# **Decolonised reading list for Cambridge Sociology course**

*[Compiled by graduates in September 2018]*

The Sociology course at the University of Cambridge is divided into two parts. The first seeks to familiarise students with the sociological thought of four men: Karl Marx, Max Weber, Emile Durkheim, and W.E.B. Du Bois; the second focuses on understanding social inequalities, power, and society. It is important to note that W.E.B. Du Bois was added to section 1 of the course in the 2018-2019 academic year; previously, the focus of this section was simply on Marx, Weber, and Durkheim. In Section 2, the topic Combined Power: Empire and Resistance was added; additionally, in each of the sub-topics, updated readings pertaining to class, ‘race’, ethnicity, racism, gender, sexuality (specifically the replacement of transphobic second wave ‘radical feminist’ texts), intersectionality, global inequality were added.

The Department of Sociology has been instrumental in pushing [decolonisation of the curriculum](https://decolonisesociology.wordpress.com/) across the university. We have compiled a list of further readings that may be helpful to incoming undergraduates who seek to further situate and decenter the canon. We maintain that decolonization necessarily is a destabilizing process; it requires constant interrogation of our existing knowledge and a continuous uncovering of the silences that have for so long precluded rigorous criticism of the effects of colonialism, imperialism, and racism within the academy.

**General resources:**

* [Decolonise Sociology at Cambridge](https://decolonisesociology.wordpress.com/)
* [Global Social Theory](https://globalsocialtheory.org/) [great resource for understanding global perspectives on different concepts, thinkers, and topics in sociology]
* BBC Radio 4 In Our Time [e.g. on [Marx](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pP4OUY3ed5w)]

**Social theory:**

* \*Go, Julian, 2016. *Postcolonial Thought and Social Theory.* Oxford: OUP.
* Chatterjee
  + Chatterjee, Partha. *Empire and Nation Selected Essays*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2010.
  + Chatterjee, Partha. *The Nation and Its Fragments: Colonial and Postcolonial Histories.* New York: Oxford University Press, 1993.
* Mbembe
  + Mbembe, Dubois, and Dubois, Laurent. *Critique of Black Reason*. John Hope Franklin Center Book. Durham: Duke University Press, 2017.
  + Mbembe, J.-A., and Libby. Meintjes. "Necropolitics." *Public Culture* 15. 1 (2003): 11- 40.
* Moten
  + Moten, Fred. *In the break: The aesthetics of the Black radical tradition*. Minneapolis; London: University of Minnesota Press, 2003.
  + Moten, Fred. "The case of blackness." *Criticism* 50.2 (2008): 177-218.
  + Fred Moten and Stefano Harney, The Undercommons: Fugitive Planning & Black Study, AK Press
* Mudimbe, Vumbi Yoka. *The Invention of Africa*. Bloomington, IN.: Indiana University Press, 1988.
* Walter Mignolo, 2007, [”Coloniality: The Darker Side of Modernity”](https://www.macba.cat/PDFs/walter_mignolo_modernologies_eng.pdf)
* Maria Lugones, 2007, [”Heterosexualism and the Colonial / Modern Gender System”](https://hamtramckfreeschool.files.wordpress.com/2014/05/lugones-maria-heterosexualism-and-the-colonial-modern-gender-system.pdf)
* Anibal Quijano, 2000, [”Coloniality of Power, Eurocentrism, and Latin America”](http://www.decolonialtranslation.com/english/quijano-coloniality-of-power.pdf)
* Stuart Hall, 1992, [*The West and the Rest: Discourse and Power*](https://analepsis.files.wordpress.com/2013/08/hall-west-the-rest.pdf)
* Korang, Kwaku Larbi. "Where is Africa? When is the West's other? Literary postcoloniality in a comparative anthropology." *diacritics* 34.2 (2004): 38-61
* Morgensen S. L. (2012). [“Theorising Gender, Sexuality and Settler Colonialism: An Introduction”](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/2201473X.2012.10648839). *Settler Colonial Studies* 3(3). 2-22.
* Hennessy R., & Ingraham C. (1997). [Introduction: Reclaiming Anticapitalist Feminism](http://pages.mtu.edu/~rlstrick/rsvtxt/hennessy1.pdf). In *Materialist Feminism: A Reader in Class, Difference, and Women’s Lives* (pp. 1-14). New York: Routledge
* West, Cornel. 1993. *Race Matters*. Boston: Beacon Press.
* Sarah Ahmed (2017). *Living a Feminist Life.* Duke University Press.

