

# READING LIST FOR MA EXAMS IN 2025

## Key Readings Texts

### Cluster #1: History

1. John Winthrop, *A Model of Christian Charity*
2. Perry Miller, *Errand into the Wilderness*

Miller, Perry. "Errand Into The Wilderness." *The William and Mary Quarterly* 10, no. 1 (1953): 4-32. doi:10.2307/2936876.

3. Documents of Slavery and Freedom in Revolutionary America

Nash, Gary B. *Race and Revolution*. London: Rowan and Littlefield, 1990. Kindle Edition.

4. Edmund S. Morgan, *Slavery and Freedom: The American Paradox*

Morgan, Edmund S. "Slavery and Freedom: The American Paradox." *The Journal of American History* 59, no. 1 (June 1972): 5-29. <https://doi.org/10.2307/1888384>.

5. James Axtell, *Colonial America without Indians: Counterfactual Reflections*

Axtell, James. "Colonial America without the Indians: Counterfactual Reflections." *The Journal of American History* 73, no. 4 (1987): 981-996. doi:10.2307/1904058.

6. Mary Rowlandson "Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration," Introduction, 1st, 2nd and 20th removes.

Rowlandson, Mary. *Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson*. Intro, 1st, 2nd, and 20th Removes. Project Gutenberg, 2021. [https://www.gutenberg.org/files/851/851-h/851-h.htm#link2H\\_4\\_0020](https://www.gutenberg.org/files/851/851-h/851-h.htm#link2H_4_0020).

### Cluster #2: Literature

1. Toni Morrison "Black Matters."

Morrison, Toni. "Black Matters." In *Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination*, 1-28. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1992.

2. Gloria Anzaldua "Borderlands: La Frontera The New Mestiza," Chapters 1, 2, 5, 7, pp. 1-24, 53-64, 77-86.

Anzaldúa, Gloria. *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza*. San Francisco: Aunt Lute Books, 1987.

3. Judith Butler "Imitation & Gender Insubordination."

Judith Butler, "Imitation and Gender Insubordination," *The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader*, Routledge: New York, 1993, pp. 307-320

### **Cluster #3: Politics**

1. Kyle Scott "The Federalist Papers" - introduction + chapters 1,2,4

Scott, Kyle. *The Federalist Papers: A Reader's Guide*. New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2013.

2. Robert Dahl "How Democratic is the American Constitution?" introduction + chapters 3 & 6

Dahl, Robert A. *How Democratic is the American Constitution?* 2nd ed. Yale University Press, 2003.

3. Samuel P. Huntington "Democracy's Third Wave"

Huntington, Samuel. "Democracy's Third Wave." *Journal of Democracy* 2, no. 2 (1991): 12-34.

### **Cluster #4: Society**

1. Joseph E. Stiglitz, *The Price of Inequality*, Chapter 1.

Stiglitz, Joseph E. *The Price of Inequality*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2013.

2. Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow*, Introduction and Chapter 1.

Alexander, Michelle. *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. New York: The New Press, 2010.

3. Richard Hofstadter, *America as a Gun Culture*

Hofstadter, Richard. "America as a Gun Culture." *American Heritage Magazine* 21, no. 6 (1970).

4. F. Crason Mencken and Paul Froese “Gun Culture in Action”

Mencken, F. Carson, and Paul Froese. "Gun Culture in Action." *Social Problems* 66 (2019): 3–27. [Selection: pp. 3-10, 23-27].

5. David B. Grusky and Jasmine Hill “Inequality in the 21st Century: A Reader,” chapter 1.

Grusky, David B., and Jasmine Hill, eds. *Inequality in the 21st Century: A Reader*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2018.

**The folder with readings available at:**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1m88FoQJcSc55UuzMBAU-hA8A743AEadt?usp=sharing>