

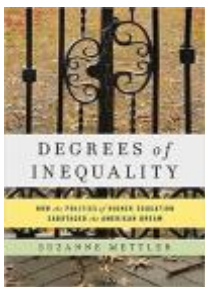
BOOK CLUBS, FALL 2017

NO FEES, just a **free** book provided by the Ogden Honors College.

NO GRADES, just your **commitment** to complete the reading and attend meetings.

NO PRESSURE, just a great opportunity to **learn** about something new.

How to sign up: Check out the book club list below and on the other side of this sheet; then email Dr. Granger Babcock (fbabco1@lsu.edu) and let him know which club you wish to join. Clubs begin the **fourth (Sept. 11-15) or fifth week (Sept. 18-22) of September**. Clubs meet @ 5-8 times and will finish before finals. We will provide the book and the moderator; all we ask is that you make a good-faith effort to do the reading and attend the meetings. Books will be distributed at the first meeting. Space is limited. **Deadline to sign up is September 7.**

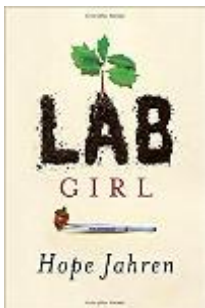


Moderator: F. King Alexander, LSU President

Meetings: Thursdays at 3pm, 300 French House, beginning 9/21

Book: *Degrees of Inequality* by Suzanne Mettler

Degrees of Inequality demonstrates the challenging landscape facing college students of today and tomorrow, particularly focusing on the dramatic trend of state disinvestment of public higher education, the predatory nature of many for-profit institutions, and the decline of higher education's role in social mobility.

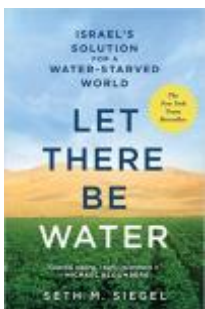


Moderator: Cynthia B. Peterson, Dean, LSU College of Science

Meetings: Wednesdays at 5:30pm, 203 French House, beginning 9/13

Book: *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren

Lab Girl tells a personal story, with humor and honesty. It immerses us in the experience of a woman scientist who is a researcher and professor. This book is a winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for autobiography and also was a New York Times notable book for 2016. Here is one statement from a recent review: "*Lab Girl* made me look at trees differently. It compelled me to ponder the astonishing grace and gumption of a seed. Perhaps most importantly, it introduced me to a deeply inspiring woman—a scientist so passionate about her work I felt myself vividly with her on every page. This is a smart, enthralling, and winning debut."

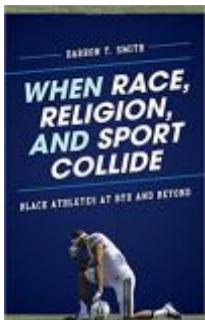


Moderator: Clint Willson, Professor, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering

Meetings: Thursdays at 7pm, Laville Faculty Apartment, beginning 9/14

Book: *Let There Be Water* by Seth Siegel

Let There Be Water is a book about how vision, sacrifice(s), innovation, technical expertise and collaboration helped Israel settle and thrive in a region with little water resources. As importantly, it lays out a model for how the US and other countries can confront and overcome current and future water problems. There is something in this book for students interested in technology, policy, politics, economics, agriculture, public health, etc.



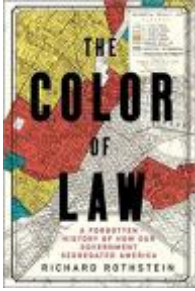
Moderator: Lori Martin, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology

Meetings: Tuesdays at 4 pm, 220 French House, beginning 9/12

Book: *When Race, Religion, and Sport Collide: Black Athletes at BYU and Beyond* by Darron Smith

When Race, Religion, and Sport Collide tells the story of Brandon Davies' dismissal from Brigham Young University's NCAA playoff basketball team to illustrate the thorny intersection of religion, race, and sport at BYU and beyond. Smith analyzes the athletes dismissed through BYU's honor code violations and suggests that they are disproportionately African American, which has troubling implications. He ties these dismissals to the complicated history of negative views towards African Americans in the LDS faith. These honor code dismissals elucidate the challenges facing black athletes at predominantly white institutions.

NEW TIME

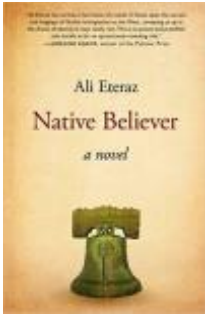


Moderator: Chris Tyson, Associate Professor, LSU School of Law

Meetings: Every other Wednesday at 2pm, Law School W323, beginning 9/13

Book: *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America* by Richard Rothstein

In this groundbreaking history of the modern American metropolis, Richard Rothstein, a leading authority on housing policy, explodes the myth that America's cities came to be racially divided through de facto segregation—that is, through individual prejudices, income differences, or the actions of private institutions like banks and real estate agencies. Rather, *The Color of Law* incontrovertibly makes clear that it was de jure segregation—the laws and policy decisions passed by local, state, and federal governments—that actually promoted the discriminatory patterns that continue to this day.



Moderator: Pallavi Rastogi, Associate Professor, Department of English

Meetings: POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT SEMESTER

Book: *Native Believer* by Ali Eteraz

You are a secular Muslim living a secular life in supposedly secular America. One day, you hold a party at your house where your boss finds a copy of the Koran tucked away in the remote recesses of your bookshelves. It may or may not have been YOUR Koran! Why should it matter even if it was? Yet, everything you have created around yourself crumbles when your friends and colleagues begin to view you with suspicion after this incident. *Native Believer* is particularly relevant today when the arts are being hardened by the presence of religious others, forcing us to confront our hypocrisy in American Islamophobia. Indeed, even Oprah describes the novel as “a wickedly funny Philadelphia picaresque about a secular Muslim's identity crisis in a country waging a never-ending war on terror.”

Note: Scenes of torture and sexual violence included in the novel.



Moderator: Vincent LiCata, Professor, Department of Biological Sciences

Meetings: Wednesdays at 7pm, 203 French House, beginning 9/13

Book: *Neuromancer* by William Gibson

Neuromancer is the mothership for cyberpunk science fiction. Many different memes in modern science fiction (especially movies) as well as in the way we visualize and talk about the internet are traceable back to *Neuromancer*, and it's a compelling story as well. Please note that for a significant fraction of people *Neuromancer* becomes an obsessive reading experience involving, for example, staying up all night to finish it—but our book club will be more fun if we all move through the book at the same pace—so a discussion schedule will be distributed at the beginning of the semester. Please also note that you do not need to be a big SciFi fan to appreciate *Neuromancer*. It stands out as an excellent work of fiction on its own.



Moderator: Keel Geheber, Instructor, Department of English

Meetings: Wednesdays at 5pm, 200 French House, beginning 9/13

Book: *Dubliners* by James Joyce

Dubliners is classic collection of short stories by James Joyce. They form a naturalistic depiction of Irish middle class life in and around Dublin in the early years of the 20th century. The stories were written when Irish nationalism was at its peak and a search for a national identity and purpose was raging; at a crossroads of history and culture, Ireland was jolted by various converging ideas and influences. They center on Joyce's idea of an epiphany: a moment where a character experiences a life-changing self-understanding or illumination.