**Sociological History / Historical Sociology:**

* Anievas & Matin (eds). 2016. *Historical Sociology and World History: Uneven and Combined Development over the Longue Durée*. London: Rowman & Littlefield
* Potter, SJ and Saha, J (2015) [Global History, Imperial History and Connected Histories of Empire](http://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/89866/5/Potter%20Saha%20Connected%20Histories%20FINAL.pdf). Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History, 16 (1)
* Go, Julian and George Lawson (2017) [Global Historical Sociology](http://www.cambridge.org/gb/academic/subjects/politics-international-relations/international-relations-and-international-organisations/global-historical-sociology?format=PB). Cambridge: CUP.
* Sethi, Rumina, (2011) The Politics of Postcolonialism: Empire, Nation, and Resistance. London: Pluto Press. See specifically Ch1: Postcolonialism and its Discontents: an Introduction.

**Social inequalities:**

* Gurminder K. Bhambra, 2018, [“Brexit, Trump, and ‘methodological whiteness’: on the misrecognition of race and class”](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/1468-4446.12317)
* Michael Katz, 2000. ‘Race, Poverty, and Welfare: Du Bois’s Legacy for Policy’. *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science.* 568: 111-127
* Audre Lorde, 1984, *Sister Outsider: Essays and speeches*
* Lola Olufemi, 2016, [“The Problem with Accessible Feminism”](https://flygirlsofcambridge.com/2016/08/10/the-problem-with-accessibility-lola-olufemi/)
* Kimberle Crenshaw, 1989, [”Demarginalising the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory and Antiracist Politics”](https://chicagounbound.uchicago.edu/uclf/vol1989/iss1/8/)
* Puar, J. 2012. [‘I would rather be a cyborg than a goddess’](http://eipcp.net/transversal/0811/puar/en): Intersectionality, Assemblage, and Affective Politics. *Philosophia: A Journal of Feminist Continental Philosophy* 2 (1): 49-66
* Cooper, B. [‘Intersectionality’](http://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199328581.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780199328581-e-20). *The Oxford Handbook of Feminist Theory.* Ed. Lisa Disch & Mary Hawkesworth. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016.
* Smith, Sharon, 2017. [A Marxist Case for Intersectionality](https://socialistworker.org/2017/08/01/a-marxist-case-for-intersectionality)
  + Smith 2006. [Race, class, and "whiteness theory"](http://www.isreview.org/issues/46/whiteness.shtml). International Socialist Review 46.
* Bohrer, A. 2018. [“Intersectionality and Marxism: A Critical Historiography”](http://www.historicalmaterialism.org/articles/intersectionality-and-marxism). *Historical Materialism* 26(2)
* Smith, Michael Nassen, 2018. [Intersectionality: Materialism or culturalism?](http://aidc.org.za/intersectionality-materialism-culturalism/) *Amandla!*
* Warren, Kenneth et al (2016) [On the End(s) of Black Politics](https://nonsite.org/editorial/on-the-ends-of-black-politics)
* Mohanty, C. (1984). ‘Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourse,’ *boundary 2.* Volume 12, 3.
* Mohanty,​ ​Chandra​ ​Talpade,​ ​Ann​ ​Russo,​ ​Lourdes​ ​Torres​ ​(ed).​ ​(1991).​ *T​​hird​ ​World​ ​Women and​ ​the​ ​Politics​ ​of​ ​Feminism​*.​ ​​Indiana​ ​University​ ​Press.
* Davis, A. Y. (1981). [*Women, Race & Class.*](https://legalform.files.wordpress.com/2017/08/davis-women-race-class.pdf) New York: Random House
