Mainstream and Critical Social Theory-Jeffrey C Alexander 2001-06-25

Unrivalled in scope and depth, and prepared by one of the acknowledged giants of contemporary social theory, this boxed set provides a magisterial review of the central canons, discourses and research programs in social theory. The reader is provided with a route-map through the complex terrain of social theory from classical to contemporary times. Alexander distills an amazingly rich set of resources into eight exceptional volumes. For the specialist who does not have all of these materials to hand, the set offers an incisive and invaluable research aid. For the non-specialist, the volumes constitute an elegant and reliable entry into the heart of what is important in social theory.

Mainstream and Critical Social Theory: Canons and critical discourses-Jeffrey C. Alexander 2001

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Mainstream and Critical Social Theory-Jeffrey C Alexander 2001-06-25

The Palgrave Handbook of Critical Social Psychology-Brendan Gough 2017-04-11

This handbook is the first to bring together the latest theory and research on critical approaches to social psychological challenges. Edited by a leading authority in the field, this volume further establishes critical social psychology as a discipline of study, distinct from mainstream social psychology. The handbook explains how critical approaches to social processes and phenomena are essential to fully understanding them, and covers the main research topics in basic and applied social psychology, including social cognition, identity and social relations, alongside overviews of the main theories and methodologies that underpin critical approaches. This volume features a range of leading authors working on key social psychological issues, and highlights a commitment to a social psychology which shuns psychologisation, reductionism and neutrality. It provides invaluable insight into many of the most pressing and distressing issues we face in modern society, including the migrant and refugee crises affecting Europe; the devaluing of black lives in the USA; and the poverty, ill-health, and poor mental well-being that has resulted from ever-increasing austerity efforts in the UK. Including sections on critical perspectives, critical methodologies, and critical applications, this volume also focuses on issues within social cognition, self and identity. This one-stop handbook is an indispensable resource for a range of academics, students and researchers in the fields of psychology and sociology, and particularly those with an interest in social identity, power relations, and critical interventions.

Understanding Critical Social Psychology-Keith Tuffin 2005

Understanding Critical Social Psychology is an exciting new textbook providing a comprehensive and reader-friendly approach to the theories and methods surrounding Critical Social Psychology. This book combines a critical examination of the traditional philosophies, practices and topics with an emphasis on introducing innovative and contemporary developments in social psychological research. In this way, Tuffin integrates newer insights with established modes of thinking.

Critical Social Psychology-Tomás Ibáñez 1997-04-28

Much recent work in social psychology has questioned the assumptions and practices of traditional research and debate. Accessible and often passionately argued, this book pulls these new trends together in a major overview of the main theoretical, political and empirical developments. Assembling a group of leading figures in the field, the book addresses the need for a critical perspective in social psychology and examines the many levels of discussion that have informed that critique. The contributors encompass such key topics as: political analysis in a postmodern world; the status of qualitative methods; realism versus relativism; and the question of subjectivity from a critical perspective.

Property-C.B. MacPherson 1999-12-15

The legitimate role of the state in relation to property and the justification of property institutions of various kinds are matters of increasing concern in the modern world. Political and social theorists, jurists, economists, and historians have taken positions for and against the property institutions upheld in their time by the state, and further debate seems inevitable. This book brings together ten classic statements which set out the main arguments that are now appealed to and placed them in historical and critical perspective. The extracts presented here - all substantial - are from Locke, Rousseau, Bentham, Marx, Mill, Green, Veblen, Tawney, Morris Cohen, and Charles Reich. A note by the editor at the head of each extract highlights the arguments in it and relates it to the time at which it was written. Professor Macpherson's introductory and concluding essays expose the roots of some common misconceptions of property, identify current changes in the concept of property, and predict future changes. Macpherson argues that a specific change in the concept (which now appears possible) is needed to rescue liberal democracy from its present impasse. Property is both a valuable text on a crucial topic in political and social theory and a significant contribution to the continuing debate.

