

Reflections on the Present from those who Study the Past: CSUF Historians Suggest Sources to Contextualize Discussions of Contemporary Racism and Inequality

As U.S. focused historians committed to research and teaching that complicates and enriches current conversations about slavery, racism and racial identity, civil rights activism, policing, and public commemoration, we recommend these books, articles, films, documentaries, exhibits, projects, and primary materials. This list of sources is neither exhaustive nor conclusive, but a sample of meaningful works in the field. As a department, we plan to continue to use the strengths of our discipline to engage with difficult questions of inequality and racism in our classrooms and beyond.

Slavery, Capitalism, and the Founding of America: *Interrogating the origins and evolution of slavery in the Americas*

Berry, Dana Ramey *The Price for Their Pound of Flesh: The Value of Enslaved, from Womb to Grave, in the Building of a Nation* (Penguin, 2017)

Dunbar, Erica Armstrong *Never Caught: The Washington's Relentless Pursuit of Their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge* (Simon & Schuster, 2017)

Edward Baptiste, *The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism* (Basic Books, 2016)

Sven Beckert, *Empire of Cotton: A Global History* (Vintage Press, 2015)

Carl N. Degler, *Neither Black Nor White: Slavery and Race Relations in Brazil and the United States* (1972)

Drew Gilpin Faust, ed. *The Ideology of Slavery: Proslavery Thought in the Antebellum South, 1830-60* (LSU Press, 1982)

Barbara Jeanne Fields, *Slavery and Freedom on the Middle Ground: Maryland during the Nineteenth Century* (Yale University Press, 1984)

George M. Fredrickson, *The Black Image in the White Mind: The Debate on Afro-American Character and Destiny, 1817-1914* (1971)

Eugene V. Genovese, *The Political Economy of Slavery: Studies in the Economy and Society of the Slave South* (1988)

Eugene V. Genovese, *Roll, Jordan, Roll: The World the Slaveholders Made* (Vintage, 1976)

Walter Johnson, *River of Dark Dreams: Slavery and Empire in the Cotton Kingdom* (Belknap Press, 2017)

Walter Johnson, *Soul by Soul: Life inside the Antebellum Slave Market* (Harvard University Press, 1999)

Winthrop Jordan, *White Over Black: American Attitudes Toward the Negro, 1550-1812* (1977)

Tiya Miles, *The House on Diamond Hill: A Cherokee Plantation Story* (University of North Carolina Press, 2010)

Edmund Morgan, *American Slavery, American Freedom: The Ordeal of Colonial Virginia*

James Oakes, *The Ruling Race: A History of American Slaveholders* (1998)

Gary Nash, *Red, White, and Black: The Peoples of Early North America*

Robert Parkinson, *The Common Cause: Creating Race and Nation in the American Revolution* (2016)

Caitlin Rosenthal, *Accounting for Slavery: Masters and Management* (2019)

The Brutality of Slavery: *Excavating the many sufferings and hopes of the enslaved*

Trevor Burnard, *Mastery, Tyranny, and Desire: Thomas Thistlewood and His Slaves in the Anglo-Jamaican World* (2004)

Melton McLaurin, *Celia: A Slave* (1999)

Jennifer Morgan, *Laboring Women: Reproduction and Gender in New World Slavery* (2004)

David Brion Davis, *Inhuman Bondage: The Rise and Fall of Slavery in the New World* (2008)

Race and Space in America: *Understanding how racial inequalities have shaped the organization of space and protection of privilege*

James D. Anderson, *The Education of Blacks in the South, 1860-1935* (University of North Carolina Press, 1988)

Kevin Boyle, *Arc of Justice: A Sage of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age* (Henry Holt and Co., 2005)

Lawrence B. de Graaf, Quintard Taylor, Kevin Mulroy, *Seeking El Dorado: African Americans in California* (University of Washington Press, 2001)

