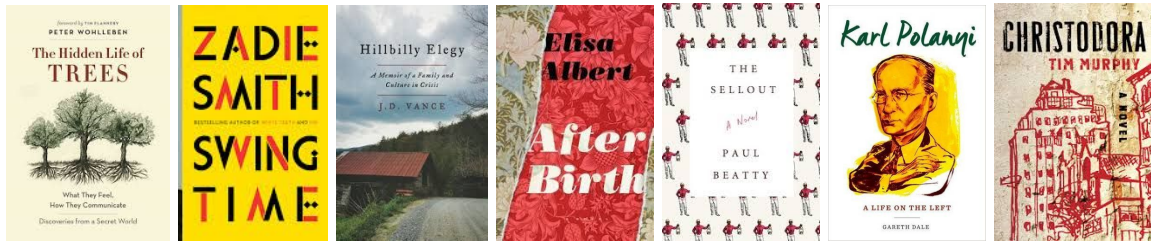


## Faculty Book Recommendations for 2017 FWT Reading



### Elisa Albert

- *A Manual for Cleaning Women* by Lucia Berlin
- *Herland* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman
- *Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?* by Jeanette Winterson
- *Love Me Back* by Merritt Tierce

### Barbara Alfano

- *Quiet Chaos* by Sandro Veronesi

It is the story of a TV producer who loses his wife to an aneurysm in the same instant he's saving somebody else's life. To cope with the tragedy, he spends days sitting on a bench outside of his daughter's school and from there he discovers the hidden corners of a few people's lives. It's funny, somewhat dark, and most of all ironic.

### Brooke Allen

- *Citizens: A Chronicle of the French Revolution* by Simon Schama
- *Nana* by Emile Zola,
- *The Indiscreet Jewels* by Denis Diderot
- *The Nun* by Denis Diderot
- *The Red and the Black* by Stendhal
- *White Trash: The 400-Year Untold History of Class in America* by Nancy Isenberg
- *It Can't Happen Here* by Sinclair Lewis

### David Anderegg

- *The Sellout* by Paul Beatty

One seldom reads a book that is this hilarious on such a serious subject (racism) but this book succeeds brilliantly. It is a joy to read...and it recently won the Man Booker Prize, so I'm not the only one who liked it.

- *Memento Mori* by Muriel Spark

One of her earliest novels, and still a marvel. It is almost absolutely pitiless, and for that reason alone it is worth reading. How can she sustain interest in such a large cast of characters, almost all of whom are so deeply unlikeable? This is a book that teaches one how to write.

## **Doug Bauer**

novels:

- *Mothering Sunday* by Graham Swift.
- *Away* by Amy Bloom
- *The Little Red Chairs* by Edna O'Brien
- *High Dive* by Jonathan Lee

poetry:

- *The Eternal City* by Kathleen Graeber
- *Stupid Hope* by Jason Shinder.

## **Ella Ben Hagai**

- *The Gentrification of the Mind: Witness to a Lost Imagination* by Sarah Schulman.
- *Knocking the Hustle: Against the Neoliberal Turn in Black Politics* by Lester K. Spence

## **David Bond**

- *The Origins of Totalitarianism* by Hannah Arendt
- *The Shock of the Anthropocene* by Christophe Bonneuil and Jean-Baptiste Fressoz
- *Strangers in Their Own Land* by Arlie Hochschild
- *Duress: Imperial Durabilities in Our Times* by Ann Laura Stoler
- *Karl Polanyi: A Life on the Left* by Gareth Dale

## **Akiko Busch**

- *The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben, a German forester

## **Noah Coburn**

- *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren
- *Consequence: A Memoir* by Eric Fair
- *Bennington College: The Development of an Educational Idea* by Barbara Jones

## **Ron Cohen**

- *Exploring Everyday Life: Strategies for Ethnography and Cultural Analysis* by Billy Ehn, Orvar Löfgren, and Richard Wilk
- *Climate Change as Social Drama: Global Warming in the Public Sphere* by Philip Smith & Nicholas Howe
- *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City* by Matthew Desmond
- *Illusion of Order: The False Promise of Broken Windows Policing* by Bernard E. Harcourt

## **Michael Dumanis**

Fiction:

- *After Birth* by Elisa Albert
- *The Story of My Teeth* by Valeria Luiselli

Poetry:

- *Take This Stallion* by Anais Duplan
- *Thief in the Interior* by Phillip B. Williams
- *A Woman of Property* by Robyn Schiff
- *Cannibal* by Safiya Sinclair
- *Overpour* by Jane Wong
- *Blackacre* by Monica Youn

*Bennington Review*, issues 1 and 2

## **Marguerite Feitlowitz**

- *Zama* by Antonio Del Benedetto, translated by Esther Allen
- *Iza's Ballad* by Magda Szabo
- *Judas* by Amos Oz
- *The Ghosts of Birds* by Eliot Weinberger
- *Nineteen Ways of Looking at Wang Wei (and more ways)* by Eliot Weinberger

## **Janet Foley**

- *Little Bee* by Chris Cleave
- *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. The Climate* by Naomi Klein

## **Karen Gover**

- *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

## **Camille Guthrie**

Some poetry to make you want to live:

