



International History and Politics Department Books: The Hood of Good Taste

HPI Professors Top 5 Books for History and Politics Students. (and their Top Books in Fiction)

Gopalan Balachandran

Scholar

1. Makdisi, Ussama. *Age of Coexistence: The Ecumenical Frame and the Making of the Modern Arab World*. Oakland: University of California Press, 2019[1].
2. Khalidi, Rashid. *The Hundred Years' War on Palestine: A History of Settler Colonial Conquest and Resistance*. New York: Metropolitan Books, 2020[2].
3. Hammad, Isabella. *Recognizing the Stranger: On Palestine and Narrative*. New York: Grove Press, 2024[3].
4. Okihiro, Gary. *Pineapple Culture: A History of the Tropical and Temperate Zones*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2009[4].
5. Ghosh, Amitav. *Smoke and Ashes: Opium's Hidden Histories*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2023[5].

Fiction/Memoire

1. Chughtai, Ismat. *A Life in Words: Memoirs*. Translated by M. Asaduddin. New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2013[6].
2. Hyder, Qurratulain. *Ship of Sorrows*. Translated by Saleem Kidwai. New Delhi: Women Unlimited, 2019[7].
3. Hammad, Isabella. *Enter Ghost*. New York: Random House, 2024[8].
4. Shlaim, Avi. *Three Worlds: Memoirs of an Arab Jew*. London: One world Publications, 2023[9].
5. Ypi, Lea. *Free: Coming of Age at the End of History*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2021[10].

Carolyn Biltoft

Scholar

1. Darnton, Robert. *The Great Cat Massacre and Other Episodes in French Cultural History*. New York: Basic Books, 1984[1].
2. Kern, Stephen. *The Culture of Time and Space, 1880-1918*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1983[2].
3. Cohen, Paul. *History in Three Keys: The Boxers as Event, Experience, and Myth*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1997[3].
4. Ariès, Philippe. *The Hour of Our Death*. New York: Knopf, 1981[4].
5. Brown, Peter. *The Ransom of the Soul: Afterlife and Wealth in Early Western Christianity*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2015[5].
6. Lowe, Lisa. *The Intimacies of Four Continents*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2015[6].

Fiction

1. Baldwin, James. *Another Country*. New York: Dial Press, 1962[7].
2. Nabokov, Vladimir. *The Gift*. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1963[8].
3. Nin, Anaïs. *The Four-Chambered Heart*. New York: Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1950[9].
4. Kundera, Milan. *Ignorance*. New York: HarperPerennial, 2003[10].
5. Dostoevsky, Fyodor. *Notes from Underground*. New York: Dover Publications, 1992[11].

Nicole Bourbonnais

Scholar

1. Scott, Julius S. *The Common Wind: Afro-American Currents in the Age of the French Revolution*. London: Verso, 2018[1].
2. Butalia, Urvashi. *The Other Side of Silence: Voices from the Partition of India*. New Delhi: Penguin Books India, 1998[2].
3. Enloe, Cynthia. *Bananas, Beaches, and Bases: Making Feminist Sense of International Politics*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000[3].
4. Trouillot, Michel-Rolph. *Silencing the Past: Power and the Production of History*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1995[4].
5. Hartman, Saidiya. *Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments: Intimate Histories of Social Upheaval*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2019[5].

Fiction

1. Tagaq, Tanya. *Split Tooth*. New York: Viking Press, 2018[6].
2. Luiselli, Valeria. *Lost Children Archive*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2019[1].
3. Lamming, George. *In the Castle of My Skin*. London: Penguin Classics, 2017[7].
4. Heller, Joseph. *Catch-22*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2004[8].
5. Schlink, Bernhard. *The Reader*. Oxford: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1998[9].

Rui Esteves

Scholar

1. Greif, Avner. *Institutions and the Path to the Modern Economy: Lessons from Medieval Trade*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006
2. Kindleberger, Charles P. *Manias, Panics, and Crises: A History of Financial Crises*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011[2].
3. North, Douglass C. *Structure and Change in Economic History*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1981[3].
4. O'Rourke, Kevin H., and Jeffrey G. Williamson. *Globalization and History: The Evolution of a Nineteenth-Century Atlantic Economy*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1999[4].
5. Reis, Jaime. *O atraso económico português, 1850-1930*. Lisboa: Imprensa Nacional-Casa da Moeda, 1993[5].