* b. binaohan, [*decolonizing trans/gender 101*](http://publishbiyuti.org/decolonizingtransgender101/)**,** 2014
* Paris is Burning (dir. Jennie Livingston), 1991[film]
* Donna Haraway, 1984, [cyborg manifesto](https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/english/currentstudents/undergraduate/modules/fictionnownarrativemediaandtheoryinthe21stcentury/manifestly_haraway_----_a_cyborg_manifesto_science_technology_and_socialist-feminism_in_the_....pdf)
* Angela Davis, 2003, *Are Prisons Obsolete?*
* Nira Yuval-Davis, 1997, *Gender and Nation*
* Miranda, D. A. (2013). [Extermination of the Joyas: Gendercide in Spanish California.](https://muse.jhu.edu/article/372454/pdf) In S. Stryker, & A. Z. Aizura, *The Transgender Studies Reader 2* (pp. 350-363). New York: Routledge
* Bland, L., & Doan, L. (1998). *Sexology Uncensored.* Cambridge: Polity Press. (Part VII: Race, especially the introduction by Siobhan Somerville; also see Part VI: Eugenics)
* McClintock, A. (1995). *Imperial Leather: race, gender and sexuality in the Colonial Contest.* New York: Routledge.
* Hennessy, R. (2000). [*Profit and Pleasure: Sexual Identities in Late Capitalism*.](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fNLDOgSVZ0zRUQy5NzjRs3RWDpnKWNoT/view?usp=sharing) New York: Routledge.
* Wittig, M. (1993). [One is Not Born a Woman.](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ljfJFpCtEnpl3d6REWADbQZ9IAznOmhX/view?usp=sharing) In H. Abelove, M. A. Barale, & D. M. Halperin *The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader* (pp. 103-109). New York: Routledge.
* Englert, S. (2018). [Judaism, Zionism, and the Nazi Genocide: Jewish identity formation in the West between assimilation and rejection.](http://www.historicalmaterialism.org/articles/judaism-zionism-and-nazi-genocide) *Historical Materialism* 26(2).
* S. Thobani's speech at the [‘Women's Resistance: From Victimization to Criminalization’](http://www.herizons.ca/node/131) conference in Ottawa on October 1 2001.
* Noble, S. U. and Tynes, B. M. (2016). *The Intersectional Internet: Race, Sex, Class, and Culture Online.*
* Bell, Derrick. "Racial realism." *Connecticut Law Review* 24 (1991): 363-379.
* Mills, Charles W. 1997. *Blackness Visible: Essays on Philosophy and Race*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. See particularly Chapter 3: *“But what are you Really?” The Metaphysics of Race* and Chapter 5: *Revisionist Ontologies: THeorizing White Supremacy*

**Power and society:**

* Lois McNay, 1992, *Foucault and Feminism*.
* Heiner, Brady Thomas, 2007. [Foucault and the Black Panthers](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13604810701668969). City 11(3): 313-356
* Butler, J. (2009). *Frames of War: When is Life Grievable?* Verso.

**State formation:**

* Khaldun, Ibn, 1377. The Muqaddimah
* Alatas, Syed Farid, 2014. Applying Ibn Khaldun: The recovery of a lost tradition in sociology. London: Routledge. Chapter 2: *Ibn Khaldun’s theory of state formation*.
* Dirik, Dilar, 2016. “[Rojava: Building Democracy Without the State](https://roarmag.org/magazine/building-democracy-without-a-state/)”, ROAR Mag. 18 March 2016

**Disciplinarity:**

Ross, Dorothy. 2003. ‘Changing Contours of The Social Science Disciplines’. In *The Cambridge History of Science: Vol. 7 The Modern Social Sciences*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 203-237