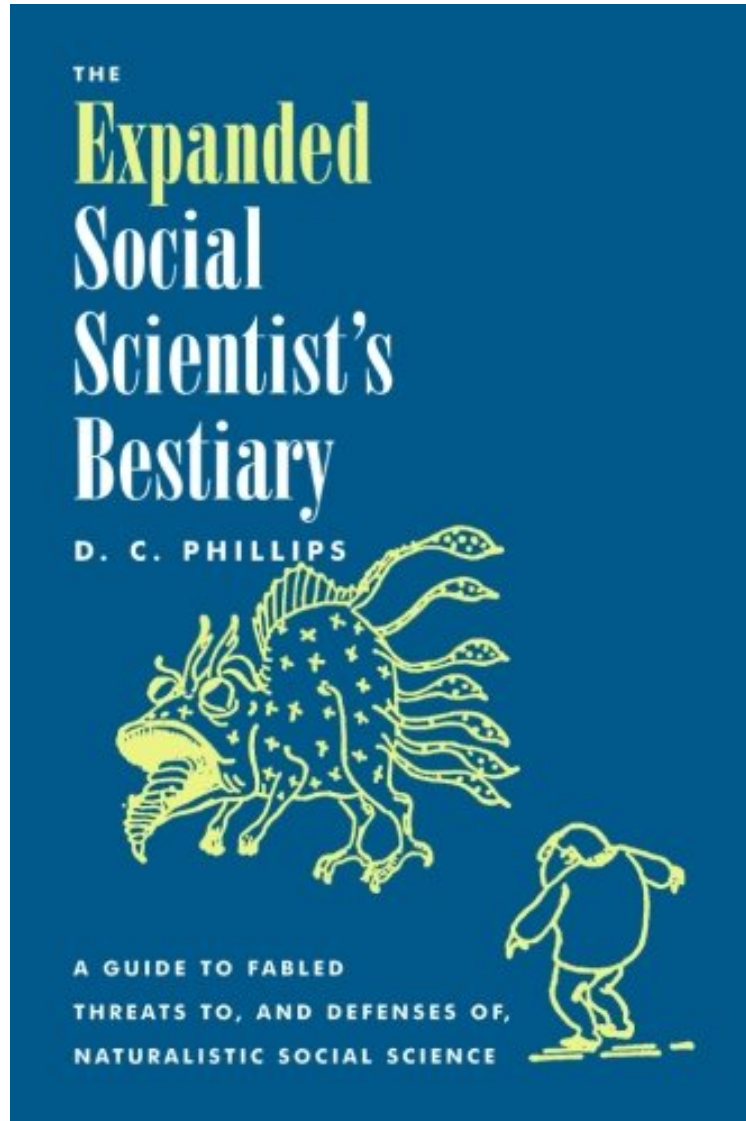


[Pdf free] The Expanded Social Scientist's Bestiary

The Expanded Social Scientist's Bestiary

D. C. Phillips

**Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#2406154 in Books Rowman n Littlefield Publishers 2000-11-28Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.98 x .62 x 5.821, .95 #File Name: 0847698912296 pages | File size: 63.Mb

D. C. Phillips : The Expanded Social Scientist's Bestiary before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Expanded Social Scientist's Bestiary:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant!By Michael ScrivenThis is the most intelligent and learned critique of social science methodology in existence. It is a preview of the view now increasingly being adopted by philosophers of science and sophisticated methodologists within the sciences. Do not fail to read and understand it if interested in the methodology of the social sciences.Michael ScrivenProfessor of PsychologyClaremont Graduate University;Principal Research AssociateEvaluation CenterWestern Michigan University;Director of Institutional

