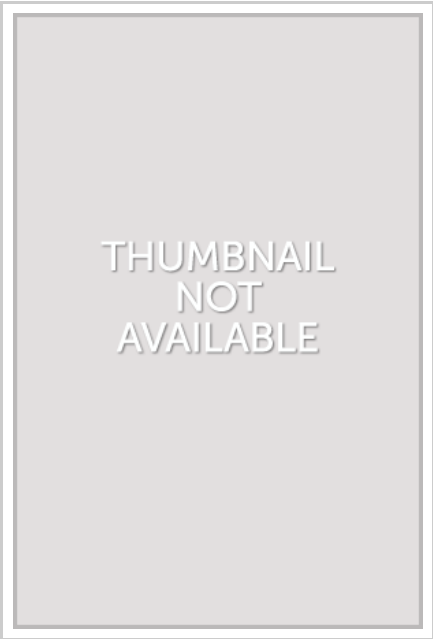


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Cogent Science in Context: The Science Wars, Argumentation Theory, and Habermas (Paperback)

By William Rehg

MIT Press Ltd, United States, 2011. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 218 x 145 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Recent years have seen a series of intense, increasingly acrimonious debates over the status and legitimacy of the natural sciences. These science wars take place in the public arena--with current battles over evolution and global warming--and in academia, where assumptions about scientific objectivity have been called into question. Given these hostilities, what makes a scientific claim merit our consideration? In Cogent Science in Context, William Rehg examines what makes scientific arguments cogent--that is, strong and convincing--and how we should assess that cogency. Drawing on the tools of argumentation theory, Rehg proposes a multidimensional, context-sensitive framework both for understanding the cogency of scientific arguments and for conducting cooperative interdisciplinary assessments of the cogency of actual scientific arguments. Rehg closely examines Jurgen Habermas s argumentation theory and its implications for understanding cogency, applying it to a case from high-energy physics. A series of problems, however, beset Habermas s approach. In response, Rehg outlines his own critical contextualist approach, which uses argumentation-theory categories in a new and more context-sensitive way inspired by ethnography of science.

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Reviews

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