W. E. Burghardt Du Bois, *The Black North in 1901: A Social Study* (Ayer Co., 1901)

Kenneth W. Goings, ed. *The New African American Urban History* (Sage, 1996)

James R. Grossman, *Land of Hope: Chicago, Black Southerners, and the Great Migration* (University of Chicago Press, 1991)

Andrew Hacker, *Two Nations: Black and White, Separate, Hostile, Unequal* (Scribner, 2003)

William H. Harris, *The Harder We Run: Black Workers since the Civil War* (Oxford University Press, 1982)

Chester Hartman and Gregory Squires, eds, *There Is No Such Thing as a Natural Disaster: Race, Class and Katrina* (Routledge, 2006)

Reginald Horsman, *Race and Manifest Destiny: The Origins of American Racial Anglo-Saxonism* (Harvard University Press, 1981)

Robert Johnson and Charlene Riggins, *A Different Shade of Orange: Voices of Orange County, California Black Pioneers* (California State University, Fullerton 2009)

Nancy MacLean, *Freedom Is Not Enough: The Opening of the American Workplace* (Harvard University Press, 2008)

Katherine McKittrick and Clyde Woods, *Black Geographies and the Politics of Place* (South End Press, 2007)

Richard Rothstein, *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America* (Liveright, 2018)

Josh Sides, *L.A. City Limits: African American Los Angeles from the Great Depression to the Present* (University of California Press, 2006)

John Thornton, *Africa and Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World, 1400-1800* (Cambridge University Press, 1998)

Race and Public Memory: *Analyzing practices of remembering and the power of often contested public commemorations in shaping regional and national identities*

David W. Blight, *Frederick Douglass' Civil War: Keeping Faith in Jubilee* (1991)

David W. Blight, *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory* (2002)

Andrea Burns, *From Storefront to Monument: Tracing the Public History of the Black Museum Movement* (2013)

Ta-Nehisi Coates, *We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy* (2018)

Dolores Hayden, *The Power of Place: Urban Landscapes as Public History* (1997)

James Oliver Horton and Lois Horton, eds., *Slavery and Public History: The Tough Stuff of American Memory* (2007)

Tony Horwitz, *Confederates in the Attic: Dispatches from the Unfinished Civil War* (1999)

Andrew Hurley, *Beyond Preservation: Using Public History to Revitalize Inner Cities* (2010)

Louis P. Nelson and Claudrena N. Harold, eds., *Charlottesville 2017: The Legacy of Race and Inequity* (2018)

The New York Times, [The 1619 Project](#) (2019)

Renee C. Romano and Leigh Raiford, *The Civil Rights Movement in American Memory* (2006)

Kirk Savage, *Standing Soldiers, Kneeling Slaves: Race, War, and Monument in Nineteenth-Century America* (1999)

Enslavement of Native Americans: *Explaining Indian servitude and slavery*

Margaret Newell, *Brethren by Nature: New England Indians, Colonists, and the Origins of American Slavery* (Cornell University Press, 2016)

Wendy Warren, *New England Bound: Slavery and Colonization in Early America* (Liveright, 2015)

Mark Rifkin, *Fictions of Land and Flesh: Blackness, Indigeneity, Speculation* (Duke University Press, 2019)

Barr, Juliana *Peace Came in the Form of a Woman: Indians and Spaniards in the Texas Borderlands* (University of North Carolina Press, 2007)

Blackhawk, Ned *Violence over the Land: Indians and Empires in the American West* (Harvard, 2006)

Multiracial Civil Rights Activism in California: *Recognizing multiracial protests and reform traditions*

Shana Bernstein, *Bridges of Reform: Interracial Civil Rights Activism in Twentieth Century Los Angeles* (Oxford University Press, 2011)

Scott Kurashige, *The Shifting Grounds of Race: Black and Japanese Americans in the Making of Multiethnic Los Angeles* (Princeton University Press, 2008)

