Africana Studies Resources on Understanding Race and Racism

Compiled June 2020

**Books**

**Top Picks:**

*Becoming* by Michelle Obama

*Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates

*How to Be an Anti-racist* by Ibram Kendi

*Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson

*Religion of a Different Color* by Paul Reeve

*The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin


*A World More Concrete: Real Estate and the Remaking of Jim Crow South Florida* by Nathan Connolly

*American Apartheid* by Massey and Denton

*Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozie Adichie

*Being Black, Being Male on Campus: Understanding and Confronting Black Male Collegiate Experiences* by Derrick R Brooms

*Black Picket Fences* by Mary Pattillo

*Blindspot* by Mahzarin Banaji

*Blood at the Root: A Racial Cleansing in America* by Patrick Phillips

*Blood Done Sign My Name* by Tim Tyson [https://documentarystudies.duke.edu/people/tim-tyson](https://documentarystudies.duke.edu/people/tim-tyson)

*Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy* by Heather Ann Thompson,

*Bloody Lowndes: Civil Rights and Black Power in Alabama’s Black Belt* by Hasan Kwame Jeffries

*Breathe: A Letter to My Sons; More Beautiful and More Terrible: The Embrace and Transcendence of Racial Inequality in the United States; Prophets of the Hood: Politics and Poetics in Hip Hop; May We Forever Stand: A History of the Black National Anthem* all by Imani Perry

*Country of My Skull: Guilt, Sorrow, and the Limits of Forgiveness in the New South Africa* by Antjie Krog

*Dreams From My Father* by Barack Obama

*Dying of Whiteness* by Metzl
Evicted by Matt Desmond

Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom by David Blight

God Has a Dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Time by Desmond Tutu

I Write What I Like by Steve Biko

Medical Apartheid: The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans From Colonial Times to the Present by Harriet A. Washington

No Future Without Forgiveness by Desmond Tutu

Segregation by Design by Trounstine

Stamped from the Beginning by Ibram X. Kendi

Tears We Cannot Stop by Michael Eric Dyson

The Autobiography of Malcolm X

The Black Revolution on Campus by Martha Biondi

The Color of Law by Richard Rothstein

The Cosmopolitan Canopy by Elijah Anderson

The Fire This Time by Jesmyn Ward

The History of White People by Nell Irvin Painter

The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander

Walking With the Wind by John Lewis

What the Twilight Says by Derek Walcott

White Backlash by Abrajano and Hajnal

White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo

Anything by Toni Morrison

Films

Some Films (most available on Kanopy--which BYU has):

-Slavery by Another Name (90 min.)

-Ida B. Wells: A Passion for Justice (also on DVD 3051, 53 min.)

-Marcus Garvey: Look for me in the Whirlwind (DVD 4021, 90 min.)

-Scottsboro: An American Tragedy (86 min.)
- The Untold Story of Emmett Till
- Dream Deferred (1964, 35 min.)
- Fannie Lou Hamer: Stand Up (26 min.)
- Freedom Riders (120 min.)
- The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross (6 part series)
- I Am Not Your Negro: James Baldwin and Race in America (94 min.)
- Eyes on the Prize (14 part series)
- Have You Heard from Johannesburg? (also on DVD 4794, 90 min.)
- The Untold Story of Black Mormons (70 min.)
- Banished: A History of African American Expulsion (also on DVD 4094, 84 min.)
- A Long Night’s Journey Into Day (about South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission)
- 13th
- Selma
- Tell Them We Are Rising
- When They See Us
- True Justice: Bryan Stevenson’s Fight for Equality

**Articles**

https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/06/the-case-for-reparations/361631/

Nathan Connolly – see list of articles: https://history.jhu.edu/directory/nathan-connolly/

The school to prison pipeline, explained — Justice Policy Institute
http://www.justicepolicy.org/news/8775?fbclid=IwAR19VyZVCTA35XTgRSXeuqU1UDLjNoWlw
WLVRvP2740xYVQDYhq5P82KWo

