

Contents

Foreword (David Silverman)	viii
Acknowledgments	x
1 The 'Narrative Turn' in Social Studies	1
A brief history	1
Enacted narrative as a basic form of social life	3
Narrative as a mode of knowing	6
Narration as a mode of communication	10
Is there room for narrative in a postmodern society?	12
About this book	14
Exercise	15
Further reading	15
2 How Stories Are Made	17
Narratives into stories	17
The ways of emplotment	20
Watching while stories are made	23
Exercises	31
Further reading	31
3 Collecting Stories	33
Oral history	33
Collecting stories	36
Telling stories	38
Stories in and about organizations	40
Ways of story collecting	43
Exercises	45
Further reading	46
4 Narratives in an Interview Situation	47
What is an interview?	47
An interview as an interaction and as a narrative production site	49
Difficulties connected to eliciting narratives in an interview situation	51
Avoiding accounts	54

Interview transcript as a narrative	55
Exercise	59
Further reading	59
5 Reading Narratives	60
Hernadi's triad	60
The difficulty of explication	61
Varieties of explanation	63
Exploration	71
Reading Egon Bittner	72
Exercise	74
Further reading	75
6 Structural Analyses	76
The morphology of a fairytale	76
Morphology of evolution theories	78
Actant model	79
Scripts and schemas	82
Other kinds of structural analysis	83
Exercise	86
Further reading	86
7 Close Readings: Poststructuralism, Interruption, Deconstruction	88
Poststructuralism in action	88
Interruption	91
Deconstruction	96
Changing worlds	98
Exercise	101
Further reading	101
8 Reading Social Science	102
Dramatist analysis of drinking driver research	102
The anthropologist as author	105
Storytelling in economics	108
Leadership as seduction: deconstructing social science theory	112
Narratives from one's own backyard	115
Exercise	115
Further reading	116
9 Writing Social Science	117
Mimesis, or how to represent the world	117
Plot, or how to theorize	122
Exercise	129
Further reading	130

10 Narrativizing Social Sciences	131
The dangerous stories from the field	131
The worrisome stories of the field	132
The hopeful narratives	134
Further reading	137
Glossary	138
References	142
Author index	153
Subject index	156