Mark Brilliant, *The Color America Has Changed: How Racial Diversity Shaped Civil Rights Reform in California, 1941-1978* (Oxford University Press, 2012)

Allison Varzally, *Making a Nonwhite America: Californians Coloring Outside Ethnic Lines, 1925-1955* (2011)

Hewitt (et al) *No Permanent Waves: Recasting Histories of US Feminism* (Rutgers, 2010)

Policing Practices and Incarceration: *Interrogating systems of and challenges to law enforcement since the late 19th century*

Ta-Nehisi Coates, *Between the World and Me* (2015)

Kelly Lytle Hernandez, *City of Inmates: Conquest, Rebellion and the Rise of Human Caging in Los Angeles, 1771-1965* (University of North Carolina Press, 2017)

Max Felker-Cantor, *Policing in Los Angeles: Race, Resistance and the Rise of the LAPD* (University of North Carolina Press, 2020)

Alexander, Michelle *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* (New Press, 2010)

Black Freedom Struggle: *Examining African Americans' long and persistent fight for social justice*

Hunter, Terra W. *To Joy My Freedom: Southern Black Women's Lives and Labors after the Civil War* (Harvard, 1997)

Khalil Gibran Muhammad, *Condemnation of Blackness: Race, Crime, and the Making of Modern Urban America* (Harvard, 2019)

Ransby, Barbara *Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement* (University of North Carolina Press, 2003)

Anderson, Carol *White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide* (Bloomsbury, 2016) While tracing Black freedom, Anderson also traces white reaction and resistance to achievements. Check her many op ed on voting rights and effectively links current events to historical patterns. Find them here

- <https://www.professorcarolanderson.org/media>

Taylor Branch, *Parting the Waters: America in the King Years, 1954-63* (1988)

W. E. Burghardt Du Bois, *Black Reconstruction in America, 1860-1880*

Tomiko Brown-Nagin, *Courage to Dissent: Atlanta and the Long History of the Civil Rights Movement* (Oxford University Press, 2011)

Jeffrey Ogbar, *Black Power: Radical Politics and African American Identity* (John Hopkins University Press, 2004)

Douglas R. Egerton, *Thunder at the Gates: The Black Civil War Regiments that Redeemed America* (2016)

Don E. Fehrenbacher, *The Dred Scott Case: Its Significance in American Law and Politics* (1981)

George M. Fredrickson, *White Supremacy: A Comparative Study of American and South African History* (1981)

George M. Fredrickson and Albert Camarillo, *Racism, A Short History* (2015)

Eric Foner, *Reconstruction, 1863-1877: America's Unfinished Revolution* (1988)

Eric Foner, *The Story of American Freedom* (1998)

David Garrow, *Bearing the Cross: Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference* (2004)

Robin D.G. Kelley, *Hammer and Hoe: Alabama Communists during the Great Depression* (1990)

Robin D.G. Kelley and Earl Lewis, *To Make Our World Anew: A History of African Americans* (2000)

David Levering Lewis, *King: A Biography* (1970)

David Levering Lewis, *W.E.B. Du Bois, 1868-1919: Biography of a Race* (1994)

David Levering Lewis, *W.E.B. Du Bois, 1919-1963: The Fight for Equality and the American Century* (2001)

William S. McFeely, *Frederick Douglass* (1995)

J. Todd Moyer, *Freedom Flyers: The Tuskegee Airmen of World War II* (2012)

Stephen B. Oates, *The Fires of Jubilee: Nat Turner's Fierce Rebellion* (1990)

Barbara Dianne Savage, *Broadcasting Freedom: Radio, War, and the Politics of Race, 1938-1948* (1999)

Bobby Seale, *Seize the Time: The Story of the Black Panther Party and Huey P. Newton*

Harvard Sitkoff, *The Struggle for Black Equality* (2008)

Patricia Sullivan, *Days of Hope: Race and Democracy in the New Deal Era* (1996)

