

Contents

List of illustrations	ix
Acknowledgements	x
Chapter 1	
Introduction	1
Chapter 2	
Social systems	19
Chapter 3	
Observing systems	50
Chapter 4	
The functional differentiation of modern society	66
Chapter 5	
Consequences of functional differentiation	93

Chapter 6	
Power and politics	115
Chapter 7	
Conclusion	134
Notes	142
References	149
Index	162