Fiction

1. Cervantes, Miguel de. *Don Quixote*. Ware, England: Wordsworth Editions, 1992. Originally published 1605 (Part 1) and 1615 (Part 2).
2. Eco, Umberto. *Foucault's Pendulum*. New York: Ballantine Books, 1990. Originally published 1988.
3. Mann, Thomas. *The Magic Mountain*. New York: A.A. Knopf, 2005. Originally published 1924.
4. Ribeiro, Aquilino. *Quando os lobos uivam*. Lisboa: Livraria Bertrand, 1958[9].
5. Woolf, Virginia. *To the Lighthouse*. London: Vintage Classics, 2004[10].

Jussi Hanhimäki

Scholar

1. Applebaum, Anne. *Gulag: A History*. New York: Doubleday, 2003[1].
2. Gaddis, John Lewis. *George Kennan: An American Life*. New York: Penguin Press, 2011[2].
3. Judt, Tony. *Postwar: A History of Europe Since 1945*. New York: Penguin Press, 2005[3].
4. Carr, E.H. *What is History?*. New York: Vintage, 1961[4].

5. Beard, Mary. *SPQR: A History of Ancient Rome*. New York: Liveright Publishing Corporation, 2015[5].

Fiction

1. Lodge, David. *Changing Places: A Tale of Two Campuses*. New York: Penguin Books, 1975[6].
2. Harris, Robert. *Archangel*. New York: Random House, 1998[7].
3. Waltari, Mika. *The Egyptian*. Chicago: Chicago Review Press, 2002[8].
4. Dumas, Alexandre. *The Three Musketeers*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1893[9].
5. Hemingway, Ernest. *A Farewell to Arms*. London: Vintage Classics, 2005[10].

Bernard Keo

Scholar

1. Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*, 2nd Edition (London: Verso, 2006)
2. Edward Said, *Orientalism* (New York: Pantheon Books, 1978)
3. Su Lin Lewis, *Cities in Motion: Urban Life and Cosmopolitanism in Southeast Asia, 1920-1940* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016)
4. Adam McKeown, *Melancholy Order: Asian Migration and the Globalization of Borders* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2008)
5. Ien Ang, *On Not Speaking Chinese: Living Between Asia and the West* (Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2001)

Fiction

1. Han Suyin, ... And the Rain My Drink (London: Jonathan Cape, 1956)
2. Graham Greene, *The Quiet American* (London: William Heinemann, 1955)
3. Bao Ninh, *The Sorrow of War* (New York: Pantheon Books, 1995)
4. Frederick Forsyth, *The Day of the Jackal* (London: Hutchinson and Co., 1971)
5. Agatha Christie, *N or M?* (New York: Dodd, Mead, and Co. 1941)

Jan Kiely

Scholar

1. Ginzburg, Carlo, and Bruce Lincoln. *Old Thiess, a Livonian Werewolf: A Classic Case in Comparative Perspective*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2020[1].
2. Harrison, Henrietta. *The Perils of Interpreting: The Extraordinary Lives of Two Translators Between Qing China and the British Empire*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2021[2].

3. Gao, Hua. *How the Red Sun Rose: The Origins and Development of the Yan'an Rectification Movement, 1930-1945*. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 2018[3].
4. Hershatter, Gail. *The Gender of Memory: Rural Women and China's Collective Past*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2011[4].
5. Hunt, Lynn. *Writing History in the Global Era*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2014[5].

Fiction

1. Mooney, James. *The Ghost-Dance Religion and Wounded Knee*. New York: Dover Publications, 1973[6].
2. Orwell, George. *Down and Out in Paris and London*. New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1950[7].
3. Bloch, Marc. *L'étrange défaite*. Paris: Gallimard, 1946[8].
4. Chang, Eileen. *Written on Water*. New York: New York Review of Books, 2023[9].
5. Wolf, Margery. *The House of Lim: A Study of a Chinese Farm Family*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, 1968.

