

Contents

Acknowledgements	viii
Introduction	1
1 Resuming the History of Epochs	7
1.1 Refusing to be Modern	7
1.2 From Universal History to the People's Epic	11
1.3 A Science of Historical Periods	13
1.4 Towards the History of the Present	18
1.5 Determinism and Modernity	21
1.6 The Configuration of the Modern Age	23
2 The Construction of Nation-State Society	28
2.1 The Modern Project	28
2.2 Territory, Experience and Universalism	31
2.3 Rationality in the Service of Power	34
2.4 The Expansion of the Nation-State	39
2.5 The Modern Conflation of State and Society	41
2.6 The Crisis of Industrial Society	44
2.7 Systematizing Nation-State Society	47
3 The Decay of the Modern Project	52
3.1 Modernity, Modernism and the Epoch	52
3.2 The Counterculture	56
3.3 The Theoretical Penetration of the Project	58
3.4 The Decentred State	61
3.5 The Fragmentation of Economy and Society	64

vi Contents

3.6 The Most Modern Nation	68
3.7 The Passing of American Hegemony	71
4 Globalization: Theorizing the Transition	75
4.1 Not the End of History	75
4.2 Beyond Postmodernity	77
4.3 The Conceptual Shift	80
4.4 Globality, Global Forces and Globalism	82
4.5 Defining Globalization	85
4.6 Indeterminacy and Ambiguity in the Analytic Concept of Globalization	90
4.7 Globalization as Historical Transformation	93
5 Historical Narrative for the New Age	97
5.1 Historicism Revisited	97
5.2 Axial Principles and Epochal Shift	101
5.3 Facticity before Pessimism	105
5.4 Beyond Globalization	106
5.5 The End of Totalizing Discourse	109
5.6 Opening Accounts with Sociality	111
5.7 Intellectual Work for the Global Age	114
6 Configurations of the Global Age: Systems	119
6.1 From Transnational to Global Institutions	119
6.2 Managing Global Indeterminacy	123
6.3 The Denationalization of the Economy	128
6.4 Environments, Reflexivity and Late Modernity	133
6.5 From Abstract to Material Systems	136
7 Configurations of the Global Age: People	140
7.1 Global Movements	140
7.2 Culture and Multiple Worlds	144
7.3 The Relativization of Identity	150
7.4 Reproducing Society	152
7.5 Community, Socioscapes and Milieux	155
7.6 Inequality and Stratification	159
8 The Future State and Society	163
8.1 Recovering the Social	163
8.2 From Social Relations to World Society	165
8.3 Beyond the Theory of the Nation-State	168
8.4 World State	171
8.5 Performative Citizenship	175

8.6 The Global State	178
8.7 Democracy and the Future of the Nation-State	180
9 The Global Age Hypothesis	184
9.1 Narrative and Science	184
9.2 Analytic Theory and Epochal Change	188
9.3 Researching the Shift	193
9.4 Ethnicity in the Global Age	197
9.5 Conclusion: Out of Nostalgia	200
Notes	203
References	221
Index	231