

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Over the seven years that I worked on this book, I benefited greatly from the help of three research assistants, doctoral students here at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. They helped me find relevant texts, often remote from my or their field of study, and gave me constructive feedback on my early drafts. This book is much better because of their help. I want here to acknowledge my enormous good fortune for having such smart and insightful assistance, and to thank Bob Bruss, Shawna Lipton, and Ali Sperling for their work, their criticism, and their encouragement.

Three friends offered me invaluable feedback at different stages of this book; these three are not only dear friends but ideal colleagues. I am grateful to Greg Jay, Caroline Levine, and Ted Martin for their generous help.

I cannot possibly express appropriate thanks to Dick Blau, life partner of four decades, for his support of this book. Without his willingness to risk exposure in these pages, this book simply could not be what it is. Dick is many wonderful things, but here I'd like to thank him for being such a good sport.