

2011-2012
“Multicultural Perspectives Book Series”

Meets once a month at each Campus

Coon Rapids Campus RM: SC176 Meets the 1st Tuesday of Month	January 10th February 7th March 6th April 10th	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Cambridge Campus RM: E103 Meets the 1st Thurs. of Month	January 12th February 9th March 8th April 12th	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Spring Schedule Only

January Book - The Lord is not on Trial Here Today

Authored: Dannell McCollum Facilitator: TBD Campus: Cambridge

This is the story of People of the State of Illinois ex rel. Vashti McCollum v. Board of Education of School District No. 71, Champaign County, Illinois, et al. The action arose as a challenge to a program of sectarian religious classes held in public school buildings on school time. Today the chief significance of the McCollum case is that it was the first of series of cases brought under the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution where a practice by a local or state governmental body was actually held to violate the First Amendment's "establishment of religion" clause.

February Book - No Pity

Authored: Joseph P. Shapiro Facilitator: TBD Campus: Cambridge

With 35 million disabled Americans, the American with Disabilities Act and its implications are here to stay. Shapiro, a U.S. News & World Report journalist, explores in depth the thoughts, fears, and facts behind the disability rights movement. The premise throughout this compelling historical account is that there is no pity or tragedy in disability--it is society's myths, fears, and stereotypes that make being disabled difficult. Shapiro's coverage is thorough, ranging from the movement's beginnings in Berkeley in the 1960s to the issues that will emerge in the future. Those interested in gaining a basic understand of the disability rights movement, will find this title is well organized, thoroughly researched, and thought-provoking.

March- Class Matters

Authored by: The New York Times Facilitator: TBD Campus Cambridge
The acclaimed *New York Times* series on social class in America--and its implications for the way we live our lives

We Americans have long thought of ourselves as unburdened by class distinctions. We have no hereditary aristocracy or landed gentry, and even the poorest among us feel that they can become rich through education, hard work, or sheer gumption. And yet social class remains a powerful force in American life.

In *Class Matters*, a team of *New York Times* reporters explores the ways in which class--defined as a combination of income, education, wealth, and occupation--influences destiny in a society that likes to think of itself as a land of opportunity. We meet individuals in Kentucky and Chicago who have used education to lift themselves out of poverty and others in Virginia and Washington whose lack of education holds them back. We meet an upper-middle-class family in Georgia who moves to a different town every few years, and the newly rich in Nantucket whose mega-mansions have driven out the longstanding residents. And we see how class disparities manifest themselves at the doctor's office and at the marriage altar.

April Book - Bad Samaritans

Author: Ha-Joon Chang Facilitator: TBD Campus: Cambridge

Lucid, deeply informed, and enlivened with striking illustrations, this penetrating study could be entitled "economics in the real world." Chang reveals the yawning gap between standard doctrines concerning economic development and what really has taken place from the origins of the industrial revolution until today. His incisive analysis shows how, and why, prescriptions based on reigning doctrines have caused severe harm, particularly to the most vulnerable and defenseless, and is likely to continue to do so. He goes on to provide sensible and constructive proposals, solidly based on economic theory and historical evidence, as to how the global economy could be redesigned to precede on a far more humane and civilized course. And his warnings of what might happen if corrective action is not taken are grim and apt.

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January Book - Black Tide

Author: Antonia Jusahz

Facilitator: TBD

Campus: Coon Rapids

Black Tide is the only book to tell this story through the perspective of people on all sides of the catastrophe, from those who lost their lives, loved ones, and livelihoods to those who made the policies that set the devastating event in motion, those who cut the corners that put corporate profits over people and the environment, and those who have committed their lives to ensuring that such an event is never repeated.

February Book - Conversations with my Mexican Father

Author: Richard Rodriguez

Facilitator: TBD

Campus: Coon Rapids

A book about Mexico and the United States, principally California, where the largest number of Mexican Americans live. The concern of the book is the clash of the two cultures in the past, the way they are meeting today, and future implications for America of new migration from Mexico.

March-

Author: Dr. Martin Luther King

Facilitator: Marcellus Davis

Campus: Coon Rapids

In 1967, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., isolated himself from the demands of the civil rights movement, rented a house in Jamaica with no telephone, and labored over his final manuscript. In this prophetic work, which has been unavailable for more than ten years, he lays out his thoughts, plans, and dreams for America's future, including the need for better jobs, higher wages, decent housing, and quality education. With a universal message of hope that continues to resonate, King demanded an end to global suffering, asserting that humankind-for the first time-has the resources and technology to eradicate poverty.

April - The American Women's Movement 1945-2000

Author: Nancy Maclean

Facilitator: TBD

Campus: Coon Rapids

At long last a collection that dispels the myth that feminism was a movement of white middle-class women only! Longtime activists from labor union, civil rights, and homophile movements played their part as did young women from different races, classes, and sexual preferences. Nancy MacLean conveys the diversity, dynamism, and development of the movement with an incisive introductory essay and compelling documents. Students and teachers alike will find much to consider and discuss.