

A (RACE AND) MISSISSIPPI READING LIST

Curated by Dr. B. Brian Foster

GULF COAST (COASTAL MISSISSIPPI, INCLUDING BILOXI AND HATTIESBURG)

- *Hattiesburg: An American City in Black and White* by William Sturkey
- *Men We Reaped* by Jesmyn Ward
- Fiction: *Sing, Unburied Sing* by Jesmyn Ward
- Fiction: *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward

DELTA (NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI, INCLUDING CLARKSDALE AND GREENVILLE)

- *Aaron Henry: The Fire Ever Burning* by Aaron Henry
- *Chopsticks in the Land of Cotton: Lives of Mississippi Delta Chinese Grocers* by John Jung
- *Crossroads at Clarksdale: The Black Freedom Struggle in the Mississippi Delta after World War II* by Françoise Hamlin
- *Development Arrested: The Blues and Plantation Power in the Mississippi Delta* by Clyde Woods
- *Deep Blues: A Musical and Cultural History of the Mississippi Delta* by Robert Palmer
- *Deep South: A Social Anthropological Study of Caste and Class* by Allison Davis, Burleigh Gardner, and Mary Gardner
- *Delta Jewels: In search of My Grandmother's Wisdom* by Alysia Burton Steele
- *Down on Parchman Farm: The Great Prison in the Mississippi Delta* by William Taylor
- *Freedom's Teacher: The Life of Septima Clark* by Katherine Charron
- *I Don't Like the Blues: Race, Place, and the Backbeat of Black Life* by Brian Foster
- *Let the People Decide: Black Freedom and White Resistance Movements in Sunflower County, Mississippi, 1945-1986* by Todd Moyer
- *Marks, Martin and the Mule Train: Marks, Mississippi - Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Origin of the 1968 Poor People's Campaign Mule Train* by Hilliard Lackey
- *The Land Where the Blues Began* by Alan Lomax
- *The Most Southern Place on Earth* by James Cobb (MS Delta)
- *You Can't Eat Freedom: Southerners and Social Justice after the Civil Rights Movement* by Greta De Jong
- Documentary: *Lalee's Kin* (HBO, YouTube)
- *We Ain't What We Was: Civil Rights in the New South* by Frederick Wirth

"HILL COUNTRY" (NORTH/NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI, INCLUDING OXFORD)

- *An American Insurrection: James Meredith and the Battle of Oxford, MS* by William Doyle
- *The Band Played Dixie: Race and the Liberal Conscience at Ole Miss* by Cohodas Nadine
- Docu-Series: *Last Chance U* (Netflix)

"PINEY WOODS" (CENTRAL/SOUTH MISSISSIPPI, INCLUDING JACKSON)

- *A Little Taste of Freedom: The Black Freedom Struggle in Claiborne County, Mississippi* by Emilye Crosby
- *Black Boy* by Richard Wright
- *Coming of Age in Mississippi* by Anne Moody
- *Heavy* by Kiese Laymon
- *Jackson Rising: The Struggle for Economic Democracy and Black Self-Determination in Jackson, MS* by Kali Akuno and Ajamu Nangwaya
- *Right to Revolt: The Crusade for Racial Justice in Mississippi's Central Piney Woods* by Patricia Michelle-Boyett
- Fiction: *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett
- Podcast: *In the Dark*, Season 2 (The Story of Curtis Flowers)

WHOLE STATE

- *Backwater Blues: The Mississippi Flood of 1927 in the African American Imagination* by Richard Mizelle, Jr.
- *Devil's Sanctuary: An Eyewitness History of Mississippi Hate Crimes* by Alex Alston and James Dickerson
- *In Search of Another Country: Mississippi and the Conservative Counterrevolution* by Joseph Crespino
- *Radical Equations: Civil Rights from Mississippi to the Algebra Project* by Robert Moses and Charles Cobb
- *We Will Shoot Back: Armed Resistance in the Mississippi Freedom Movement* by Akinyele Omowale Umoja
- Documentary: *Freedom Summer* (Amazon Prime)