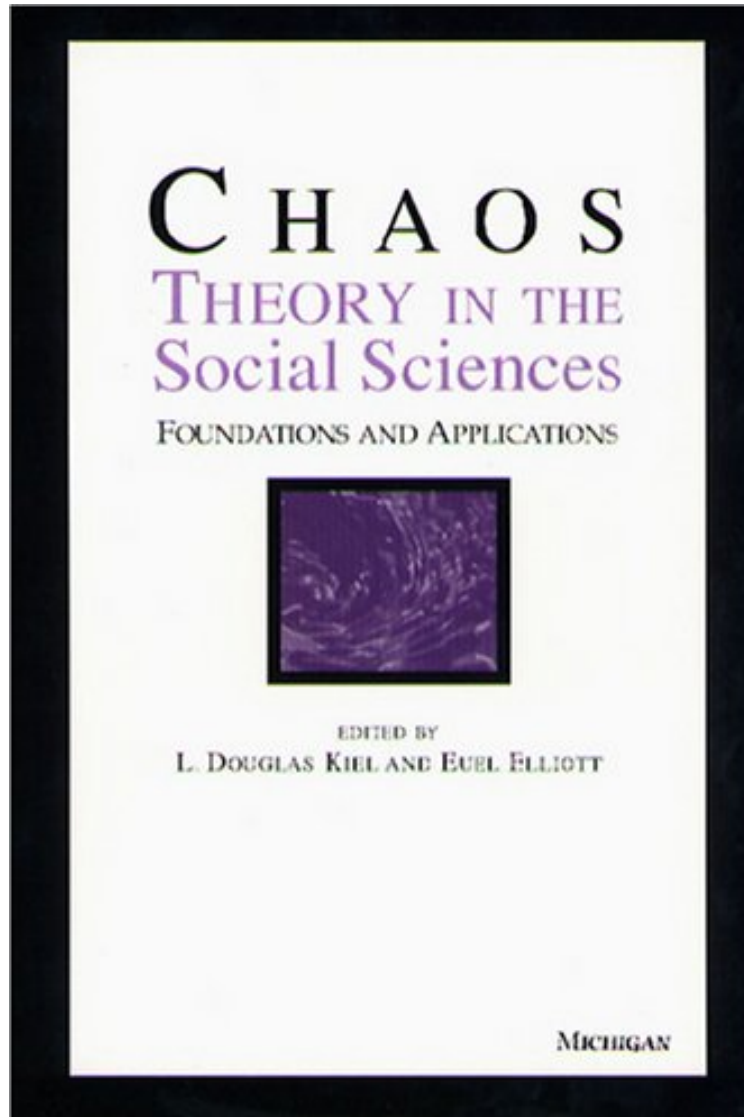


# Chaos Theory in the Social Sciences: Foundations and Applications

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**From Univ of Michigan Pr : Chaos Theory in the Social Sciences: Foundations and Applications** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chaos Theory in the Social Sciences: Foundations and Applications:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Chaos theory and social dynamincs analysisBy CustomerI recently purchased CHAOS THEORY IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES - Foundations and Applications, edited by L. Douglas Kiel and Euel Elliot, from . I purchased the book out of a strong need to find away to model the complexities in social

dynamics in Southeast Asia, which combine very modern social forces of change - democracy, global economic impact on daily lives, contagious diseases such as HIV-AIDS, which require the use of Western analytical-clinical explanation with a foundation of very traditional local social systems and language. Adopted explanations begin with borrowed terminologies (eg. HIV-AIDS) while attempts to explain its dangers and contagious characteristics must be couched in local cultural experience and language. Local concepts and words have local history, hence an established universe of discourse, hence the subject of HIV-AIDS must either generate its own semantic parameters, or face a run-away plethora of nuances and cliches. The result will be the incapability for a specific epidemiological acuity to emerge in the vernacular for HIV-AIDS. This is a vexing problem. Chaos theory offers promise, more so than other mathematical tools previously used in social systems research; but is chaos theory ready? Generally, the onset of using a new mathematical approach involves two extremes: those well-versed in the understanding of math and are open to applications, as against those who struggle with the complexities of empirical data, and find that existing models are inadequate, and now look towards chaos theory. The above-mentioned work is an early attempt to bridge this gap, but weighted more in favor of chaos theory's potential, and less against the explication of the complexities of empirical data and the precise sense in which this complexity is inadequately represented by existing models. This volume is encouraging more for the next step that it could lead to, where the requirements to explain data complexity are presented in a systematic fashion for chaos theory to determine its fit, together with discussion of what it can potentially offer to extend current models and explanations. I will myself be addressing this target in the months ahead.

La Raw Maran PhD 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Mathophobe Review By Gordon J. Brenner I managed to read most of this book. To be honest, I had to skip the calculus portions because they were way, way over my head. However, the introductions, summaries, and conclusions of many of the articles, especially the first and last two articles were enlightening to me. I will use this information in my continued studies of public administration and policy implementation.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Exactly what I was looking for By tebix Exactly what I was looking for. Excellent review of this specific and no easy topic (sorry for my bad English)

Chaos Theory in the Social Sciences: Foundations and Applications offers the most recent thinking in applying the chaos paradigm to the social sciences. The book explores the methodological techniques--and their difficulties--for determining whether chaotic processes may in fact exist in a particular instance and examines implications of chaos theory when applied specifically to political science, economics, and sociology. The contributors to the book show that no single technique can be used to diagnose and describe all chaotic processes and identify the strengths and limitations of a variety of approaches.