Oksana Myshlovska

Scholar

1. Wimmer, Andreas. *Waves of War: Nationalism, State Formation, and Ethnic Exclusion in the Modern World*. Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics Series. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013.
2. Judt, Tony. *Postwar: A History of Europe since 1945*. New York: Penguin, 2005.
3. Dumitru, Diana. *The State, Antisemitism, and Collaboration in the Holocaust: The Borderlands of Romania and the Soviet Union*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2016.
4. Cameron, Sarah. *The Hungry Steppe: Famine, Violence, and the Making of Soviet Kazakhstan*. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 2018.
5. Hirsch, Francine. *Soviet Judgment at Nuremberg: A New History of the International Military Tribunal after World War II*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2020.

Biographical/Oral Histories/Fiction

1. Zhadan, Serhiy. *The Orphanage*. Translated by Reilly Costigan-Humes and Isaac Stackhouse Wheeler. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2017.
2. Alexievich, Svetlana. *The Unwomanly Face of War: An Oral History of Women in World War II*. Translated by Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky. New York: Random House, 2017.

3. Sands, Philippe. *East West Street: On the Origins of Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2016.
4. Sands, Philippe. *The Ratline: Love, Lies and Justice on the Trail of a Nazi Fugitive*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2020.
5. Kurkov, Andrey. *Grey Bees*. Translated by Boris Dralyuk. London: MacLehose Press, 2020.

Amalia Ribí Forclaz (influential as a historian in training)

Scholar

1. Hobsbawm, Eric, and Terence Ranger, eds. *The Invention of Tradition*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012[1].
2. Scott, James C. *Weapons of the Weak: Everyday Forms of Peasant Resistance*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1985[2].
3. Crosby, Alfred W. *The Columbian Exchange: Biological and Cultural Consequences of 1492*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishing Group, 1972[3].
4. Stoler, Ann Laura. *Along the Archival Grain: Epistemic Anxieties and Colonial Common Sense*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2009[4].
5. Levi, Primo. *If This Is a Man (Se questo è un uomo)*. New York: Orion Press, 1959[5].

Fiction

1. Hemingway, Ernest. *For Whom the Bell Tolls*. New York: Scribner, 1940[6].
2. Morrison, Toni. *Beloved*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1987[7].
3. Ginzburg, Natalia. *Family Sayings (Lessico Familiare)*. New York: Arcade Publishing, 1989[8].
4. Roy, Arundhati. *The God of Small Things*. London: Fourth Estate, 1997[9].
5. Zola, Emile. *Germinal*. Translated by Roger Pearson. London: Penguin Classics, 2004[10].

Davide Rodogno (selection 2024)

Scholar

1. Raza Kolb, Anjuli Fatima. *Epidemic Empire: Colonialism, Contagion, and Terror, 1817-2020*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2021[1].
2. Houte, Arnaud-Dominique. *Les Peurs de la Belle Époque: Crimes, Attentats, Catastrophes et Autres Périls*. Paris: Tallandier, 2022[2].
3. Lutz, Catherine, and Lila Abu-Lughod, eds. *Language and the Politics of Emotions*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990[3].
4. Slimak, Ludovic. *The Naked Neanderthal: A New Understanding of the Human Creature*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2024[4].

5. Hansen, Karen V. *Encounter on the Great Plains: Scandinavian Settlers and the Dispossession of Dakota Indians, 1890-1930*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2013[5].

Fiction

1. Ibuse, Masuji. *La Pluie Noire (Black Rain)*. Paris: Gallimard, 1966[6].
2. Mabanckou, Alain. *Le Commerce des Allongés*. Paris: Seuil, 2022[7].
3. Murakami, Haruki. *La città e le sue mura incerte*. Torino: Einaudi, 2023[8].
4. Eco, Umberto. *Il Cimitero di Praga*. Milano: Bompiani, 2010[9].

