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Philosophy Of Science: Key Concepts



Synopsis

Science has made a huge impact on human society over hundred years, but how does it work? How do scientists do the things they do? How do they come up with the theories? How do they test them? How do they use these theories to explain phenomena? How do they draw conclusions from them about how the world might be? Now updated, this second edition of *Philosophy of Science: Key Concepts* looks at each of these questions and more. Taking in turn the fundamental theories, processes and views lying at the heart of the philosophy of science, this engaging introduction illuminates the scientific practice and provides a better appreciation of how science actually works. It features:- Chapters on discovery, evidence, verification and falsification, realism and objectivity- Accessible overviews of work of key thinkers such as Galileo, Einstein and Mullis- A new chapter on explanation- An extended range of easy-to-follow and contemporary examples to help explain more technical ideas- Study exercises, an annotated bibliography and suggestions of Where to Go NextSuccinct and approachable, *Philosophy of Science: Key Concepts* outlines some of the most central and important scientific questions, problems and arguments without assuming prior knowledge of philosophy. This enjoyable introduction is the perfect starting point for anyone looking to understand how and why science has shaped and changed our view of the world.

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Customer Reviews

If philosophy of science baffles you, this book offers the key to unlock its mysteries. Written by a leading scholar in the field, it provides a superb introduction to core topics ranging from scientific discovery to gender bias. This book is a must-read for anyone interested in philosophical issues

relating to scientific knowledge. (Roman Frigg, Professor in Philosophy, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK 2015-07-26) Philosophy of Science: Key Concepts is a lively, engaging and comprehensive introduction to philosophy of science, written by one of its best contemporary practitioners. Steven French explains the mechanics of science by focusing on episodes from past and current scientific practice. He weaves the web of the major concepts that constitute the tools of the philosophical understanding of science and unravels their rich content. This book is like no other introduction I have read in making a complex conceptual terrain accessible to, and viable for, the uninitiated. A masterly achievement. (Stathis Psillos, University of Athens & Rotman Institute of Philosophy, UWO, Greece 2015-07-20) This is a wonderful book. It engages students with an infectious enthusiasm for science and philosophy, built on provocative examples, fascinating history, patient explanations, and no small amount of good humor. French has a terrific knack for unpacking challenging ideas in an intuitive way, without jargon, and yet rigorously. (Anjan Chakravarty, Professor of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, USA 2015-09-11)

A succinct and engaging introduction for anyone looking to understand how and why science has shaped and changed our view of the world.

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