DESCRIPTION

This book offers a fresh and uniquely sociological perspective on money and credit. As basic economic institutions, money and credit are easy to overlook when they work well. When they malfunction, as they did in the new millennium’s global financial crisis, their importance becomes obvious and demands further investigation.

Bruce Carruthers and Laura Ariovich examine the social dimensions of money and credit at both the individual and corporate levels, from the development of personal credit and a consumer society, to the role of government in the creation of money. In clear prose, they illustrate how the overall future of the economy is governed by the financial system and the flow of capital into, and out of, firms operating in particular industrial sectors, as well as the social meanings money itself acquires and the ways people distinguish between “dirty” and “clean” money.

This accessible and engaging book will be essential reading for upper-level students of economic sociology, and those interested in how the bills, coins and plastic in our pockets shape the world we live in.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bruce G. Carruthers is Professor of Sociology at Northwestern University

Laura Ariovich is Becaria Superior at the University of Buenos Aires
FEATURES

• Offers a fresh and uniquely sociological perspective on money and credit.

• Timely explanation and investigation of the social basis of our system of money and credit, what makes it work and why it can go wrong.

• Engaging examination of the social dimensions of money and credit at the individual, corporate and international level, as well as the ways people distinguish between “dirty” and “clean” money.

• Essential reading for upper-level students of economic sociology.

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