

KUHN'S INTELLECTUAL PATH

Thomas Kuhn's The Structure of Scientific Revolutions offers an insightful and engaging theory of science that speaks to scholars across many disciplines. Though initially widely misunderstood, it had a profound impact on the way intellectuals and educated laypeople thought about science. K. Brad Wray traces the influences on Kuhn as he wrote Structure, including his 'Aristotle epiphany', his interactions with James B. Conant, and his studies of the history of chemistry. Wray then considers the impact of Structure on the social sciences, on the history of science, and on the philosophy of science, where the problem of theory change has set the terms of contemporary realism/anti-realism debates. He examines Kuhn's frustrations with the Strong Programme sociologists' appropriations of his views, and debunks several popular claims about what influenced Kuhn as he wrote Structure. His book is a rich and comprehensive assessment of one of the most influential works in the modern sciences.

K. Brad Wray is Associate Professor at the Centre for Science Studies at Aarhus University, Denmark. He is the author of *Kuhn's Evolutionary Social Epistemology* (Cambridge University Press, 2011) and *Resisting Scientific Realism* (Cambridge University Press, 2018), and editor of *Interpreting Kuhn: Critical Essays* (Cambridge University Press, 2021).



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Charting The Structure of Scientific Revolutions

K. BRAD WRAY

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For Lori



You know I would have been very glad to get a Nobel

Prize – I certainly wanted fame in some sense.

—Thomas S. Kuhn, "A Discussion with Thomas S. Kuhn"



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