Critical Psychology-Dennis Fox 2009-02-16

Electronic Inspection Copy available for instructors here 'Do read this book - it will refresh you if you have not come across critical psychology before. If you are already "critical", this is an excellent, up-to-date overview of the area' - THE (Times Higher Education) 'An excellent book in all respects - compulsory reading for scholars interested in a socio-political contextual analysis of complex human behaviour' - Professor David F Marks, City University, London 'The arrival of a Second Edition of this classic is an exciting event. The editors have assembled a worldwide class array of authors to bring students to the forefront of critical scholarship today. Adding to the work's lustre are fresh new chapters on critical social issues, along with a set of new pedagogical aids. Bravo!' - Kenneth J. Gergen, Senior Research Professor, Swarthmore College The Second Edition of Critical Psychology extends the original's comprehensive and accessible critique of mainstream psychology. Fully revised, reconfigured and expanded, the Second Edition explores critical psychology's continued growth and diversification, offering practical advice, and noting significant theoretical and political dilemmas confronting critical psychologists today. While other texts focus on narrower specialities within critical psychology or on specific theoretical or methodological perspectives, Critical Psychology retains its focus on critical psychology as a whole. Key features of the new edition include: - each chapter now also includes a summary of main points, a glossary of important terms, suggested readings and Internet sites, and questions for discussion - the book's contributors - most of them new - have thoroughly updated the original chapters and provide multiple perspectives on critical psychology's core concerns - reflecting recent developments, Parts Three and Four are completely new to this edition. Part Three provides in-depth coverage of critical psychology's relevance to social justice, focusing on the issues of race, class, gender, disability, colonization/globalization, human rights/social justice in post-conflict settings, and oppression/empowerment in mental health systems.
Part Four examines critical psychology practice, from theory, methodology and therapy to community organizing and the politics of resistance. No Social Science without Critical Theory-Harry F. Dahms 2008-06-16 Highlights the problematic nature of mainstream perspectives, and the growing need to reaffirm how the specific kind of critique the early Frankfurt School theorists advocated is not less, but far more important today. This book also includes chapters that offer a broad and diverse look at social science and critical theory. Social Theory and the Family (RLE Social Theory)-D.J.J. Morgan 2014-08-07 An experienced teacher of courses on the sociology of the family. D.J.J. Morgan frequently encounters a gulf between the ‘family’ as it is often treated in sociological texts and ‘the family’ as it is usually experienced. In this book he provides an extremely valuable bridge between the two by presenting an encounter between some of the mainstream theoretical approaches and concerns in the sociology of the family and what he terms as ‘critical’ perspectives on the family. This is the first British book on a basic social institution that takes into account the literature outside the mainstream of sociological analysis that deals with the subject. The first half examines the varieties of functional theorizing embedded in many texts, the over-concern with the question of kinship in modern society and the treatment of the family as a ‘success story’. In the second half Dr Morgan presents a critical account of some of the counter-theories: those derived from the radical feminist movement, the existential psycho-analytical approach associated with Laing, and the critical analyses of sex in an advanced capitalist society. A final chapter suggests some themes and orientations, derived from this encounter of theoretical approaches and modern perspectives, which can be usefully developed. The Vitality of Critical Theory-Harry F. Dahms 2011-05-19 States that the critical theory of the Frankfurt School is as important today, if not more so, as it was at its inception during the 1930s. This title looks at the distinguishing features of this tradition and how it is critical, yet also complementary, of other approaches in the social sciences, especially in sociology. Market Society-Don Slater 2013-07-03 Market Society provides an original and accessible review of changing conceptions of the market in modern social thought. The book considers how market rules apply as social institutions rather than simply formal models, arguing that modern ideas of the market are based on critical notions of social order, social action and social relations. Examining a range of perspectives on the market from across different social science disciplines, Market Society surveys a complex field of ideas in a clear and comprehensive manner. In this way it seeks to extend economic sociology beyond a critique of mainstream economics, and to engage more broadly with social, political and cultural theory. The book explores historical approaches to the emergence of a modern market society, as well as major approaches to the market within modern economic theory and sociology. It addresses key arguments in economic sociology and anthropology, the relation between markets and states, and critical and cultural theories of market rationality. It concludes with a discussion of markets and culture in a late modern context. This wide-ranging text will be of interest to undergraduates and postgraduate students in sociology, economic theory and history, politics, social and political theory, anthropology and cultural studies. Canons and Critical Discourses-Jeffrey C. Alexander 2001 Critical Social Theories-Ben Agger 1998 This text, written expressly for upper-level undergraduates and graduate students in sociology, political science, English, and humanities courses provides a cogent and accessible explanation of critical social theory. Ben Agger introduces students to the Frankfurt School, postmodernism, theories of multiculturalism and difference, feminist theory, and cultural studies. Arguing for an integration of these theories, Critical Social Theories is a useful supplement to social theory texts. Throughout