NAACP | Criminal Justice Fact Sheet https://www.naacp.org/criminal-justice-fact-sheet/?fbclid=IwAR1Eeq9jEAAv7jwQKDCjnn5uy04O9ZvfWHhmzt0MRr8WaxHDknOlqDzZwnAU

The Drug War is the New Jim Crow – ACLU https://www.aclu.org/other/drug-war-new-jim-crow?fbclid=IwAR1p2wgeWclixHdZ95CVSHTNQox2bzNtPeC1Ut4zPStHhg7K3WrXVFkBI


**Talks at BYU**

“Faith in God: A Black Man’s Perspective,” Aaron Paxton Arnold, 4 Dec 2019  
[https://kennedy.byu.edu/events/faith-in-god/](https://kennedy.byu.edu/events/faith-in-god/)

“Segregation by Design: Local Politics and Inequality in American Cities,” Jessica Trounstine, 9 Oct 2019

“Madame President: The Extraordinary Journey of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf,” Helene Cooper, 6 Mar 2019

“Religion of a Different Color: Race and the Mormon Struggle for Whiteness,” Paul Reeve, 7 Nov 2018

“Rethinking Jim Crow Segregation,” Nathan D.B. Connolly, 8 March 2018  
[https://kennedy.byu.edu/events/rethinking-jim-crow-segregation/](https://kennedy.byu.edu/events/rethinking-jim-crow-segregation/)


[https://kennedy.byu.edu/events/brazils.afro-paradise/](https://kennedy.byu.edu/events/brazils.afro-paradise/)

**Panel Discussions and Conferences/Symposiums**


40 Years: Commemorating the 1978 Priesthood and Temple Revelation – 12 Oct 2018  
[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLOrN0FV73AsKlbRgAWoqr6wZDhpmxd0pH](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLOrN0FV73AsKlbRgAWoqr6wZDhpmxd0pH)

Forgiveness and Reconciliation: A Maxwell Institute Symposium – 30 May 2018  
[https://youtu.be/C8EDjfE-o7w](https://youtu.be/C8EDjfE-o7w)

Race and Sport – 7 Feb 2018  
[https://kennedy.byu.edu/events/race-and-sport/](https://kennedy.byu.edu/events/race-and-sport/)

The Confederate Flag – 2 Mar 2017  
[https://youtu.be/-MJH_c792Fs](https://youtu.be/-MJH_c792Fs)

Blacks in the LDS Church – 26 Feb 2015  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4O4eu2-Zig](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4O4eu2-Zig)
Understanding Racial Tensions in the United States – 26 Feb 2015
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SMklNlyDL9k

**BYU Research and Published Works**

BYU Slavery Project – Christopher Jones, Matt Mason, Rebecca de Schweinitz

In recent decades, many universities in the US and elsewhere have studied their relationship to historical issues and practices, including slavery. With the authorization of BYU’s administration, the History Department has launched the BYU Slavery Project to do just that. This 2-credit seminar-style class will constitute the first part of this research. In this class we will explore secondary scholarship that will help set BYU’s early history in context of not only African American but also Native American slavery. Students will also do archival research to lay the groundwork for understanding the complex ways in which multiple themes interacted with BYU’s founding and early history.

Rebecca de Schweinitz, History

*If We Could Change the World: Young People and America's Long Struggle for Racial Equality*

“‘Loving hearts’ and ‘brave ones’: slavery, family, and the problem of freedom in antebellum America’. *Slavery & Abolition*, 2020


American Girl Doll: https://magazine.byu.edu/article/telling-her-story/
https://news.byu.edu/news/byu-professors-research-shapes-american-girl-doll-important-historical-back-story

Ryan Gabriel, Sociology

Urban Sociology, Residential Segregation, Residential Mobility and Attainment, Race/Racism
https://www.heraldextra.com/news/community/higher-education/byu-column-won-t-you-be-my-neighbor-house-hunting-is-a-struggle-for-mixed/article_7bdd11c1-0cb4-5352-91aa-5e8e2fe3bb6f.html


