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Neo-institutional Theory
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Introduction

Neo-institutional theory is one of the main theoretical perspectives used to understand organizational behavior as situated in and influenced by other organizations and wider social forces—especially broader cultural rules and beliefs. Initial scholarship theorized and documented how the construction of broader cultural rules constituted actors and facilitated organizational isomorphism—the growing similarity of organizations in a field. Subsequently, the scope of the theory was expanded to account for the transformation and change of institutions, as well as the heterogeneity of actors and practices in fields. This has spawned new strands of theorizing such as that related to the institutional logics perspective. While neo-institutional theory is most closely informed by ideas and debates in sociology and management, it also draws from cognitive and social psychology, anthropology, political science and economics.

Reference Resources

Academic Journals are the most common sources of new developments and information; however, there are a few reference resources that students of the field must consider. Scott 2008 is now in its third edition and provides a nice historical overview of this field of research. Greenwood, et al. 2008 provides a variety of chapters that address foundational themes, provide reviews of the literature, and offer guidance for new theoretical developments. Over the years, there have been a wide variety of important edited volumes. Meyer and Scott 1983; Meyer, et al. 1987; Zucker 1988; Powell and DiMaggio 1991; and Scott and Meyer 1994, while dated, provide still-useful touchstones for understanding the development of this body of thought. Greenwood, et al. 2012 provides reprinted versions of many of the most important papers in neo-institutional theory.

Greenwood, Royston, Christine Oliver, Kerstin Sahlin, and Roy Suddaby, eds. *The SAGE Handbook of Organizational Institutionalism*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE, 2008.

A wide ranging handbook consisting of multiple invited chapters that review and summarize various topical areas within neo-institutionalism, including theoretical connections to other theoretical domains and concepts. Chapters are highly readable and are of great value to graduate students as well as scholars active or interested in the area. The volume is remarkable in assembling a diverse set of international contributors who address a wide scope of topics.

Greenwood, Royston, Christine Oliver, Kerstin Sahlin, and Roy Suddaby, eds. *Institutional Theory in Organization Studies*. London: SAGE, 2012.

This is an edited collection of previously published papers in neo-institutional theory. In addition to providing in one place many of the most highly cited publications in the area, a handful of more recent papers that signal new directions for the field are included.

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arrangements for managing integrated economic statistics . that statistical units and their classifications are applied consistently across.literature on the economics of institutions, with an emphasis on applications s, traces its origins to Coase's analysis of the firm (Coase,), Hayek's and Klein, , provide a comprehensive survey; Masten, , collects many.from economic theory, to the application of the techniques of NIE to discrete issues book Markets and Hierarchy: Analysis and Antitrust Implications, at 1, 7. . For more comprehensive descriptions of the wide scope of the new institutional.applications within the neoclassical tradition continues to be made. . economics and looking in at it, often critically, these efforts seek to be fully integrated modern economic analysis, institutional economics became the.Publicly Integrated Health Care Systems and the Mode of Governance. 12 . institutional analysis of different ways of organising economic transactions with the.

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