the book, Agger considers implications of critical social theory, making the book highly relevant to mainstream sociologists seeking theoretical guidance. Emotion and Social Theory-Simon Williams 2001-02-27 The emotions have traditionally been marginalized in mainstream social theory. This book demonstrates the problems that this has caused and charts the resurgence of emotions in social theory today. Drawing on a wide variety of sources, both classical and contemporary, Simon Williams treats the emotions as a universal feature of human life and our embodied relationship to the world. He reflects and comments upon the turn towards the body and intimacy in social theory, and explains what is important in current thinking about emotions. In his doing so, readers are provided with a critical assessment of various positions within the field, including the strengths and weaknesses of poststructuralism and postmodernism for examinin. The Oxford Handbook of Critical Management Studies-Mats Alvesson 2009-06-18 Critical Management Studies (CMS) has emerged as a movement that questions the authority and relevance of mainstream thinking and practice. Critical of established social practices and institutional arrangements, it challenges prevailing systems of domination and promotes the development of alternatives to them. CMS draws upon diverse critical traditions. Of particular importance for its initial articulation was the thinking of members of the Frankfurt School of Critical Theory. From these foundations, CMS has grown into a pluralistic and inclusive movement incorporating a diverse range of perspectives - ranging from labour process theory to radical feminism. In recent times, a set of ideas broadly labelled 'poststructuralists' have been developed to complement and challenge the insights of Critical Theory, giving new impetus for scholars seeking to challenge the status quo and articulate a more inclusive and humane future for management practice. The Oxford Handbook of Critical Management Studies provides an overview of theoretical approaches, key topics, issues, and subject specialisms in management studies, as well as a set of reflections on the progress and prospects of CMS. Contributors are all specialists in the respective fields and share a concern to interrogate and challenge received wisdom about management theory and practice. Given the rapid growth of the CMS movement, its ever increasing theoretical and geographical diversity and its outreach into the public sphere, The Oxford Handbook of Critical Management Studies is a timely publication. In addition to UK contributors, where CMS has developed most rapidly, there is strong representation from North American contributors as well as from areas where CMS has taken hold more recently, such as Australasia. Mainstream and Critical Social Theory-Jeffrey C. Alexander 2001 Disability and Social Theory-D. Goodley 2012-06-01 This comprehensive, interdisciplinary collection, examines disability from a theoretical perspective, challenging views of disability that dominate mainstream thinking. Throughout, social theories of disability intersect with ideas associated with sex/gender, race/ethnicity, class and nation. Mainstream and Critical Social Theory: Canons and critical discourses-Jeffrey C. Alexander 2001 Racial Theories in Social Science-Sean Elias 2016-04-14 Racial Theories in Social Science: A Systemic Racism Critique provides a critique of the way in which past and present lack of systematic racism theory. As this book demonstrates, mainstream racial analysis, and social analysis more generally, remain stunted and uncritical because of this unhealthy white framing of knowledge and evasion or downplaying of institutional, structural, and systemic racism. In response to ineffective social science analyses of racial matters, this book presents a counter-approach—systemic racism theory. The foundation of this theoretical perspective lies in the critical insights and perspectives of African Americans and other people who have long challenged biased white-framed perspectives and practices and the racially oppressive and exclusionary institutions and social systems created by whites over several centuries. Handbook of Critical Psychology-Ian Parker 2015-04-17 Choice Recommended Read Critical psychology has developed over time from different standpoint, and in different cultural contexts, embracing a variety of perspectives. This cutting-edge and comprehensive handbook values and reflects this diversity of approaches to critical psychology today, providing a definitive state-of-the-art account of the field and an opening to the lines of argument that will take it forward in the years to come. The individual chapters by leading and emerging scholars plot the development of a critical perspective on different elements of the host discipline of psychology. The book begins by systematically addressing each separate specialist area of psychology, moving on to consider how critical psychology transcends the divide of critical psychology and the disciplines. The final part of the volume explores the variety of cultural and political standpoints that have made critical psychology such a vibrant contested terrain of debate. The Handbook of Critical Psychology represents a key resource for researchers and practitioners across all relevant disciplines. It will be of particular interest to students and researchers in psychology, psychosocial studies, sociology, social anthropology and cultural studies, and to discourse analysts of different traditions, including those in critical linguistics and political theory. Critical Theory and Qualitative Data Analysis in Education-Rachelle Winkle-Wagner 2018-07-04 Critical Theory and Qualitative Data Analysis in
Education offers a path-breaking explanation of how critical theories can be used within the analysis of qualitative data to inform research processes, such as data collection, analysis, and interpretation. This contributed volume offers examples of qualitative data analysis techniques and exemplars of empirical studies that employ critical theory concepts in data analysis. By creating a clear and accessible bridge between data analysis and critical social theories, this book helps scholars and researchers effectively translate their research designs and findings to multiple audiences for more equitable outcomes and disruption of historical and contemporary inequality.