Wallace Terry, *Bloods: Black Veterans of the Vietnam War, an Oral History* (1985)

Race and Gender: *Considering the intersections of race and gender in the lives and activism of African American women.*

Adele Logan Alexander, *Ambiguous Lives: Free Women of Color in Rural Georgia* (1992)

Leslie Brown, *Upbuilding Black Durham: Gender, Class, and Community Development in the Jim Crow South* (2008)

Hazel V. Carby, *Race Men* (2000)

Paula J. Giddings, *When and Where I Enter: The Impact of Black Women on Race and Sex in America* (1996)

Tera W. Hunter, *To 'Joy My Freedom: Southern Black Women's Lives and Labors after the Civil War* (1998)

Annelise Orleck, *Storming Caesar's Palace: How Black Mothers Fought Their Own War on Poverty* (2006)

Stephanie J. Shaw, *What a Woman Ought to Be and To Do: Black Professional Women Workers during the Jim Crow Era* (1996)

Deborah Gray White, *Ar'n't I a Woman? Female Slaves in the Plantation South* (1999)

Deborah Gray White, *Too Heavy a Load: Black Women in Defense of Themselves, 1894-1994* (1989)

Jean Fagan Yellin, *Women & Sisters: Antislavery Feminists in American Culture* (1990)

Black Cultural Politics: *Highlighting the creative expressions of black communities and their political meanings*

Luis Alvarez, *The Power of the Zoot: Youth Culture and Resistance during World War II* (2008)

Raymond Arsenault, *The Sound of Freedom: Marian Anderson, the Lincoln Memorial, and the Concert that Awakened America* (2010)

Gena Caponi-Tabery, *Jump for Joy: Jazz, Basketball, and Black Culture in 1930s America* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2008)

Joel Dinerstein, *Swinging the Dream: Modernity, Technology, and African American Culture between the World Wars* (University of Chicago Press, 2003)

Lawrence W. Levine, *Black Culture and Black Consciousness: Afro-American Folk Thought from Slavery to Freedom* (Oxford University Press, 1977)

David Levering Lewis, *When Harlem Was in Vogue* (Penguin Books, 1997)

David Margolick, *Strange Fruit: Biography of a Song* (Ecco, 2001)

Waldo E. Martin, *No Coward Soldiers: Black Cultural Politics in Postwar America* (2005)

Theresa Runstedtler, *Jack Johnson, Rebel Sojourner: Boxing in the Shadow of the Global Color Line* (2013)

Scott Saul, *Freedom Is, Freedom Ain't: Jazz and the Making of the Sixties* (2005)

Penny M. Von Eschen, *Satchmo Blows Up the World: Jazz Ambassadors Play the Cold War* (1997)

Race and Imperialism: *Identifying the importance of race in the projection of American empire*

Ingrid Monson, *Freedom Sounds: Civil Rights Call Out to Jazz and Africa* (Oxford, 2007)

Mary A. Renda, *Taking Haiti: Military Occupation and the Culture of U.S. Imperialism, 1915-1940* (University of North Carolina Press, 2001)

Penny M. Von Eschen, *Race Against Empire: Black Americans and Anticolonialism, 1937-1957* (Cornell University Press, 1997)

Envisioning Blackness: *Depicting African American subjects in art and music*

Benjamin Cawthra, *Blue Notes in Black and White: Photography and Jazz* (University of Chicago Press, 2011)

Elizabeth Abel, *Sign of the Times: The Visual Politics of Jim Crow* (University of California Press, 2010)

Dora Appel and Shawn Michelle Smith, *Lynching Photographs* (University of California Press, 2008)

Alfred Appel, Jr., *Jazz Modernism: From Armstrong and Ellington to Matisse and Joyce* (Yale University Press, 2004)

Albert Boime, *The Art of Exclusion: Representing Blacks in the Nineteenth Century* (Smithsonian Institution Press, 1990)

Roy DeCarava, *The Sound I Saw: Improvisations on a Jazz Theme* (Phaidon Press, 2003)

