Record Nr.	UNINA9910778870203321
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Titolo	The logic of the history of ideas / / Mark Bevir [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge:,: Cambridge University Press,, 1999
ISBN	1-107-11119-6 0-511-00347-1 1-280-43236-5 0-511-17184-6 0-511-14924-7 0-511-32314-X 0-511-49044-5 0-511-05136-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xii, 337 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	190
Soggetti	Idea (Philosophy) - History
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 (p. 319-329) and index.
Nota di contenuto	; 1. On analytic philosophy ; 2. On meaning ; 3. On objectivity ; 4. On belief ; 5. On synchronic explanation ; 6. On diachronic explanation ; 7. On distortions ; 8. Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	Human cultures generate meanings, and the history of ideas, broadly conceived, is the study of these meanings. An adequate theory of culture must therefore rest on a suitable philosophical enquiry into the nature of the history of ideas. Mark Bevir's book explores the forms of reasoning appropriate to the history of ideas, enhancing our understanding by grappling with central questions such as: What is a meaning? What constitutes objective knowledge of the past? What are beliefs and traditions? How can we explain why people held the beliefs they did? The book ranges widely over issues and theorists associated with post-analytic philosophy, post-modernism, hermeneutics, literary theory, political thought, and social theory.

1.