



The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism: and Other Writings (Penguin Twentieth-Century Classics)

By Max Weber, Peter Baehr, Gordon C. Wells



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In The Protestant Ethic, Max Weber opposes the Marxist concept of dialectical materialism and relates the rise of the capitalist economy to the Calvinist belief in the moral value of hard work and the fulfillment of one's worldly duties.

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• Sales Rank: #48835 in Books

• Brand: imusti

Published on: 2002-04Released on: 2002-04-30Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 7.70" h x .80" w x 5.00" l, .68 pounds

• Binding: Paperback

• 464 pages

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Max Weber (1864-1920), German sociologist, one of the founders of modern sociology. He emphasised cultural and political factors as key influences on economic development and individual behaviour. Weber argued for a scientific and value-free approach to research, yet highlighted the importance of meaning and consciousness in understanding social action. His ideas continue to stimulate thought on social stratification, power, organisations, law, and religion. Peter Baehr teaches in the department of politics and sociology at Lingnan University in Hong Kong.

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