

Hello

We don't expect students to read anything before starting with us, but we know lots of you like to have recommendations, so we suggest some popular books on contemporary issues as well as some podcasts and blogs. We also encourage you to enjoy a relaxing break before university as much as you can, because you'll obviously have a lot of reading to do if you join us.

It will help with your course if you get into the habit of reading quality journalism on current political developments and watching or listening to quality news and current affairs broadcasts and webcasts.

Here are some books you could take a look at if you want some recommendations. Again, these are not books you have to read to prepare for the course, but they're on subjects that you will definitely encounter during your studies...and they're also a great read. There should be something here for you, whatever your interests within politics and international studies.

Suggested Reading List:

- + Caroline Criado Perez, *Invisible Women: Exposing Data Bias in a World Designed for Men* (Vintage, 2020)
- + Reni Eddo-Lodge, *Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race* (Bloomsbury, 2018)
- + Akala, *Natives: Race and Class in the Ruins of Empire* (Two Roads, 2019)
- + Colin Hay, *Why We Hate Politics* (Polity, 2007)
- + Matthew Flinders, *Defending Politics: Why Democracy Matters in the 21st Century* (Oxford University Press, 2013)
- + Tony Wright, *British Politics: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2020)
- + Jess Phillips, *The Life Of An MP: Everything You Really Need to Know About Politics* (Gallery, 2022)
- + Kevin O'Rourke, *A Short History of Brexit* (Pelican, 2019)
- + Ta-Nehisi Coates, *We Were Eight Years in Power* (Penguin, 2018)
- + Jon Sopel, *UnPresided: Politics, Pandemics and the Race that Trumped All Others* (Penguin, 2021)
- + Richard Horton, *The COVID-19 Catastrophe* (Polity, 2020)
- + Toby Green, *The Covid Consensus: The New Politics of Global Inequality* (Hurst, 2021)
- + Nanjala Nyabola, *Digital Democracy, Analogue Politics: How the Internet Era is Changing*

Politics in Kenya (Zed Books, 2018)

- + Angela Y. Davis, *Women, Race & Class* (Penguin Modern Classics, 2019)
- + J. Jack Halberstam, *Gaga Feminism: Sex, Gender and the End of Normal* (Beacon Press, 2013)
- + Audre Lorde, *Sister Outsider* (Penguin Modern Classics, 2019)
- + Nina Power, *One Dimensional Woman* (Zero Books, 2009)
- + Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *We Should All Be Feminists* (Fourth Estate, 2014)
- + Greta Thunberg, *No-one Is Too Small To Make A Difference* (Penguin, 2019)
- + James Lovelock, *Gaia: A New Look At Life On Earth* (Oxford University Press, 2016)
- + Vandana Shiva, *Reclaiming the Commons: Biodiversity, Traditional Knowledge, and the Rights of Mother Earth* (Synergetic Press, 2020)
- + Naomi Klein, *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs Climate* (Penguin, 2015)
- + Ha-Joon Chang, *23 Things They Don't Tell You About Capitalism* (Penguin, 2011)
- + Bill Hayton, *The Invention of China* (Yale University Press, 2020)
- + Philip Robins, *The Middle East: A Beginner's Guide* (Oneworld, 2016)
- + Philip Short, *Putin: His Life and Times* (Bodley Head, 2022)
- + Ankit Panda, *Kim Jong Un and the Bomb* (Hurst, 2020)
- + Christopher Andrew, *The Secret World: A History of Intelligence* (Penguin, 2019)
- + Nancy Fraser, Tithi Bhattacharya and Cinzia Arruzza, *Feminism for the 99%* (Verso Books, 2019)
- + G.A. Cohen, *Why Not Socialism?* (Prince University Press, 2009)
- + Jason Brennan, *Why Not Capitalism?* (Routledge, 2014)
- + Kristen Ghodsee, *Why Women Have Better Sex Under Socialism: And Other Arguments for Economic Independence* (Vintage Books, 2019)
- + Vicky Pryce, *Women v Capitalism: Why We Can't Have It All* (Hurst, 2019)
- + Isabel Hardman, *Why We Get the Wrong Politicians* (Atlantic, 2019)

The step up from school or college to University can be daunting, and you might be concerned about how we expect you to think and learn at this level. We'd recommend this book on how to approach studying at University:

- + Sarah Birrell Ivory, *Becoming a Critical Thinker: For Your University Studies and Beyond* (Oxford University Press, 2021)

Podcasts/Videos

If you're looking for a Politics Podcast - how about:

- + 'The Rest is Politics' Podcast - available on all podcast hosting platforms
- + 'Bare Naked Politics' with Julia Belle, one of our recent PAIS graduates: [Listen here](#)
- + You might also be interested in [The Political Philosophy Podcast](#)
- + Or [Global Dispatches Podcast](#)
- + Or Sara Ahmed's blog [feministkilljoys](#)

TED talks are also a great source:

+ This one is particularly recommended: [The danger of a single story by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie](#)

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us by emailing: _paisug@warwick.ac.uk

Best wishes,

Justin

Dr Justin Greaves

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