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in a rapidly changing and interdisciplinary world it is important to understand the nature and generation of knowledge and its social organization increasing attention is paid in the social sciences and management studies to the constitution and claims of different theories perspectives and paradigms this book is one of the most respected and robust analyses of these issues for this new paperback edition richard whitley a leading figure in european business education has written a new introduction which addresses the particular epistemological issues presented by management and business studies he approaches the sciences as differently organized systems for the production and validation of knowledge systems which become established in particular contexts and which generate different sorts of knowledge he identifies seven major types of scientific field and discusses the establishment and growth of these sciences including the major consequences of the nineteenth century expansion of employment opportunities for researchers the competitive pursuit of public reputations and the domination of intellectual work by employees he also examines the divergences in the way research is organized and controlled both in different fields and in the same field within different historical circumstances this book will be of interest to all graduate students concerned with the social study of knowledge science technology and the history and philosophy of science

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featuring over 1 800 concise definitions of key terms the dictionary of the social sciences is the most comprehensive authoritative single volume work of its kind with coverage on the vocabularies of anthropology sociology political science economics human geography cultural studies and marxism the dictionary is an integrated easy to use a to z reference tool designed for students and non specialists it examines classic and contemporary scholarship including basic terms concepts theories schools of thought methodologies issues and controversies as a true dictionary it also contains concise jargon free definitions that explain the rich sometimes complex language of these increasingly visible fields

this volume focuses on key conceptual issues in the social sciences such as winch s idea of a social science structuralism malinowski and evans pritchard and the concept of kinship in particular it deals with such problems as the relationship of nature and culture the relevance of concepts drawn from within a given society to its understanding and the relation of theory to time

organizing his work thematically to explore important ideas and trends that have influenced the social sciences since world war ii daniel bell charts the rise and fall of major developments in the field and presents a comprehensive survey of the progress of the social sciences over this thirty five year period bell discusses such major advances as the emergence of sotiobiology as an effort to unify social behavior through genetically based parameters structuralism the multiplicity of new paradigms in macroeconomics and schools of neo marxism parts i and ii of the social sciences since the second world war originally appeared as yearly installments in the encyclopaedia britannica s great ideas today series and are combined for the first time in book form dr bell has added an introductory essay that reviews the time frame and details his rationale for focusing on specific disciplines his emphasis throughout is on those synoptic efforts geared at providing a systematic body of theory that set forth some coherent statement about human behavior or social structure the book concludes with a discussion of the viability of formulating a unified viewof knowledge through the unity of science

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