

Contents

List of figures and maps	vii
Preface	ix
Introduction: The Machine As Emperor	1
Part 1 Technology and Unequal Exchange	
1 Technology and Economics: The Interfusion of the Social and the Material	9
2 Cornucopia or Zero-Sum Game: The Epistemology of Sustainability	23
3 The Thermodynamics of Imperialism: Toward an Ecological Theory of Unequal Exchange	35
4 Ecosystems, World Systems, and Environmental Justice	49
5 Conceptualizing Accumulation from <i>Spondylus</i> Shells to Fossil Fuels	65
6 Use Value, Energy, and the Image of Unlimited Good	89
7 Language and the Material: Probing Our Categories	111
8 Symbolic Technologies: Machines and the Marxian Notion of Fetishism	131

Part 2 Money, Modernity, and Personhood

9	Money, Reflexivity, and the Semiotics of Modernity	157
10	Ecology As Semiotics: A Contextualist Manifesto	175
11	Exchange, Personhood, and Human Ecology	191
12	The Abstraction of Discourse and Identity: A Case Study	211
	Afterword: Culture, Modernity, and Power—The Relevance of Anthropology	237
	References	245
	Index	261
	About the Author	273