

CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	vii
1 Introduction: the research process	1
Four elements	2
What about ontology?	10
In all directions	12
The great divide	14
2 Positivism: the march of science	18
Positivism	19
Post-positivism	29
3 Constructionism: the making of meaning	42
The construction of meaningful reality	42
'Social' constructionism	52
Conformism or critique?	57
Realism and relativism	63
4 Interpretivism: for and against culture	66
Roots of interpretivism	67
Symbolic interactionism	72
Phenomenology	78
5 Interpretivism: the way of hermeneutics	87
Historical origins	88
The hermeneutic mode of understanding	90
Modern hermeneutics	92

6 Critical inquiry: the Marxist heritage	112
Karl Marx	115
Marxism after Marx	122
The Institute for Social Research	125
Critical theory	130
7 Critical inquiry: contemporary critics & contemporary critique	139
Jürgen Habermas and communicative reason	140
Paulo Freire's pedagogy of the oppressed	147
Critical inquiry today	157
8 Feminism: re-visioning the man-made world	160
The many feminisms	162
Feminist 'epistemology'	170
Feminine thought or feminist values?	176
9 Postmodernism: crisis of confidence or moment of truth?	183
'Post' what?	183
(Post-) structuralism	195
The character of post-structuralism	203
Back to the postmodern	210
10 Conclusion	214
<i>Notes</i>	217
<i>Bibliography</i>	221
<i>Index</i>	233