Contents

1

INTRODUCTION

1.	HYPOTHESES, LAWS, AND THEORIES: A USER'S GUIDE 7
	What Is a Theory? 7
	What Is a Specific Explanation? 15
	What Is a Good Theory? 17
	How Can Theories Be Made? 21
	How Can Theories Be Tested? 27
	Strong vs. Weak Tests; Predictions and Tests 30
	Helpful Hints for Testing Theories 35
	How Can Specific Events Be Explained? 40
	Methodology Myths 43
2.	WHAT ARE CASE STUDIES? HOW SHOULD THEY BE PERFORMED? 49
	Case Studies in Perspective 50
	Case Studies in Perspective 50 Testing Theories with Case Studies 55
	Testing Theories with Case Studies 55
	Testing Theories with Case Studies 55 Creating Theories with Case Studies 67
	Testing Theories with Case Studies 55 Creating Theories with Case Studies 67 Inferring Antecedent Conditions from Case Studies 71
	Testing Theories with Case Studies 55 Creating Theories with Case Studies 67 Inferring Antecedent Conditions from Case Studies 71 Testing Antecedent Conditions with Case Studies 73
	Testing Theories with Case Studies 55 Creating Theories with Case Studies 67 Inferring Antecedent Conditions from Case Studies 71 Testing Antecedent Conditions with Case Studies 73 Explaining Cases 74

vi Contents

3.	WHAT IS A POLITICAL SCIENCE DISSERTATION?	89
4.	HELPFUL HINTS ON WRITING A POLITICAL SCIENCE DISSERTATION	97
	Topic Selection 97	
	Organization 99	
	Your Dissertation Prospectus 99	
	Your Introductory Chapter 100	
	Your Concluding Chapter 103	
	Study Design and Presentation 103	
	Writing 106	
	Style 108	
	Vetting 109	
	Your Abstract 111	
	Dealing with your Dissertation Committee 111	
	Dealing with Your Head, Your Family, and Your Friends 112	
	How to Learn More about How to Write a Dissertation 113	
5.	THE DISSERTATION PROPOSAL	115
6.	PROFESSIONAL ETHICS	117
APPENDIX: HOW TO WRITE A PAPER		123
FU	FURTHER READING	
INC	INDEX	