Roy DeCarava and Langston Hughes, *The Sweet Flypaper of Life* (Howard University Press, 1955)

Ruth E. Fine, *The Art of Romare Bearden* (2003)

Peter Galassi, Roy DeCarava: *A Retrospective* (1996)

Richard J. Powell, *The Blues Aesthetic: Black Culture and Modernism* (Washington Project for the Arts, 1989)

Leigh Raiford, *Imprisoned in a Luminous Glare: Photography and the African American Freedom Struggle* (University of North Carolina Press, 2011)

Deborah Willis and Barbara Krauthamer, *Envisioning Emancipation: Black Americans and the End of Slavery* (Temple University Press, 2012)

Peter H. Wood, *Near Andersonville: Winslow Homer's Civil War* (Harvard University Press, 2010)

Peter H. Wood, *Weathering the Storm: Inside Winslow Homer's Gulf Stream* (University of Georgia Press, 2004)

Richard Wright, *12 Million Black Voices* (Basic Books, 1941)

African American Literature/Primary Documents: *Experiencing black history through firsthand and literary accounts*

The LeRoi Jones/Amiri Baraka Reader (1999)

James Baldwin, Collected Essays (1998)

James Baldwin, Go Tell It on the Mountain (1953)

James Baldwin, "Sonny's Blues" (1957)

David Bradley, The Chaneysville Incident (1981)

Carlyle Brown, The African Company Presents Richard III (1998)

William Wells Brown, Clotel (1853)

William Wells Brown: A Reader (2008)

Charles W. Chesnut, The Conjure Woman (1899)

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, Written by Himself (1845)

Frederick Douglass, My Bondage and My Freedom (1855)

W.E.B. Du Bois, The Souls of Black Folk (1903)

Gerald Early, Tuxedo Junction: Essays on American Culture (1989)

The Collected Essays of Ralph Ellison (2003)

Ralph Ellison, Invisible Man (1952)

Charles Fuller, A Soldier's Play (1982)

Henry Louis Gates, Jr., ed., The Classic Slave Narratives (2002)

Lorraine Hansberry, A Raisin in the Sun (1959)

Chester Himes, If He Hollers Let Him Go (1945)

Langston Hughes, The Ways of White Folks: Stories (1934)

Zora Neale Hurston, Their Eyes Were Watching God (1937)

Harriet Jacobs, Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (1861)

Charles Johnson, Middle Passage (1990)

James Weldon Johnson, Black Manhattan (1930)

James Weldon Johnson, The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man (1912)

T. Geronimo Johnson, Hold It 'Til It Hurts (2012)

Jake Lamar, *Bourgeois Blues: An American Memoir* (1992)

John Lewis, *Walking With the Wind: A Memoir of the Movement* (1999)

Alain Locke, ed., *The New Negro* (1925)

Nathan McCall, *Makes Me Wanna Holler: A Young Black Man in America* (1995)

Deborah E. McDowell and Arnold Rampersad, eds., *Slavery and the Literary Imagination* (1988)

Toni Morrison, *Sula* (1973)

Toni Morrison, *Beloved* (1987)

Albert Murray, *Stomping the Blues* (1976)

Solomon Northup, *Twelve Years a Slave* (1853)

Lynn Nottage, *Ruined* (2008)

Lynn Nottage, *Sweat* (2015)

Ann Petry, *The Street* (1946)

Ishmael Reed, *Flight to Canada* (1976)

Jackie Robinson, *I Never Had It Made* (1972)

Ntozake Shange, *for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf* (1976)

Jean Toomer, *Cane* (1923)

David Walker, *An Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World* (1829)

Jesmyn Ward, *Salvage the Bones* (2011)

Jesmyn Ward, *Sing, Unburied, Sing* (2017)

Colson Whitehead, *The Underground Railroad* (2016)

Colson Whitehead, *The Nickel Boys* (2019)

