



# **Unraveling the Anthropocene: Race, Environment, and Pandemic**

## **PODCAST SERIES & READING GROUP**

**LISTEN ON ANCHOR, SPOTIFY, AND MORE**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR THE TEXTS  
ASSIGNED TO EACH MONTHLY SESSION**



The reading group will run from February until July in six monthly sessions.

Texts will be discussed during the month in a Goodreads group, where participants can post their questions, opinions, or impressions.

Each monthly session will conclude with a Zoom get-together, where participants can talk about the texts, continue discussions from the Goodreads threads, and socialize with the community of readers.

Some materials will be available for free on the web, or uploaded to a Google Drive folder.

<https://www.goodreads.com/group/1139477>

To join the discussion, download the app on your mobile device or login on desktop.

goodreads



### **Monthly themes:**

Session 1 (February): Race in the United States

Session 2 (March): Environment - Anthropocene

Session 3 (April) Environmental Justice and Indigenous science fiction

Session 4 (May) Responses to the Pandemic

Session 5 (June) Immigration, Refugee Crisis

Session 6 (July) Technology and the Environment





## Schedule

Spring - Summer 2021

### Session 1 (February): Race in the United States

- Novel: *Sing, Unburied, Sing* (2017) by Jesmyn Ward
- Article: "A Letter to My Nephew 100 Years after Emancipation" by James Baldwin ([click here](#))
- Film: *Fruitvale Station* (2013) by Ryan Coogler (available on Netflix)

### Session 2 (March): Environment – Anthropocene

- Book: *A Billion Black Anthropocenes, or None* (2018) by Kathryn Yusoff (excerpt)
- Book: *No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference* (2019) by Greta Thunberg
- Poetry: Juliana Spahr ([click here](#)), and Julia Kasdorf ([click here](#)) (selections)
- Documentary: *Anthropocene: The Human Epoch* (2018) (available on Kanopy)

### Session 3 (April) Environmental Justice and Indigenous science fiction

- Article: "Indigenous Science Fiction for the Anthropocene: Ancestral Dystopias and fantasies of climate change crises" by Kyle Whyte ([click here](#))
- Article: "We've Already Survived an Apocalypse': Indigenous Writers Are Changing Sci-Fi" by Alexandra Alter ([click here](#))
- Short Stories: *Walking the Clouds: An Anthology of Indigenous Science Fiction* (2012) by Grace Dillon (excerpts)

### Session 4 (May) Responses to the Pandemic

- Book: *Panic! COVID19 Shakes the World* (2020) by Slavoj Žižek (excerpt)
- Book: *Pandemic Solidarity: Mutual Aid during the Covid-19 Crisis* (2020) ed. Marina Sitrin, Colectiva Sembrar (excerpt)
- Article: "To Die a Thousand Deaths: COVID-19, racial capitalism and anti-black violence" by Alex Liebman, Kevon Rhiney, and Rob Wallace ([click here](#))
- Visual art: *Viral Load* (2020) by Suzette Marie Martin ([click here](#))

### Session 5 (June) Immigration, Refugee Crisis

- Documentary: *Human Flow* (2017) dir. Ai Weiwei (available on Amazon Prime)
- Short story: "The Americans" (2017) by Viet Thanh Nguyen ([click here](#))
- Article: "Why a Climate Refugee Crisis Is Actually Far from Inevitable" by Joe McCarthy ([click here](#))

### Session 6 (July) Technology and the Environment

- Book: *Playing Nature: Ecology in Video Game* (2019) by Alenda Y. Chang (chapter: "Collapse")
- Book: *Digitize & Punish: Racial Criminalization in the Digital Age* (2020) by Brian Jefferson (Chapter 5: How to program a carceral city)
- Article: "Our Digital Carbon Footprint: What's the Environmental Impact of the Online World?" by Sheena Stolz and Sarah-Indra Jungblut, Trans. Marisa Pettit ([click here](#))

Visit our website: <https://sites.psu.edu/liberalartscollective/>