

# **#ShutDownSTEM and** **#BlackLivesMatter resources** **(11/06/20)**

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## **Where to Start!**

- <https://www.shutdownstem.com/action> - (Excellent starting point for both UG, PG and staff members).
- <https://www.leicesterunion.com/blacklivesmatter/> - (SU's statement on current events but includes a number of media links, petitions, donations and support for Black students and staff).
- <https://uniofleicester.sharepoint.com/sites/staff/equality-diversity/SitePages/Home.aspx?CT=1592471611975&OR=OWA-NT&CID=46d60744-da07-b515-ab20-50daa8f89685> - (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Hub page for Leicester Staff)
- <http://aawip.com/about/> - (Though focused on America, includes names of African American women with PhDs who identify as physicists).
- <https://www.livescience.com/amazing-black-scientists.html> - (Article focusing on the life and work of Black Scientists).
- <https://www.particlesforjustice.org/resources> - (Particles for Justice's recommended resource page which contains both audio and visual material of Racism, white privilege and Police Violence along with donation links).
- <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hpub-jkm9cLzJWqZSsETqbE6tZ13Q0UbQz--vQ2avEc/edit> - (Online Google Doc with a wide spread of resources from parenting, medical studies, teaching and Voting).
- <https://www.tolerance.org/> - (Resources to spur much-needed discussion around implicit bias and systemic racism, and focus on how to empower students to enact the changes to create a more just society).
- <https://www.racialequitytools.org/home> - (Designed to support individuals and groups working to achieve racial equity! Offering tools, research, tips, curricula, and ideas for people to increase understanding and work towards justice at every level).
- <https://www.astrobetter.com/wiki/Diversity> - (Resources for Astronomers to learn on Diversity and Equity in STEM, this includes resources for both general audiences and astronomers).

- [https://ascnhighered.org/ASCN/posts/dei\\_resources.html](https://ascnhighered.org/ASCN/posts/dei_resources.html) – (Serving as a starting point for learning about equity, inclusion, diversity and justice with focuses in addressing systemic anti-Black racism in STEM and higher education).
- [https://www.cambridge.org/core/what-we-publish/journals/protests-policing-and-race?fbclid=IwAR136UNX-C6p4ma6kqgYSIOuezb\\_8HxoQPQTafKQbVtXwVH5-A1WL4zo9VA](https://www.cambridge.org/core/what-we-publish/journals/protests-policing-and-race?fbclid=IwAR136UNX-C6p4ma6kqgYSIOuezb_8HxoQPQTafKQbVtXwVH5-A1WL4zo9VA) - (Featured books from the Cambridge University Press focusing on Protests, Policing and Race. Including Perspectives from Medicine, Social Sciences and Humanities).

**A small portion of Books available to read! - (There are a great number more found at <https://www.shutdownstem.com/dig-deeper> and <https://www.shutdownstem.com/beginners>).**

- **The History of White People by Nell Irvin Painter** – A more academic look at how modern marginalisation of Black and minority ethnic communities is linked to government policy in the UK. (ShutDownSTEM, 2020a).
- **How To Be Less Stupid About Race: On Racism, White Supremacy And The Racial Divide by Crystal M. Fleming** – A discussion, based on critical race theory, about everything wrong with our current conversations about race. (ShutDownSTEM, 2020a).
- **Superior: the Return of Race Science by Angela Saini** – Tells the history and present story of scientific racism, and how ideas about race having biological origin continue to oppress Black people. (ShutDownSTEM, 2020a).
- **Weapons of Math Destruction by Cathy O’Neill** – A data scientist explains how Big Data- the algorithms and models that, whether we know it or not, make decisions for us—can reinforce discrimination. (ShutDownSTEM, 2020a).
- **Algorithms of Oppression: How Search Engines Reinforce Racism by Safiya Umoja Noble** – Describes how search algorithms can be biased to privilege whiteness and discriminate against people of colour, specifically women of colour. (ShutDownSTEM, 2020a).
- **Black Reconstruction in America by W.E.B. DuBois** – Unparalleled history of Black people’s roles during Reconstruction; absolutely essential reading for understanding American History. (ShutDownSTEM, 2020a).
- **The Burning House: Jim Crow and the Making of Modern America by Anders Walker** – A startling and gripping re-examination of the Jim Crow era, as seen

through the eyes of some of the most important American writers. (Bookshop Organisation, 2020a).