Ralph Wiley, *Why Black People Tend to Shout: Cold Facts and Wry Views from a Black Man's World* (1992)

August Wilson, *The Century Cycle* (1982-2005)

Harriet Wilson, *Our Nig* (1859)

Richard Wright, *The Library of America Unexpurgated Edition*

Lawd Today!/Uncle Tom's Children/Native Son/Black Boy (American Hunger)/The Outsider (2019)

The Autobiography of Malcolm X (1965)

Films/Documentaries

The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross. Available at [PBS](#)

The Black Power Mixtape 1967-1975 (2011)

Reconstruction: America After the Civil War (2019)

Color Adjustment (Marlon Riggs, 1992)

Henry Hampton/Blackside Inc. Documentaries:

Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years, 1954-65 (1987)

I'll Make Me a World: A Century of African American Arts (1999)

I Am Not Your Negro (James Baldwin) (Raoul Peck, 2016)

O.J.: Made in America (Ezra Edelman, 2016)

Race: Power of an Illusion (2003) Available on Kanopy and at [PBS](#)

Reconstruction: America After the Civil War Available for streaming at [PBS](#)

Roots Miniseries 2016 Updated Version and 1977 Classic

13th (Ava DuVernay, 2016) Available for streaming at [Netflix](#)

Feature Films: *Changing representations of blackness in popular films of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries*

Within Our Gates (Oscar Micheaux, 1920)

The Bronze Buckaroo (Richard C. Kahn, 1939)

The Proud Valley (Pen Tennyson, 1942)

A Raisin in the Sun (Daniel Petrie, (1961)

Cotton Comes to Harlem (Ossie Davis, 1970)

Killer of Sheep (Charles Burnett, 1977)

Do the Right Thing (Spike Lee, 1989)

Boyz n the Hood (John Singleton, 1991)

Daughters of the Dust (Julie Dash, 1992)

Devil in a Blue Dress (Carl Franklin, 1995)

Selma, (Ava DuVernay, 2014)

Queen & Slim (Melina Matsoukas, 2019)

Websites/Museums/Playlists: *Researching and sharing black history in other forms*

Ask a Slave: The Web Series: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHPZR1IUMS47BA-N2Ihrtlg>

Equal Justice Initiative/National Memorial for Peace and Justice/The Legacy Museum from Enslavement to Mass Incarceration: <https://eji.org/>

Playlist of black music as compiled by Harvard Af-Am faculty:
https://aaas.fas.harvard.edu/2020FacultyPlaylist?admin_panel=1

Hip-Hop Archive: <http://hiphoparchive.org/>

Hutchins Center for African American Research: <https://hutchinscenter.fas.harvard.edu/>

History Design Studio (from Hutchins Center): <https://historydesignstudio.com/>

Kamoinge Photographic Collective: <https://kamoingeworkshop.squarespace.com/>

Motown Museum, Detroit: <https://www.motownmuseum.org/>

National Blues Museum, St. Louis: <https://www.nationalbluesmuseum.org/>

National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel, Memphis: <https://www.civilrightsmuseum.org/>

National Jazz Museum in Harlem: <http://jazzmuseuminharlem.org/>

National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution: <https://nmaahc.si.edu/>

Schomburg Center for Research on Black Culture: NYPL: Several online exhibits and resources but especially: <https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/schomburg/digital-schomburg/online-exhibitions>

Southern California Library for Social Studies and Research: <http://www.socallib.org/>

Southern Poverty Law Center Civil Rights Memorial, Montgomery: <https://www.splcenter.org/civil-rights-memorial>

Slave Voyages (hosted through Emory): <https://www.slavevoyages.org/a>

Stax Museum, Memphis: <https://staxmuseum.com/>

Whitney Plantation Museum, Louisiana: <https://www.whitneyplantation.org/>

Without Sanctuary: Lynching Photography in America: <https://withoutsanctuary.org/>