Marxism and Totality-Martin Jay 1984 Totality has been an abiding concern from the first generation of Western Marxists, most notably Lukács, Korsch, Gramsci, and Bloch, through the second, exemplified by the Frankfurt School, Lefebvre, Goldmann, Sartre, Merleau-Ponty, and Della Volpe, up to the most recent, typified by Althusser, Colletti, and Habermas. Yet no consensus has been reached concerning the term's multiple meanings—expressive, decentered, longitudinal, latitudinal, normative—or its implications for other theoretical and practical matters. By closely following the adventures of this troublesome but central concept, Marxism & Totality offers an unconventional account of the history of Western Marxism.

Social Theory after the Internet-Ralph Schroeder 2018-01-04 The internet has fundamentally transformed society in the past 25 years, yet existing theories of mass or interpersonal communication do not work well in understanding a digital world. Nor has this understanding been helped by disciplinary specialization and a continual focus on the latest innovations. Ralph Schroeder takes a longer-term view, synthesizing perspectives and findings from various social science disciplines in four countries: the United States, Sweden, India and China. His comparison highlights, among other things, that the internet is that rare contemporary phenomenon that bypassed the internet. Social Theory after the Internet focuses on everyday uses and effects of the internet, including information seeking and big data, and explains how the internet has gone beyond traditional media in, for example, enabling Donald Trump and Narendra Modi to come to power. Schroeder puts forward a sophisticated theory of the role of the internet, and how both technological and social forces shape its significance. He provides a sweeping and penetrating study, theoretically ambitious and at the same time always empirically grounded. The book will be of great interest to students and scholars of digital media and society, the internet and politics, and the social implications of big data.


Teaching Marx & Critical Theory in the 21st Century-2019-07-22 In Teaching Marx & Critical Theory in the 21st Century, authors reflect on, and offer radical arguments regarding, the crucial importance of Marx, critical theory, and critical pedagogy in the 21st century. The essays represent various disciplines while commenting broadly on the need for an engaged, radical critique of the neoliberal paradigm.

A Relational Theory of World Politics-Yaqing Qin 2018-04-05 Drawing on Chinese cultural and philosophical traditions, this book offers a ground breaking reinterpretation of world politics from Yaqing Qin, one of China’s leading scholars of international relations. Qin has pioneered the study of constructivism in China and developed a variant of this approach, arguing that culture defined in terms of background knowledge nurtures social theory and enables theoretical innovation. Building upon this argument, this book presents the concept of ‘relationality’, shifting the focus from individual actors to the relationships amongst actors. This ontology of relations examines the unfolding processes whereby relations create the identities of actors and provide motivations for their actions. Appealing to scholars of international relations theory, social theory and Chinese political thought, this exciting new concept will be of particular interest to those who are seeking to bridge Eastern and Western approaches for a truly global international relations project.

