

Chaiklin, S., & Lave, J. (Eds.). (1993). *Understanding practice: Perspectives on activity and context*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

In the 1970s and early 80s, a handful of people were doing social science research in psychology, anthropology and sociology in a way that tried to incorporate the societal and historical dimensions of human activity. Often their writing would start with a long critique of predominant approaches to research in their discipline, with only a small part devoted to discussing positive alternatives. This volume, *Understanding Practice*, provides an opportunity for individuals to write about their work in positive terms, without having to critique or defend against predominant approaches. The collection of chapters provides an overview of specific attempts to deal with the problem of understanding human practices in a societal context. The volume has chapters written from several theoretical perspectives including cognitive anthropology, ethnomethodology, sociohistorical and phenomenological traditions, and ecological psychology. The chapters provide concrete examples of the application of these theoretical traditions. Collectively they represent some positive directions in which researchers can explore human practices in a sociohistorical context.

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Artificial intelligence as craftwork, Lucy A. Suchman and Randall H.

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Understanding the social scientific practice of *Understanding practice*, Seth Chaiklin.