Leslie Hadfield, History

*Liberation and Development: Black Consciousness Community Programs in South Africa* (2016)

George Handley, Interdisciplinary Humanities

*Postslavery Literatures in the Americas*, traces the common legacies of slavery and their impact on literature and national identity in the US and the Caribbean; arguments over competing, alternative postslavery identities in the Caribbean and the US led to various repressions of slavery’s legacies of racial plurality and racial mixing; explores authors such as William Faulkner, Toni Morrison, Frances Harper, Charles Chessnut, and a variety of Caribbean authors such as Cirilo Villaverde, Martin Morua Delgado, Jean Rhys and others.

Has done extensive research on the work of Derek Walcott, including a book *New World Poetics* and several essays. Also has edited two collections of essays that examine race and the environment from a postcolonial perspective: *Caribbean Literature and the Environment* and *Postcolonial Ecologies*.

Christopher Jones, History

Teaches Slavery and the Slave Trade in Africa and the Atlantic World, African American Family History, and Missions and Missionaries in American History


Matt Mason, History
Co-director of Historians Against Slavery [https://www.historiansagainstslavery.org/main/](https://www.historiansagainstslavery.org/main/)

*John Quincy Adams and the Politics of Slavery: Selections from the Diary.* Oxford University Press, 2017

*Apostle of Union: A Political Biography of Edward Everett* (2016)


years-long interest in what it takes to sustain activism, as well as what it takes to turn antislavery belief into antislavery action. 100% focused on right now the political wrangling in the American Revolutionary era over the term “rebel.”

Kristin L. Matthews, English

“‘Woke’ and Reading: Social Media, Reception, and Contemporary Black Feminism.”

[http://www.participations.org/Volume%2016/Issue%201/contents.htm](http://www.participations.org/Volume%2016/Issue%201/contents.htm)


Brian Roberts, English

His first book, *Artistic Ambassadors: Literary and International Representation of the New Negro Era* (University of Virginia Press, 2013) examines the literary and diplomatic performances of African American writers who traveled as US diplomats during the late nineteen and early twentieth centuries, tracing how these performances contributed to the formation of the Harlem Renaissance. Since then, he has published, with Keith Foulcher, *Indonesian Notebook: A Sourcebook on Richard Wright and the Bandung Conference* (Duke University Press, 2016), which contains English translations of myriad Indonesian-language documents related to Wright’s travel in Indonesia to attend the postcolonial Bandung Conference of 1955.

Jacob Rugh, Sociology

Race and Space, Housing Segregation, Mortgage Lending, Stratification, Latinos, Immigration, Racial Discrimination


Sherinah Saasa, Social Work

Orphans and vulnerable children in sub-Saharan Africa; African immigrants in the United States


Other Resources

Smithsonian and National Museum of African American History and Culture: https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/talking-about-race/topics/being-antiracist

https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/talking-about-race

This week we challenge Smithsonian Folkways listeners to do just that: listen. Educate yourself and begin dismantling the white supremacist narrative which has deferred justice in our country for over 400 years. The Smithsonian Folkways catalog is abundant with recordings from groundbreaking Black thinkers, poets, musicians, storytellers, and activists, past and present, who have much to teach us. Listen to them. Listen to iconic anthems of the Civil Rights
movement of the '60s; listen to anti-fascists who struggled, and are still struggling, for equality.

Smithsonian Secretary

JSTOR: Institutionalized Racism

https://daily.jstor.org/institutionalized-racism-a-syllabus/


Some Books on White Supremacy: https://fivebooks.com/best-books/white-supremacy-kathleen-belew/

Podcast: BackStory With the American History Guys – www.backstoryradio.org

• Episodes: Black and White: The Idea of Racial Purity; Nose to the Grindstone; Blackstory; From Music to Madiba; Skin Deep; Fierce Urgency of Now

Podcast: This is Democracy https://podcasts.la.utexas.edu/this-is-democracy/

• Episodes: Race and Coronavirus (96); Race and Democracy in America Today (6)