Environment and Social Theory-John Barry 2007-01-24 Written in an engaging and accessible manner by one of the leading scholars in his field, Environment and Social Theory, completed revised and updated with two new chapters, is an indispensable guide to the way in which the environment and social theory relate to one another. This popular text outlines the complex interlinking of the environment, nature and social theory from ancient and pre-modern thinking to contemporary social theorizing. John Barry: examines the ways major religious such as Judeo-Christianity have and continue to conceptualize the environment analyzes the way the non-human environment features in Western thinking from Marx and Darwin, to Freud and Horkheimer explores the relationship between gender and the environment, postmodernism and risk society schools of thought, and the contemporary ideology of orthodox economic thinking in social theorising about the environment. How humans value, use and think about the environment, is an increasingly central and important aspect of recent social theory. It has become clear that the present generation is faced with a series of unique environmental dilemmas, largely unprecedented in human history. With summary points, illustrative examples, glossary and further reading sections this invaluable resource will benefit anyone with an interest in environmentalism, politics, sociology, geography, development studies and environmental and ecological economics.

A Critical Examination of the Underlying Sociological Theory of Secularization in the West in the Work of Charles Taylor-German F. McKenzie 2015 Scholarly debate on secularization in the West has been largely developed in sociological terms. Two extreme positions in the conversations are those I label as "orthodox" and "counter-orthodox", with several authors taking middle stances. "Orthodox" theorists affirm that modernity necessarily erodes religion, whereas "counter-orthodox" ones—also known as Rational Choice Theorists (RCT)—see secularization as a self-limiting process within modernity. As the debate between these views has somewhat stalled, other perspectives have caught the interest of researchers. An important contribution among them is that made by Canadian thinker Charles Taylor in his book A Secular Age (2007). This dissertation analyses the sociological basis of Charles Taylor's account of secularization in order to elucidate what new insights he brings to the debate on the issue. It relies on textual analysis of all the pertinent works by Taylor, as well as his classical and contemporary sociological influences. As a sociological framework, it relies on the scholarship of British sociologist Margaret Archer, particularly on her views about the relationship between social and cultural studies and human agency, as well as about social change. My claim is that it is possible to uncover a consistent "Taylorian sociology" in his work. This particular sociological approach finds its roots in Taylor's philosophical anthropology, his critique of mainstream social science, his position on the problem of human agency in sociology, and his affirmation of the inextricable linkage between the social and cultural realms. In this light, secularization in the West is better understood as the change of religion due to social movement dynamics which relocates the place of religion in society and in individual experience. This change has entailed the decline of some religious forms and the appearance of new ones, a process which is not linear but more of a zigzag-shape. In spite of some shortcomings, Taylorian sociology's account of religious change is consistent with an important body of empirical data. It supersedes important theoretical and methodological problems within "orthodox" and RCT-inspired explanations. In regard to the former, this is not surprising since such views have been marginalized by the most part of scholars today. However, in regard to the latter, criticisms advanced by Taylorian sociology are more interesting because of RCT's prevalence, particularly in North America's scholarship. Among the most important of them, is the inadequacy of considering structures as closed systems—something crucial for RCT, the diminished role given to cultural structures as compared to that of social structures in religious change, and the inadequacy of RCT's view of religious choice as one that bypassed the human agent all at the same time and in a clear way before the new paths opened by Taylorian sociology for the study of secularization, the more important are its integration of human agency and structure, and its focus on our contemporary conditions of belief, particularly its view of the "immanent frame" as our given cultural context in the West, the notion of a continuum that goes between exclusive humanism and transformative religion, two extreme positions which fragmentize each other and between which a myriad of unstable intermediate positions are taken by many Westerners.

Mainstream And Critical Social Theory Research Programs And Current Controversies

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