- **The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson** - One of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of Black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life. (Penguin Random House, 2020a).
- **The Fire Next time by James Baldwin** - Immensely influential and profoundly moving, Baldwin's twin letters on his childhood in Harlem and the omnipresent evil of racism in American society were pivotal in the galvanising of the US civil rights movement. Unfailing eloquent and brimming with passion and heartache, The Fire Next Time frames the battles of the 1960s in an urgent and ever more relevant context for the modern era. (Waterstones, 2020a).
- **The Autobiography of Malcolm X by Alex Haley, Malcolm X and Paul Gilroy** - An extraordinary autobiography detailing Malcolm X's life through his actions, interaction with the media and speeches. (Waterstones, 2020b).
- **Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates** - Intensely intimate and unfailingly eloquent, Coates's dissection of America's tumultuous relationship with race is an invigorating collection of personal flashpoints that broadened the author's understanding of racial injustice in modern America. Frames as a wrenching letter to his teenage son, Between the World and Me is a classic in the making. (Waterstones, 2020c).
- **Killing Rage Ending Racism by Bell Hooks** - Compiled of twenty-three essays are written from a black and feminist perspective, and they tackle the bitter difficulties of racism by envisioning a world without it. They address a spectrum of topics having to do with race and racism in the United States: psychological trauma among African Americans; friendship between Black women and White women; anti-Semitism and racism; and internalized racism in movies and the media. (Macmillan Publishers US, 2020).
- **Becoming by Michelle Obama** - Michelle Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her - from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago to her years as an executive balancing the demands of motherhood and work, to her time spent at the world's most famous address. (Goodreads Inc, 2020a).
- **How we Get Free by Keeanga-Yamhmta Taylor** - A collection of essays and interviews edited by activist-scholar Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor, founding members of

the organization and contemporary activists reflects on the legacy of its contributions to Black feminism and its impact on today's struggles. (HaymarketBooks, 2020).

- **Black Feminist Thought by Patricia Hill Collins** - explores the words and ideas of Black feminist intellectuals as well as those African-American women outside academe. She not only provides an interpretive framework for the work of such prominent Black feminist thinkers as Angela Davis, Alice Walker, and Audre Lorde, but she shows the importance of self-defined knowledge for group empowerment. (Google Books, 2020a).
- **Ain't I a Woman Black Women and Feminism by Bell Hooks** - A groundbreaking work of feminist history and theory analyzing the complex relations between various forms of oppression. *Ain't I a Woman* examines the impact of sexism on black women during slavery, the historic devaluation of black womanhood, black male sexism, racism within the recent women's movement, and black women's involvement with feminism. (Google Books, 2020b).
- **Bad Feminist by Roxane Gay** - This is the text for those of us who constructed our feminism from the pages of teen chick lit as much as from the musings of post-modern theorists. Gay gives us permission to take up the sword of feminism while laying down the shield of policed authenticity. As a result, we complete this book both more powerful and more vulnerable, just like Gay herself. How can you help but love this author? (Melissa Harris-Perry, 2020).
- **Eloquent Rage by Brittney Cooper** - Far too often, Black women's anger has been caricatured into an ugly and destructive force that threatens the civility and social fabric of American democracy. But Cooper shows us that there is more to the story than that. Black women's eloquent rage is what makes Serena Williams such a powerful tennis player. It's what makes Beyoncé's girl power anthems resonate so hard. It's what makes Michelle Obama an icon. (Goodreads Inc, 2020b).
- **In Search of Our Mothers Gardens by Alice Walker** - In this, her first collection of nonfiction, Alice Walker speaks out as a black woman, writer, mother, and feminist in thirty-six pieces ranging from the personal to the political. Among the contents are essays about other writers, accounts of the civil rights movement of the 1960s and the antinuclear movement of the 1980s, and a vivid memoir of a scarring childhood injury and her daughter's healing words. (Goodreads Inc, 2020c).
- **Giovanni's Room by James Baldwin** - David, a young American in 1950s Paris, is waiting for his fiancée to return from vacation in Spain. But when he meets Giovanni, the two men are drawn into an intense affair. After three months David's fiancée

returns and, denying his true nature, he rejects Giovanni for a 'safe' future as a married man. His decision eventually brings tragedy. Filled with passion, regret and longing, this story of a fated love triangle has become a landmark of gay writing. James Baldwin caused outrage as a black author writing about white homosexuals, yet for him the issues of race, sexuality and personal freedom were eternally intertwined. (Penguin Random House, 2020b).

