



Lost in Ideology **Interpreting Modern Political Life**

By **Jason Blakely**

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REVIEWS

“Accessible and rich, detailed and comprehensive, well-argued and well written ... it helps us better make sense of this crazy political world in which we live ... a book that will necessarily find itself on to the syllabi of almost every course in political philosophy ... At a time when academia is in crisis, and many academics are busily chasing fads, here is a bright light.”

— *National Catholic Reporter*

“Makes the case for a more subtle and mind-opening perspective on ideology ... people who regard themselves as immune to ideological contagion would do well to read Blakely’s book.”

— *Inside Higher Ed*

“Lost in Ideology is an intellectual feast for anyone interested in politics and intellectual history, brilliantly demonstrating the importance of the latter to the former. Whether decisively intervening in today’s fascism debates, or thoughtfully explicating the many forms of environmentalism and feminism, Blakely assuredly guides the reader through leading ideas in today’s political discourse. He thereby joins the ranks of great theorists of ideology, building on an already formidable foundation of contributions to interpretive social science.”

— *Frank Pasquale, Professor of Law, Cornell University*

ABOUT THE BOOK

Modern political life is a confusing and disorientating terrain of competing ideologies. Jason Blakely offers readers a lively, fresh and insightful guide through the labyrinth of conflicting and competing ideas in order to better understand why ideology in the modern era can be so divisive.

Lost in Ideology sets out from the conviction that the current disorientation engulfing the world’s liberal democracies is in no small part ideological in origin. People feel confused because there are multiple ideological maps, so to speak, each marked by dramatically different points of interest, rivers, summits, roads, and total topographies. Ideology in the modern era has the paradoxical effect of orienting millions even as it disorients millions. This leads us to the present-day predicament in which individuals of every imaginable political stripe confidently declare: “I have a theory – but you? You have an ideology!”

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jason Blakely is Associate Professor of Political Science at Seaver College, Pepperdine University, Malibu. He is the author of *We Built Reality: How Social Science Infiltrated Culture, Politics and Power* (2020) and *Interpretive Social Science* (2018).

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