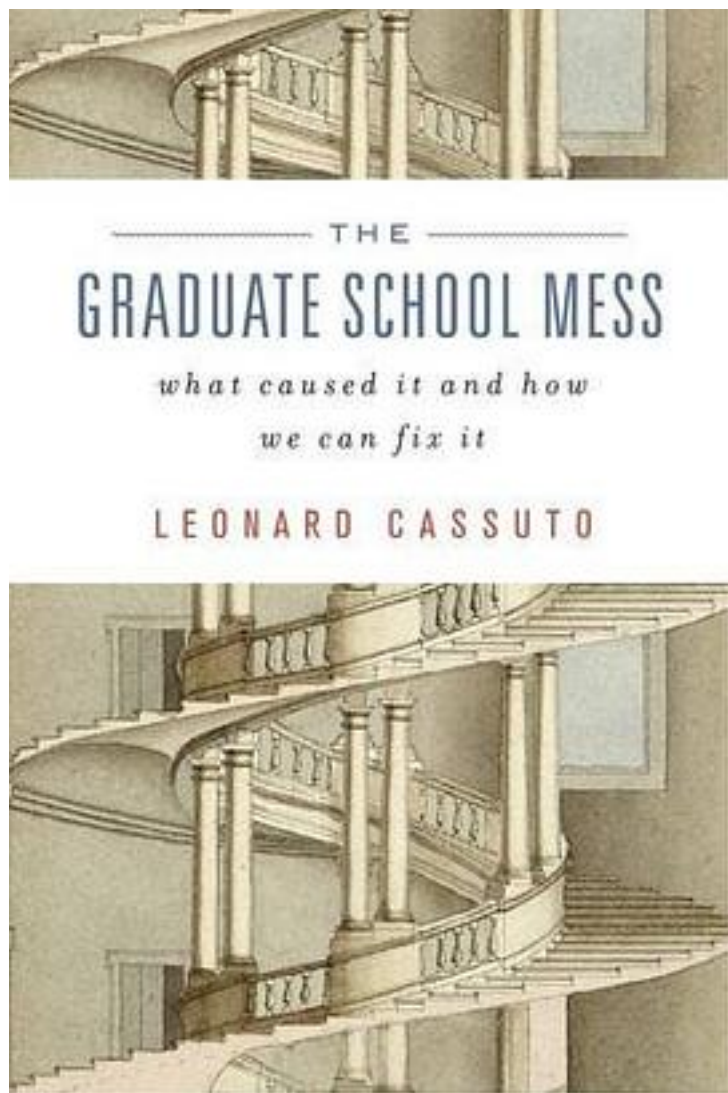


# The Graduate School Mess



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It is no secret that American graduate education is in disarray. Graduate students take too long to complete their studies and face a dismal academic job market if they succeed. The Graduate School Mess gets to the root of these problems and offers concrete solutions for revitalizing graduate education in the humanities. Leonard Cassuto, professor and graduate education columnist for The Chronicle of Higher Education, argues that universities' heavy emphasis on research comes at the expense of teaching. But teaching is where reforming graduate school must begin.

Cassuto says that graduate education must recover its mission of public service. Professors should revamp the graduate curriculum and broaden its narrow definition of success to allow students to create more fulfilling lives for themselves both inside and outside the academy. Cassuto frames the current situation foremost as a teaching problem: professors rarely prepare graduate students for the demands of the working worlds they will actually join. He gives practical advice about how faculty can teach and advise graduate students by committing to a student-centered approach.

In chapters that follow the career of the graduate student from admissions to the dissertation and placement, Cassuto considers how each stage of graduate education is shaped by unexamined assumptions and ancient prejudices that need to be critically confronted. Written with verve and infused with history, The Graduate School Mess returns our national conversation about graduate study in the humanities to first principles

作者介绍:

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标签

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评论

美国高等教育史真没什么值得骄傲的地方。不说臭名昭著的"区域研究"，自己人文学科井喷式的增长也跟国家战略相关：要收容战后退伍，要“培养公民”和“民主社会”。井喷过后，有了个“黄金时代”的假象。于是出现财政困难的时候还把全部研究生往一处推，一方面灌输“低录取、高竞争（教职）即声望、文化/社会资本”，另一方面继续削减研究生数量，再次恶性循环低录取、高竞争“适者生存”的丛林法则。不说申请，现在博士求职都有中介了。“职场失意”的学生既没人注意，也没人尊重。

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