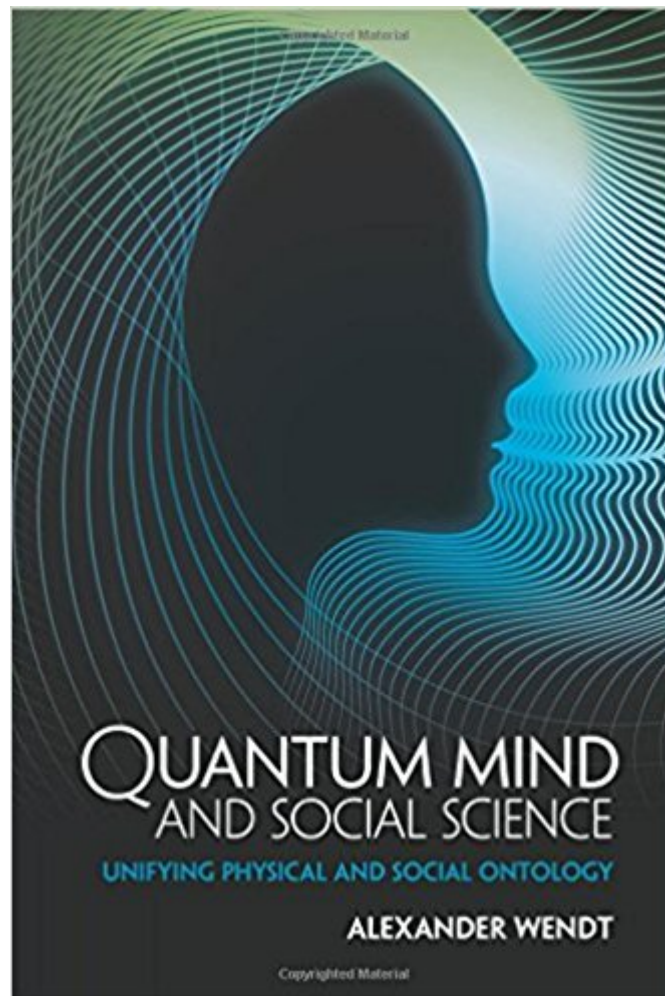




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Quantum Mind And Social Science: Unifying Physical And Social Ontology



Synopsis

There is an underlying assumption in the social sciences that consciousness and social life are ultimately classical physical/material phenomena. In this ground-breaking book, Alexander Wendt challenges this assumption by proposing that consciousness is, in fact, a macroscopic quantum mechanical phenomenon. In the first half of the book, Wendt justifies the insertion of quantum theory into social scientific debates, introduces social scientists to quantum theory and the philosophical controversy about its interpretation, and then defends the quantum consciousness hypothesis against the orthodox, classical approach to the mind-body problem. In the second half, he develops the implications of this metaphysical perspective for the nature of language and the agent-structure problem in social ontology. Wendt's argument is a revolutionary development which raises fundamental questions about the nature of social life and the work of those who study it.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Alexander Wendt has written a book that is informative, insightful and expertly researched. While the title references social science, you might well consider this book an overview of the recent research into the quantum basis of consciousness. If you are interested in the implications of the Hammeroff/Penrose Orch-OR theory, this is a great place to start. The author takes care to present various interpretations of consciousness theory (both quantum and classical), and provides excellent historical context for these interpretations. This book will allow you to become more comfortable with the expanded world view that accompanies an understanding of the physical basis

for consciousness without imposing unsupported speculation that often tries to drift into this picture. Bottom line, worth every penny of your money and every minute of your time. Thank you, Mr. Wendt for writing this book. It's a gem.

Most of all, this is a serious book written by a serious scholar. The implications of his thesis are profound for any conventional view of the Social Sciences. Perhaps only a thinker of such proven qualification could set forth so bold a vision in such a forceful and credible way. Fortunately, it is also a book clearly written and accessible to a wide variety of readers. Joseph P Garske

This book is a fascinating piece of cross discipline scholarship that enhances the field of social science as a whole. While I bought this book hoping that the lessons would apply to international relations in particular, the book is more about broad means of conceptualizing social science ontologies. Once again, Wendt, who is best known for revolutionizing the world of theoretical international relations as the father of constructivism, turns existing thinking on its head with this riveting work.

Groundbreaking stuff!!

Blazing trails for quantum theory in the social sciences.

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