ResearchPalo Alto University3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Erudite summary of key topics in philosophical foundations of education and social scienceBy Kobe Knock KnockI read this book in small doses and I am pleased I stuck with it. As an earlier reviewer suggested, the book and its content is not for the philosophical faint of heart and nor should it be. This text is for those who desire an erudite and non-trivializing view of key philosophical and conceptual ideas undergirding social science and education. If readers want a watered-down, Harry Potterized overview of these complex and nuanced philosophical issues than this text is not for you. Perhaps if you desire a more easily consumable and short book on similar topics by the renown Stanford philosopher of education D. C. Phillips (2000), then I'd suggest Postpositivism and Educational Research. But again the narrative doesn't in anyway resemble a graphic novel and requires a focused reader who is willing to do the hard intellectual work to plow through it. In any case, these books are required for those who care about philosophy.1 of 5 people found the following review helpful. An Admirable Purpose But Can You Finish?By James LittrellI rarely loathed any book in my graduate experience as much as I still loathe this book. That said, the content of the book is quite useful. Re-reading its purpose points out such important ideas that are included in this book and how it is supposed set the tone for any political scientist's jaunt into the discipline. However...the writing is perhaps the worst I have ever encountered. I was able to get through half of the book, and subsequently gave up on the second half in favor of speed reading to minimize the damage to my senses. If another reviewer believes that the author becomes proficient in writing in the latter half, buy the book and believe them, as I was not able to get through it in entirety. Or, I suppose, if you are a sadistic professor teaching a graduate class in political science, then this is also worth making your students suffer--I mean--read.

The (Expanded)Social Scientist's Bestiary addresses a number of important theoretical and philosophical issues in the social sciences from the perspective of contemporary philosophy of science. The book discusses and critiques the various arguments that purport to establish that it is a mistake to believe that a naturalistic social science- i.e. social science that in some way resembles the natural sciences- can be produced. It is intended to guide social scientists- researchers, teachers, and students-so that they will not fall victim to the beasts they will encounter in the course of their inquiries. Such beasts include holism, post-positivistic work in the philosophy of science, Kuhnian relativism, the denial of objectivity and value neutrality, hermeneutics and several others, both good and bad. This expanded and revised edition contains four new chapters tackling such contemporary beasts as Popperian rules, narrative research, and various forms of constructivism. The chapters presented in this volume are, as far as possible, self-contained so that each chapter can be consulted without the necessity of having read the others, thus making this volume an invaluable guide for faculty members and graduate students in the whole of the social sciences and related applied fields.

How refreshing it is to see concepts such as truth, values, and objectivity discussed intelligently within the context of social science. Phillips unravels the complexities of constructivism, hermeneutics, naturalism, narrative research, and positivism with his insightful analysis and lucid writing. This is a must read for all of us who are students of the social sciences; students in the sense that we are as concerned about the questions we ask and the ways in which we go about answering them as we are in the answers we ultimately find. (Lorin W. Anderson, Carolina Distinguished Professor Emeritus, University of South Carolina)Should be required reading for all Ph.D. candidates in social science. It is a mind clearing analysis of the highest order, prophylactic and curative of the numerous methodological and substantive ills that afflict us. It is especially needed today when the 'positivist-bashers' are using the Vienna Circle's mistakes and Kuhn's exaggerations for obscurantist purposes. (Paul E. Meehl, Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science)This is vintage D. C. Phillips. A spirited, wide-ranging, postpositivist apologia for a naturalistic interpretation of the social sciences. This expanded new edition examines the 'habits' of two new fashionable beasts known as narrative research and social constructionism and offers a neo-Popperian account of falsificationism. In substance and style, The Bestiary displays Phillips' unswerving commitment to reasoned argument, empirical grounding, and the regulative ideals of truth and objectivity as the foundations for sound social science. This book is a must-read for any scholar seeking to come to terms with a contemporary account of naturalism in the social sciences... (Thomas A. Schwandt, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)This is vintage D. C. Phillips. A spirited, wide-ranging, postpositivist apologia for a naturalistic interpretation of the social sciences. This expanded new edition examines the 'habits' of two new fashionable beasts known as narrative research and social constructionism and offers a neo-Popperian account of falsificationism. In substance and style, The Bestiary displays Phillips' unswerving commitment to reasoned argument, empirical grounding, and the regulative ideals of truth and objectivity as the foundations for sound social science. This book is a must-read for any scholar seeking to come to terms with a contemporary account of naturalism in the social sciences. (Thomas A. Schwandt, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)About the AuthorD. C. Phillips is professor of education and philosophy and associate dean for academic affairs in the School of Education at Stanford University.