

# Contents

*About the Author*

*Preface*

*Chronology*

## *Chapter One*

The French in Structuralism 1

What Is a Structure?

A Philosophy or an Ideology?

Psycholinguistic Modeling

Mathematics and Structure

The Pursuit of Difference

## *Chapter Two*

Lévi-Strauss and the Elusive Human Spirit 21

In Search of "the Atom of Kinship Systems"

Mythologizing and Structuralism

What Is Structural History?

From the Outside to the Inside

The Demythologizing of Culture

## *Chapter Three*

Barthes and Reading Obliquely 33

\ Focusing on Differences Rather than Repetition

\ Structure as Grammar

\ Decoding the *Homo Significans*

\ *Larvatus Prodeo*

\ The Ultimate Irony of Desire

*Chapter Four*

## Lacan and the Purloined Letter 47

The Unconscious Structured like a Language

The Rejection of *Homo Psychologicus*

Triangulating the Model

Truth as a Psychological Rebus

The Subversion of Phallogocentrism

*Chapter Five*

## Foucault and the Revelation of Power 60

In the Margins of History

Archaeology and Knowledge

The Political Subversion of Power

"Ceci n'est pas une pipe"

The Philosopher as Cartographer

*Chapter Six*

## Althusser and Antiphilosophical Philosophy 75

History without Subject or Goal(s)

Marx's Epistemological Break

The Driving Force of History

Historical Materialism as a Science

Toward a New Philosophy

*Chapter Seven*

## Alternate Sciences of Politics 88

The Ironies of Althusser

The New Philosophers and the Master Thinkers

Deleuze and Serres Reinvalidate the Scientific Spirit

*Chapter Eight*

Toward a Universal Grammar 98

Jean Dubois and Syntagmatic Structures

A. J. Greimas and a Place for Semantics

Rhetoric and the Acts of Speech

Tzvetan Todorov and the Development of  
Narratology

The Vernant Group and the Contexts of Myth

*Chapter Nine*

First-Order Narratives 111

Jean Piaget: The Claim for the Sciences

Lucien Goldmann and Class as a Significant  
Structure

Girard and the Mythical Triangulation of Mimetic  
Desire

*Chapter Ten*

Mapping the Path Taken 121

The Ideologists despite Themselves

The Geometries of Space

The Model of Scientific Reason

The Semiotic Web

*Notes and References* 131

*Annotated Bibliography* 152

*Index* 156