1. Record Nr. UNINA9910454538103321 Approaches and methodologies in the social sciences: a pluralist **Titolo** perspective / / edited by Donatella Della Porta and Michael Keating [[electronic resource]] Cambridge:,: Cambridge University Press,, 2008 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-107-38658-6 1-107-20015-6 0-511-80193-9 0-511-65015-9 0-511-42849-9 0-511-57430-4 0-511-42920-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xv, 365 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Disciplina 300.72 Soggetti Social sciences - Research - Methodology Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Cover; Half-title; Title; Copyright; Dedication; Contents; Figures; Tables; Contributors; Preface; 1 Introduction; Big questions; National traditions and cross-national influences; The chapters; Part I Epistemology and philosophy of the social sciences; 2 How many approaches in the social sciences? An epistemological introduction; 3 Normative political theory and empirical research; 4 Causal explanation; 5 Constructivism: what it is (not) and how it matters; 6 Culture and social science; 7 Historical institutionalism; 8 Game theory; 9 Rationality and recognition; Part II Research design 10 Concepts and concept formation11 Comparative analysis: caseoriented versus variable-oriented research; 12 Case studies and process tracing: theories and practices; 13 Quantitative analysis; 14 The design of social and political research; 15 Ethnographic approaches; 16 Comparing approaches, methodologies and methods. Some concluding remarks: Surveying the differences in approaches: Where do we go and how?; References; Glossary; Index

Sommario/riassunto

A revolutionary textbook introducing masters and doctoral students to the major research approaches and methodologies in the social sciences. Written by an outstanding set of scholars, and derived from successful course teaching, this volume will empower students to choose their own approach to research, to justify this approach, and to situate it within the discipline. It addresses questions of ontology, epistemology and philosophy of social science, and proceeds to issues of methodology and research design essential for producing a good research proposal. It also introduces researchers to the main issues of debate and contention in the methodology of social sciences, identifying commonalities, historic continuities and genuine differences.