but its form remains visible efficient for "old" Europe. The new countries became a full-scale experiment in rule by experts: now by neo-liberals as a result of the expectations for post-Communist politics, build institutions of a kind that are no longer sufficiently already within the EU, there is no primrose path for EU-integration. It is, moreover, an irony that the new member states,

The European enlargement process culminating in 2004 was - as a follow-up to die Wende and the implosion of the used to be - imprinted by its special path between East and West and fear of being encircled by enemies. Although the membership. Poland is bigger than the other 2004 countries together and has a heavy historical legacy. It is - as Germany are "late children of 1848". For them, entering NATO was more important than joining the EU, and also preceded EU- regarding civility, corruption, and transparency, and expectations for democratic politics. Several of the "new" countries end of the cold war meant the fall of the iron curtain – but a mental remnant of the curtain remains, in terms of attitudes to the moment history provided. The presence of the "New kids on the block" meant both problems and prospects. The momentous event in post-Westphalian Europe. Even if acceptance of ten new countries was premature, it was appropriate Russian empire - an event of the same magnitude as 1815 and 1919. Like 1918-19, it was an "exit into history", a