

Black History Month 2020

Edinburgh College recommends...

Black History Month was first celebrated in the UK in October 1987. Over 30 years later, it's become a time to celebrate the culture and contributions of Black Britons, as well as the African diaspora around the world.

This year, Edinburgh College students and staff have contributed their favourite culture by black and minority ethnic artists and creators - whether it's films or TV shows, books, music, theatre, or anything else - to make this recommendation list. Celebrate Black History Month by checking out something new!

Films and TV

Recommended by Beth (Student Experience) and Beth (Equalities)

BlackKkKlansman

Atlanta

Moonlight

A Black Lady Sketch Show

Get Out

Dear White People

Non-fiction

Recommended by Ethelinda (Creative Industries)

The Trusted Black Girl by Roianne Nedd

Rosa Parks: My Story by Rosa Parks with Jim Haskins

Black and British: A forgotten History by David Olusoga

Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race by Reni

Eddo-Lodge

White Fragility by Robin Diangelo

Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community? by Martin

Luther King, JR

So You Want To Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo

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Edinburgh College recommends...

'Natives: Race and Class in the Ruins of Empire' by Akala (Fiction)

Recommended by:

Jakki (Creative Industries)

About:

From the first time he was stopped and searched as a child, to the day he realised his mum was white, to his first encounters with racist teachers - race and class have shaped Akala's life and outlook.

In this unique book he takes his own experiences and widens them out to look at the social, historical and political factors that have left us where we are today.

Covering everything from the police, education and identity to politics, sexual objectification and the far right, 'Natives' speaks directly to British denial and squeamishness when it comes to confronting issues of race and class that are at the heart of the legacy of Britain's racialised empire.

Age restrictions:

Not suitable for under 16s

Why are you recommending this?:

It highlights something really important and I want more people to know

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Edinburgh College recommends...

The Michelle Obama Podcast (Audio)

Recommended by:

Beth (Student Experience)

About:

The Michelle Obama Podcast features the former First Lady diving deep into conversations with loved ones—family, friends, and colleagues—on the relationships in our lives that make us who we are.

Age restrictions:

None

Why are you recommending this?:

I love listening to Michelle Obama's podcast as she covers topics that women everywhere can relate to. I like that she gives you hope about your place in the world, I always go away feeling as though change is possible. She's an absolute inspiration!

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Edinburgh College recommends...

'Girl, Woman, Other' by Bernardine Evaristo (Fiction)

Recommended by:

Bethany (Equalities)

About:

I read this in early lockdown, having heard of the book when it was a joint winner of the Booker prize. Each chapter of the book takes on the perspective of a different woman or person of colour, all from a variety of social, cultural, and geographic backgrounds, yet follows a thread that binds them all together. It's enjoyable to read as a work of fiction, but also demonstrates something important about the way our different identities intersect and inform our experience.

Age restrictions:

Not suitable for under 10s

Why are you recommending this?:

It highlights something really important and I want more people to know

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Edinburgh College recommends...

13th (Film)

Recommended by:

Angela (ACE)

About:

A film about how a clause in the 13th Amendment to US Constitution has impacted on the continuation of racial inequality after the abolition of slavery, with regard to the Black population facing significantly higher levels of incarceration than any other ethnic group. The film covers the history of and the growth of the prison system in America from the abolition of Slavery to the present day. It is probably better for students at SCQF level 6 or above, particularly in Social Sciences, History, Criminology or Legal Studies as it is a powerful and emotionally triggering film.

[Link: film discussion resource](#)

Age restrictions:

Not suitable for under 16s

Why are you recommending this?:

It highlights something really important and I want more people to know

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Edinburgh College recommends...

'Motivation' - Normani (Music)

Recommended by:

Anna (Entry to learning vocational routes level 3)

Age restrictions:

Not suitable for under 16s

Why are you recommending this?:

It's really powerful and made me reconsider my own actions and beliefs

'Red Dust Road' by Jackie Kay (Non-fiction)

Recommended by:

Sara (Enterprise and Commerce)

About:

It's a funny, warm story from Scotland's Makar (the National Poet Laureate of Scotland) about being the adopted black daughter of white parents, searching for her Nigerian birth father and Scottish mother. Beautifully written.

Age restrictions:

None

Why are you recommending this?:

It makes me both happy and sad, often on the same page or in the same sentence.