

DEPARTMENT FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

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READING LIST

Course Title: The Transatlantic Slave Trade
Location: Ewert House, Oxford
Term Dates: 28 May 2026 to 25 Jun 2026
Tutor: Erin Shearer

The reading list below was supplied by the course tutor.

If you have enrolled on a course starting in the autumn, you can become a borrowing member of the Rewley House library from 1st September. If you are enrolled on a course starting in other terms, you can become a borrowing member once the previous term has ended. For example, students starting in January can join the Library in early December and those starting in April can join in early March.

If you are planning to purchase any books, please keep in mind that courses with insufficient students enrolled will be cancelled. The Department accepts no responsibility for books bought in anticipation of a course running.

Preparatory Reading List

The items on this list are to give you some background to the materials and ideas that we will be covering on the course.

Author	Title
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Walvin, James	<i>Crossings: Africa, the Americas and the Atlantic Slave Trade</i>
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Course Reading List

The items on this list are to support your learning while you are taking the course.

Author	Title
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Djelid, Aisha	<i>"The master wished to reproduce": slavery, forced intimacy, and enslavers' interference in sexual relationships in the antebellum South, 1808-1861, American Nineteenth Century History, Vol. 25, No. 1 (2024), 21-43. (Open access via American Nineteenth Century History (ANCH))</i>
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- Donington, Katie *(In)human Capital: London and the Legacies of Transatlantic Slavery (The London Journal, Vol. 50, No.1 (2025), 72-93)*
- Equiano, Olaudah *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African. Written by Himself. Vol. I: (Open access via 'Documenting the American South.')*
- Hall, Rebecca *Wake: The Hidden History of Women-led Slave Revolts*
- Jones, Jacqueline *'My Mother was Much of a Woman: Black Women, Work and the Family under Slavery', Feminist Studies, Vol. 8, No. 2 (1982), 235-269.*
- Marcum, Andrew and Skarbek, David *'Why didn't slave revolts happen more often during the Middle Passage?', SAGE, Vol. 26, No. 2 (2014), 236-262. (Open access)*
- Morgan, Jennifer *Laboring Women: Reproduction and Gender in New World Slavery*
- Richardson, David *'Shipboard Revolts, African Authority, and the Atlantic Slave Trade', The William and Mary Quarterly, Vol. 58, No. 1 (2001), 69-92.*
- Shearer, Erin *Challenging the overseer: enslaved women's violent resistance in the US antebellum south' (American Nineteenth Century History, Vol. 26, No. 3 (2025), 1-21. (Open access))*
- Smallwood, Stephanie *Salt Water Slavery: A Middle Passage from Africa to American Diaspora*
- Walvin, James *Slavery to Freedom: Britain's Slave Trade and Abolition*
- West, Emily, Shearer, Erin *Fertility control, shared nurturing, and dual exploitation: the lives of enslaved mothers in the antebellum United States (Women's History Review, Vol. 27, No. 6 (2018), 1006-1020)*
- Zacek, Natalie *The price of knowledge: universities and slavery in Anglo American perspective (American Nineteenth Century History, Vol. 26, No. 1 (2025), 83-101. (Open access))*