- *Shallcross* by C.D. Wright
- *The Poet, The Lion, Talking Pictures, El Farolito, A Wedding in St. Roch, The Big Box Store, The Warp in the Mirror, Spring, Midnights, Fire & All* by C.D. Wright
- *Thief in the Interior* by Phillip B. Williams
- *Model City* by Donna Stonecipher
- *Staying Alive* by Laura Sims
- *Mz N: the serial: A Poem-in-Episodes* by Maureen N. McLane

And some fiction, too:

- *After Birth* by Elisa Albert

## **Dan Hofstadter**

- *Some Trees* by John Ashbery
- *The Balkan Trilogy* by Olivia Manning
- *Roll Jordan Roll: The World the Slaves Made* by Eugene D. Genovese

## **John Hultgren**

- *Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right* by Arlie Hochschild
- *Undoing the Demos: Neoliberalism's Stealth Revolution* by Wendy Brown
- *Trampling Out the Vintage: Cesar Chavez and the Two Souls of the United Farm Workers* by Frank Bardacke

## **Yoko Inoue**

- *Between The World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates

## **Dina Janis**

- *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman

Lovely musing on life through the lense of a wonderful old Swedish curmudgeon.

## **Sherry Kramer**

Three books about America as it is, not as we think it is:

- *The Unwinding* by George Packer
- *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance
- *White Trash: The 400-year Untold History of Class in America* by Nancy Isenberg

## **Mary Lum**

- *Dark Space: Architecture, Representation, Black Identity* by Mario Gooden
- *Swing Time* by Zadie Smith
- *Pretentiousness: Why It Matters* by Dan Fox
- *The Pragmatist Imagination: Thinking About "Things In the Making"* edited by Joan Ockman
- *The Collected Plays 2010-2015: Portland Preschoolers* by Andrew Barton '09

## **Vanessa Lyon**

Something old:

- Horace Walpole's *Castle of Otranto* (1764), billed as the first Gothic novel and brimming with icky extravagant weirdness.

Something new:

- Kobena Mercer, *Travel and See: Black Diaspora Art Practices Since the 1980s*, revelatory critical approaches to Isaac Julien, Renee Green, Kerry James Marshall, and Yinka Shonibare among others.

Something borrowed:

- Robin Coste Lewis, *Voyage of the Sable Venus and other Poems*, where the magisterial title poem consists entirely of "the titles of catalogue descriptions of Western art objects in which a black female figure is present."

Something blue:

- Judith Butler, *The Psychic Life of Power*, because it's the right thing to shore us up for a course called 'Rape/Culture' and because Butler was once a Bennington student!

## **Karthik Pandian**

3 on black LA

- *Bedouin Hornbook* by Nathaniel Mackey - epistolary fruit from the loquat tree
- *The Sellout* by Paul Beatty - reminder that we need a sense of humor in Trump's America
- *O.J.: Made in America* by Ezra Edelman - not a book but hey...

## **Aysha Peltz**

- *The White Road: Journey into Obsession* by Edmund de Waal
- *Live Form: Women, Ceramics, and Community* by Jenni Sorkin
- *Felicity* by Mary Oliver

## **Mirka Prazak**

- *Medicine Walk* by Richard Wagamese
- *A Spool of Blue Thread* by Anne Tyler
- *Euphoria* by Lily King

## **Nancy Nowacek**

- *Examined Life* by Astra Taylor
- *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline
- *What I Talk About When I Talk About Running* by Haruki Murakami

## **Sue Rees**

- *Ubu Roi* by Alfred Jarry
- *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift
- *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead

## **Isabel Roche**

- *The Nest* by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney, MFA '13

## **Stephen Shapiro**

- *Christodora* by Tim Murphy
- *All That Man Is: A Novel* by David Szalay
- *What Belongs to You: A Novel* by Garth Greenwell
- *The Landmark Herodotus: The Histories*
- *Black Deutschland* by Darryl Pinckney

## **Elizabeth Sherman**

- *Lovers at the Chameleon Club, Paris 1932* by Francine Prose
- *The Voyage of the Narwhal* by Andrea Barrett
- *Cloud Atlas* by David Mitchell

## **Mariko Silver**

- *We Gon' Be Alright: Notes on Race and Resegregation* by Jeff Chang

## **Liz White**

- *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

## **Michael Wimberly**

- *Blutopia: Visions of the Future and Revisions of the Past in the Work of Sun Ra, Duke Ellington, and Anthony Braxton* by Graham Lock. An analysis of the portrayal of African American life, history, and possibility in the work of three important jazz composers. I am teaching American history through the music, poetry and writings by Sun Ra in the fall of 2017.
- [\*The Intercept\*](#) An online magazine tabling current and relevant issues.
- *Saint Lucy's Eyes* a Full Length Play, Drama by Bridgette A. Wimberly (my sister) A riveting drama for mature audiences, this explosive play set in Memphis, Tennessee in 1968 delves into the issue of illegal abortions. Many realities, some of them contradictory, are presented. The drama was first produced as part of the Women's Project Theatre mentored by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Wendy Wasserstein. "An insightful,... satisfying drama by a promising new playwright." - *The New York Times*