

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910958357403321
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Titolo	The rise of professional society : England since 1880 / / Harold Perkin
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York, : Routledge, 2002
ISBN	1-134-41681-4 1-134-41682-2 1-138-15300-1 0-203-40862-4 0-585-46143-0 1-280-06998-8
Edizione	[2nd ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (631 p.)
Disciplina	305.5/53/0942 942.082
Soggetti	Professions - England - History - 19th century Professions - England - History - 20th century Professions - England - Sociological aspects Social classes - England - History - 19th century Social classes - England - History - 20th century England Social conditions 19th century England Social conditions 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 520-577) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Book Cover; Title; Contents; Introduction to the 2002 edition; Preface to the first edition; The meaning of professional society; Class versus hierarchy; Professional rivalries and the state; The culmination of the Industrial Revolution; The zenith of class society; The height of inequality; The climacteric of British capitalism; The decline of Liberal England; The fear of the poor; A segregated society; The riven middle class; Lives apart: the remaking of the working class; Class society and the professional ideal; Professionalism and property; The defence of property The professional ideal and the origins of the welfare state The crisis of class society; The aborted pre-war crisis; The supreme test of class

society; The crisis averted; A halfway house: society in war and peace; The great divide, 1914-18; Social change between the wars; The old order changeth; 'Money isn't everything'; Spiralists and burgesses; The road from Wigan Pier; Towards a corporate society; The corporate economy; The corporate state; The corporate society; The triumph of the professional ideal; The professional ideal and the decline of the industrial spirit

Professionalism and human capital; The condescension of professionalism; The plateau of professional society; The Second World War and the revolution in expectations; 'Most of our people have never had it so good'; The bifurcation of the professional ideal; The persistence of class; The backlash against professional society; Professionalism under fire; Rolling back the state?; The resurgence of the free market ideology; Britain's economic decline and the political dilemma; Notes; Index

Sommario/riassunto

The Rise of Professional Society lays out a stimulating and controversial framework for the study of British society, challenging accepted paradigms based on class analysis. Perkins argues that the non-capitalist ""professional class"" represents a new principle of social organization based on trained expertise and meritocracy, a ""forgotten middle class"" conveniently overlooked by classical social theorists.
