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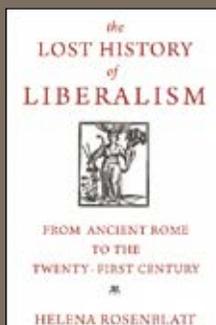
ROUNDTABLE ON *The Lost History of Liberalism: From Ancient Rome to the Twenty-First Century*

by Helena Rosenblatt



Friday, MARCH 29, 2019

12:00–1:30 PM • Social Science Research Commons (WH 200)



The Lost History of Liberalism challenges our most basic assumptions about a political creed that has become a rallying cry—and a term of derision—in today’s increasingly divided public square. Taking readers from ancient Rome to today, Helena Rosenblatt traces the evolution of the words “liberal” and “liberalism,” revealing the heated debates that have taken place over their meaning. She debunks the popular myth of liberalism as a uniquely Anglo-American tradition centered on individual rights, showing that it was the French Revolution that gave birth to liberalism and Germans who transformed it. Only in the mid-twentieth century did the concept become widely known in the United States—and then, as now, its meaning was hotly debated. It was only during the Cold War and America’s growing world hegemony that liberalism was refashioned into an American ideology focused so strongly on individual freedoms.

PANELISTS:

HELENA ROSENBLATT, who received her PhD from Columbia University, is professor of history at the Graduate Center, CUNY. She is the author and editor of many books and articles, including *Rousseau and Geneva: From the First Discourse to the Social Contract* (1997), *Liberal Values: Benjamin Constant and the Politics of Religion* (2008), *Cambridge Companion to Constant* (2009), *French Liberalism from Montesquieu to the Present Day* (co-edited with Raf Geenens, 2012), and *Thinking with Rousseau: From Machiavelli to Schmitt* (co-edited with Paul Schweigert, 2017).

DANIEL COLE is professor of law and of public and environmental affairs at IU.

RUSSELL HANSON is professor emeritus of political science at IU.

MODERATOR:

AURELIAN CRAIUTU is professor of political science and director of the Tocqueville Program at IU.



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Presentations are open to the public, and you are welcome to bring your lunch. See our website for Zoom webinar link. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu; 812/855–3151).