Black List – Reading List for Social Change

Prepared by Jermaine McCalpin and Damion K. Blake*

The list that follows is meant to provide some important texts for anyone who is interested in having a robust understanding of history, politics, philosophy. It does not claim to be authoritative or complete. Rather, it represents some helpful sources for the compilers who hope that it will be a useful in understanding the contemporary, global and American developments in light of history and its role in social and political change.

Black History

How Europe Underdeveloped Africa – Walter Rodney

They Came Before Columbus – Ivan van Sertima

The Destruction of Black Civilization – Chancellor Williams

Stolen Legacy – George James

A Black Women's History of the United States - Daina Ramey Berry and Kali Nicole Gross

Slavery and Social Death- Orlando Patterson

Capitalism and Slavery - Eric Williams

Black Jacobins- CLR James

Christopher Columbus and the Afrikan Holocaust – John Henrik Clarke

Medical Apartheid – Harriet Washington

Race and Philosophy

The Racial Contract - Charles Mills

Philosophy and Opinions of Marcus Garvey- Amy Jacques Garvey

The Wretched of the Earth- Franz Fanon

Words That Wound: Critical Race Theory, Assaultive Speech, and the First Amendment - Kimberle Crenshaw

Race: a philosophical introduction – Paul C. Taylor

On Race and Philosophy - Lucius Outlaw

Race Matters - Cornel West

Black Feminist Thought- Patricia Hill Collins

Black Skins, White Masks-Franz Fanon

Blackness Visible- Charles Mills

Black Bodies, Whites Gazes- George Yancy

Race and Racism

Racist America - Joe Feagin

White Fragility – Robin Diangelo

Racism: a short history – George Frederickson

Eloquent Rage- Brittney Cooper

The Autobiography of Malcolm X- Malcolm X

Stamped from the Beginning- Ibrahim X. Kendi

Black on Black Violence - Amos Wilson

Me and White Supremacy - Layla F. Saad

So you want to talk about race - Ijeoma Oluo

Chokehold: Policing Black Men - Paul Butler

Americanah- Chimamanda Adichie

The Fire Next Time - James Baldwin

Brown Girl Dreaming - Jacqueline Woodson

The Emperor Has no Clothes – Tema Okun

Slavery by Another Name -Douglas Blackmon

An African American and Latinx History of the United States- Paul Ortiz

Understanding White Privilege – Frances Kendall

Racism without Racists - Eduardo Bonilla- Silva

America's Original Sin- Jim Wallis

Between the World and Me-Ta-Nehisi Coates

How to be an Anti-Racist- Ibrahim X. Kendi

Blackballed: The Black and White Politics of Race on America's Campuses-Lawrence Ross

I am Because We Are – Fred Lee Hord and Jonathan Scott Lee

The Isis Papers – Frances Cress Welsing

Mainstreaming Black Power – Tom Davies

White Rage- Carol Anderson

Barracoon- Zora Neale Hurston

Race, discipline, punishment and policing

The New Jim Crow - Michelle Alexander

From #Black Lives Matter to Black Liberation – Keaanga - Yamahtta Taylor

Policing Black Bodies - Angela Hattery and Earl Smith

Rise of the Warrior Cop – Radley Balko

Policing the Black man-Angela Davis

Reparations

Should America Pay? -Raymond Winbush

The Debt- What America Owes Blacks - Randal Robinson

The Case for Black Reparations – Boris I Bittker

From Here to Equality: Reparations for Black Americans in the Twenty-First Century- William A. Darity and A. Kirsten Mullen

Reparations for Slavery: A Reader - Ronald P. Salzberger and Mary C. Turck

Long Overdue: The Politics of Racial Reparations- Charles Henry

*Dr. Jermaine McCalpin is Chair, African /African American Studies, New Jersey City University.

Dr. Damion K. Blake is Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science & Policy Studies, Elon University.