UMKC Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Reading List

August 2019 Edition

(* = new to the list)

Ability, Disability, and Ableism

*Beauty is a Verb*, edited by Jennifer Bartlett, Sheila Black, and Michael Northen (2011)

*El Deafo*, by Cece Bell, illustrated by David Lasky (2014)

*Everything Here is Beautiful*, by Mira T. Lee (2018)

*Depresso: Or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Embrace Being Bonkers*, by Brick (2010)


*Exile and Pride*, by Eli Claire (2015)

*Marbles*, by Ellen Forney (2012)

*Recovering Bodies*, by G. Thomas Couser (1997)


Age, Aging, and Ageism

*Agewise*, by Margaret Morganroth Gullette (2011)

*Being Mortal*, by Atul Gawande (2014)


*Learning to be Old*, by Margaret Cruikshank (2008)


*The Next America* by Paul Taylor and Pew Research Center Staff (2014)

*This Chair Rocks*, by Ashton Applewhite (2016)

*Two Old Women* by Velma Wallis (1994)

*Women Rowing North* by Mary Pipher (2019)

*You Don’t Look Your Age...* by Sheila Nevins (2017)

Country of Origin, Immigration, and Nativism

*The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*, by Dinaw Mengestu (2008)

*Citizen Illegal* by José Olivarez (2018)

*Cosmopolitanism* by Anthony Appiah (2006)
The Distance Between Us, by Reyna Grande (2012)

Dreamers: An Immigrant Generation’s Fight for the American Dream, by Eileen Truax (2015)

From the Land of Ghandi, documentary film by Prakash Wadhwa (2016)

Girl in Translation, by Jean Kwok (2011)

*Heart Berries: A Memoir, by Terese Marie Mailhot (2018)

*If They Come for Us by Fatimah Asghar (2018)

*Pachinko, by Min Jin Lee (2017)

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down, by Anne Fadiman (1997)

*Unaccompanied by Javier Zamora (2017)

*The Undressing by Li-Young Lee (2018)

*Whereas, by Layli Long Soldier (2017)

Faith, Religious Identity, Secular Worldview and Sectarianism

America and the Challenges of Religious Diversity, by Robert Wuthnow (2011)


*Infidel by Aaron Campbell (Artist), Jose Villarrubia (Artist), and Pornsak Pichetshote (2018)

Letters to a Young Muslim, by Omar Saif Ghobash (2017)

*The New Religious Intolerance by Martha C. Nussbaum

The Price of Freedom Denied, by Brian J. Grim and Roger Finke (2010)

The Prophet and the Messiah, by Chawkat Moucarry (2002)


Race, Ethnicity and Racism


Americanah, by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (2013)

*An American Marriage by Tayari Jones (2018)

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

*Broken Earth Trilogy, by N.K. Jemisin

*Citizen by Claudia Rankine (2014)
Come Hell or High Water, by Michael Eric Dyson (2007)

*Don’t Call Us Dead by Danez Smith (2017)

Enrique’s Journey, by Sonia Nazario (2013)

The Half Has Never Been Told, by Edward E. Baptist (2014)

*The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas (2017)

*I Can’t Talk about the Trees Without the Blood by Tiana Clark (2018)

Intellectuals and Race, by Thomas Sowell (2013)

Just Mercy, by Bryan Stevenson (2014)

*A Lucky Man by Jamel Brinkley (2018)

Men We Reaped, by Jesmyn Ward (2013)

The New Jim Crow, by Michelle Alexander (2012)

*The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo (2018)


*Screaming Times by Natasha Ria El-Scari (2015)

*Sing, Unburied, Sing by Jesmyn Ward (2018)

*Stamped from the Beginning by Ibram X. Kendi (2016)

*They Can’t Kill Us until They Kill Us by Hanif Abdurraqib (2017)

*Waking up White, and finding Myself in the Story of Race by Debby Irving (2014)

*Wangs vs. the World by Jade Chang (2016)


LGBTQIA and Heterosexism

An Archive of Hope, by Harvey Milk (2013)

*Call Me by Your Name, by Andre Aciman (2017)

Dangerous Liaisons, edited by Eric Brandt (1999)


*A Little Life by Hanya Yanagihara (2015)

*The Ministry of Utmost Happiness, by Arundhati Roy (2017)

*Movement in Black by Pat Parker; introduction by Cheryl Clarke (1999)
Not Straight, Not White, by Kevin J. Mumford (2016)


*Tinderbox by Robert Fieseler (2018)

Under This Beautiful Dome, by Terry Mutchler (2014)

Violence Against Queer People, by Doug Meyer (2015)

Sex, Gender, Gender Identity and Gender Discrimination

*Back Talk by Danielle Lazarin (2018)

Bad Feminist, by Roxanne Gay (2014)

Excluded, by Julia Serano (2013)

Feminism is for Everybody, by bell hooks (2000)

Full Frontal Feminism, by Jessica Valenti (2014)

Gender Outlaw, by Kate Bornstein (1994)

*Her Body and Other Parties by Carmen Maria Machado (2017)

Living a Feminist Life, by Sara Ahmed (2017)

Men Explain Things to Me, by Rebecca Solnit (2014)

Missoula, by Jon Krakauer (2016)

Muxes, a short documentary film by Ivan Olita

*Rage Becomes Her by Soraya Chemaly (2018)

Redefining Realness, by Janet Mock (2014)

The Riddle of Gender, by Deborah Rudacille (2005)

*Sister Outsider by Audre Lorde (1984)

The Sisters are Alright, by Tamara Winfrey Harris (2015)


Stuck in the Middle with You, by Jennifer Finney Boylan (2014)


Transparent, by Cris Beam (2007)

We Should All Be Feminists, by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (2015)

Whipping Girl, by Julia Serano (2007)

Socioeconomic Status and Classism


Evicted, by Matthew Desmond (2016)

*Heartland* by Sarah Smarsh (2018)

*Hillbilly Elegy*, by J.D. Vance (2016)


*Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor* by Rob Nixon (2011)

Toxic Inequality, by Thomas M. Shapiro (2017)

The Unwinding, by George Packer (2013)

White Trash, by Nancy Isenberg (2016)

**UMKC Social Justice Lecture Series Books**


2017 – They Can’t Kill Us All, by Wesley Lowery (2016)

2016 – The Distance Between Us, by Reyna Grande (2012)


2009 – Come Hell or High Water, by Michael Eric Dyson (2007)
