CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION An Overview of Problems	3
PART ONE: Theory	
CHAPTER ONE Comparative Research and Social Science Theory	17
Explanation and Theory and Social Science. Theory and Spatiotemporal Parameters: The Postulate of Substitutability. The Status of Proper Names of Systems, Summary.	
CHAPTER TWO Research Designs	31
"Most Similar Systems" Designs. "Most Different Systems" Designs. Univariate Comparisons. Comparing Relationships.	
CHAPTER THREE System Level Variables: Changing the Level of Analysis	47
Differing Relationships. Comparative Study and Levels of Analysis. System-Level Variables: Diffusion Patterns, Settings, and Contexts. Level of Analysis and Inference: Interpreting Ecological Correlations. Inferences when Within-System Relationships are Similar. Inferences when Within-System Relationships Differ Systematically. Conclusion.	
CHAPTER FOUR Formulating Theories Across Systems	74
Introduction: A Restatement. Formulating Comparative Theories: A Procedure. Comparative Explanation in the Social Sciences: A Conclusion.	

Contents

PART TWO: Measurement

CHAPTER FIVE Measurement in Comparative Research	91
The Language of Comparison. Direct versus Inferred Measurement. Direct Measurement in Comparative Research. Inferred Measurement: System Validity and System Interference. Equivalent Measurement Across Systems. Summary and Conclusions.	
CHAPTER SIX Establishing Equivalence	113
A General Criterion of Equivalence. The Place of Multiple Indicators. Indicator Distribution: Conditions of Establishing Equivalence. Common Indicators Only. Common and System-Specific Indicators. System-Specific Indicators Only. Summary and Conclusions.	
Implications for Comparative Research	132
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY	135
INDEX	151