References

Aidan Russell

Scholar

1. Das, Veena. *Life and Words: Violence and the Descent into the Ordinary*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2007[1].
2. Hokari, Minoru. *Gurindji Journey: A Japanese Historian in the Outback*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2011[2].
3. Kayoya, Michel. *Sur les traces de mon père: jeunesse du Burundi à la découverte des valeurs*. Bujumbura: Presses Lavigerie, 1971[3].
4. Mbembe, Achille. *On the Postcolony*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2001[4].
5. White, Luise. *Speaking with Vampires: Rumor and History in Colonial Africa*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000[5].

Fiction

1. Anon. *The Saga of the People of Laxardal and Bolli Bollason's Tale*. Translated by Keneva Kunz. London: Penguin Classics, 2008[6].
2. Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o. *Wizard of the Crow*. Nairobi: Harvill Secker, 2006[7].
3. O'Brien, Flann. *At Swim-Two-Birds*. London: Longman Green & Co, 1939[8].
4. Pamuk, Orhan. *My Name is Red*. Translated by Erdağ M. Göknar. New York: Vintage International, 2002[9].
5. Sebald, W.G. *Austerlitz*. Translated by Anthea Bell. London: Penguin Books, 2011[10].

Caroline Rusterholz

Scholar

1. Briggs, Laura. *How All Politics Became Reproductive Politics: From Welfare Reform to Foreclosure to Trump*. Oakland: University of California Press, 2017[1].
2. Stoler, Ann Laura. *Carnal Knowledge and Imperial Power: Race and the Intimate in Colonial Rule*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002[2].

3. Clark, Anna. *The Struggle for the Breeches: Gender and the Making of the British Working Class*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995[3].
4. Bashford, Alison. *Global Population: History, Geopolitics, and Life on Earth*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2014[4].
5. Rose, Nikolas. *Inventing Our Selves: Psychology, Power, and Personhood*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996[5].

Fiction

1. Skloot, Rebecca. *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. New York: Random House, 2010[6].
2. Lewinsky, Charles. *Melnitz*. Zurich: Diogenes, 2006[7].
3. Sands, Philippe. *East West Street: On the Origins of "Genocide" and "Crimes Against Humanity"*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2016[8].
4. Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi. *Americanah*. New York: Anchor Books, 2014[9].
5. Hugo, Victor. *L'Homme qui rit*. Paris: J. Hetzel, 1869[10].

Cyrus Schayegh

Scholar

1. Darnton, Robert. *The Great Cat Massacre and Other Episodes in French Cultural History*. New York: Basic Books, 1984[1].
2. Osterhammel, Jürgen. *The Transformation of the World: A Global History of the Nineteenth Century*. Translated by Patrick Camiller. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2014[2].
3. Blackbourn, David. *Marpingen: Apparitions of the Virgin Mary in Nineteenth-Century Germany*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1994[3].
4. Slezkine, Yuri. *The House of Government: A Saga of the Russian Revolution*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2017[4].

Fiction

1. Le Carré, John. *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold*. London: Victor Gollancz, 1963[5].

Mischa Suter

Scholar

1. Steedman, Carolyn. *Landscape for a Good Woman: A Story of Two Lives*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1987[6].
2. Marx, Karl. *Capital, Vol. 1*. Translated by Ben Fowkes. London: Penguin Books, 1990[7].

3. Buck-Morss, Susan. *Hegel, Haiti, and Universal History*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2009[8].
4. Fanon, Frantz. *Black Skin, White Masks*. New York: Grove Press, 2008[9].
5. Scott, Joan W. *Only Paradoxes to Offer: French Feminists and the Rights of Man*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1996[10].

Fiction

1. Tokarczuk, Olga. *Flights*. Translated by Jennifer Croft. London: Fitzcarraldo Editions, 2018[1].
2. Eliot, George. *Middlemarch: A Study of Provincial Life*. London: William Blackwood and Sons, 1871-1872[2].
3. Shibli, Adania. *Minor Detail*. Translated by Elisabeth Jaquette. London: Fitzcarraldo Editions, 2020[3].
4. Gibson, William. *Neuromancer*. New York: Ace Science Fiction Books, 1984[4].
5. James, Marlon. *A Brief History of Seven Killings*. New York: Riverhead Books, 2014[5].