

# Contents

Preface	vii
Introduction	ix
1 Knowledge as a Capacity to Act	1
2 Social Science and Practice	6
The self-conception of social scientists	7
The deficit of social science knowledge	12
Excursus The Authority of Complexity	15
Keynes's theory as an exemplary case	22
3 The Science of Application	26
The model of instrumentality	27
The logic of justification and the logic of practice	40
The convergence of intellectual traditions	42
Excursus Max Weber and the Political Virtues of Social Science Knowledge	48
Society, culture and science	51
Religion and scientific activity	52
The legitimacy of social scientific activity	53
The authority of discourse	55
Conclusion	59
4 Economic Policy as Applied Social Science	65
Politics and the economy	70
Knowledge for practice	71
Correspondence versus identity	81
Practical knowledge	89
Economic knowledge	90
The state as entrepreneur	93
The conditions for the crisis of Keynesian economic policy	106

5	Pragmatic Knowledge	117
	Knowledge guiding interests and practice	118
	Knowing and doing	125
	Local knowledge and practice	126
	Social and natural science knowledge in action	128
	Excursus Sociology as Enlightenment	131
	The preconditions for the rule of the new élite	138
	Disadvantages and benefits of a pragmatic social science	144
	Conclusion	152
	Bibliography	155
	Appendix Selected Macro-economic Trends	177
	Index	183