- **Zami by Audre Lorde** - A little black girl opens her eyes in 1930s Harlem, weak and half-blind. On she stumbles - through teenage pain and loneliness, but then to happiness in friendship, work and sex, from Washington Heights to Mexico, always changing, always strong. This is Audre Lorde's story. A rapturous, life-affirming autobiographical novel by the 'Black, lesbian, mother, warrior poet', it changed the literary landscape. (Penguin Random House, 2020c).
- **Real Life by Brandon Taylor** - Almost everything about Wallace is at odds with the Midwestern university town where he is working uneasily toward a biochem degree. An introverted young man from Alabama, black and queer, he has left behind his family without escaping the long shadows of his childhood. For reasons of self-preservation, Wallace has enforced a wary distance even within his own circle of friends—some dating each other, some dating women, some feigning straightness. But over the course of a late-summer weekend, a series of confrontations with colleagues, and an unexpected encounter with an ostensibly straight, white classmate, conspire to fracture his defenses while exposing long-hidden currents of hostility and desire within their community. (Penguin Random House, 2020d).
- **Unapologetic A black, queer, and feminist Mandate for Radical Movements by Charlene A Carruthers** - Appearing on The Roots' annual list, in 2017, as one of the most influential young African Americans, Carruthers--at age 32--is among a handful of high profile activists. Her debut book upends mainstream ideas about race, class and gender and sets forth a radically inclusive path to collective liberation. Her inclusive story about Black struggle draws on Black intellectual and grassroots organizing traditions including the Haitian Revolution, U.S. Civil Rights, and Black and LGBTQ Feminist Movements. Bold and honest, *Unapologetic* is an inside look from an on-the-ground activist and movement leader about how to move people from the margins to the center of political strategy and practice. (Goodreads Inc, 2020d).
- **No Tea, No Shade: New Writings in Black Queer Studies by E. Patrick Johnson** - The follow-up to the groundbreaking Black Queer Studies, the edited collection No Tea, No Shade brings together nineteen essays from the next generation of scholars,

activists, and community leaders doing work on black gender and sexuality. Building on the foundations laid by the earlier volume, this collection's contributors speak new truths about the black queer experience while exemplifying the codification of Black queer studies as a rigorous and important field of study. (Goodreads Inc, 2020e).

- **Since I Laid My Burden Down by Brontz Purnell** - DeShawn lives a high, creative, and promiscuous life in San Francisco. But when he's called back to his cramped Alabama hometown for his uncle's funeral, he's hit by flashbacks of handsome, doomed neighbors and sweltering Sunday services. Amidst prickly reminders of his childhood, DeShawn ponders family, church, and the men in his life, prompting the question: Who deserves love? (The Feminist Press, 2017).

## **Podcasts!**

- [Intersectionality Matters!](#) – Host Kimberle Crenshaw (a leading scholar of critical race theory) explores different topics through an intersectional lens. The most recent episodes are part of a series about COVID-19, titled “Under the Blacklight”. (ShutDownSTEM, 2020b)
- [Momentum: A Race Forward Podcast](#) – Learn from the people at the frontlines of the racial justice movement – organizational leaders and community activists—with hosts Chevon and Hiba. (ShutDownSTEM, 2020b)
- [Cite Black Women Collective Podcast](#) – A bi-weekly podcast, discussing the acknowledgment of Black women's ideas and intellectual contributions both inside and outside academia. (ShutDownSTEM, 2020b)
- [Blk + In Grad School](#) - An autoblog created to encourage and inspire women and people of colour to and through the grad school struggle.

## **Hashtags to listen and read through!**

- #BlackintheIvory – (Key stories and testimonies of Black discrimination, racism and micro aggressions)
- #AmplifyBlackSTEM – (Celebrating the work that Black Scientists, Techs, Engineers and Mathematicians do!)
- #amplifyBlackvoices – (Giving a platform to the work Black people create outside of STEM)
- #citeBlackSTEM – (Citing the deserved credit to Black Scientists, Technicians, Engineers and Mathematicians of their work)

- #BlackAFinSTEM - (A platform for Black Scientists, Techs, Engineers and Mathematicians to show their awesome work!)
- #BlackinAstro - (For the 22nd to 28th June, hashtag to celebrate and cite Black Scientists and their research/work in Astronomy)

## **Black STEM and Academic Youtube channels you can subscribe and watch!**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCO8f...> @Dr Esther – a neurobiologist by training and now an antibody Engineer. She has a YouTube channel interviewing scientists from all different fields about their work. (Smethurst, B., 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZ6L...> – Dr Boyd is a chemist who does some wonderful at-home chemistry and science lessons - perfect for both interested adults and home-schooling kids in lockdown. (Smethurst, B., 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOP...> - @Ahad Cove is an electrical engineer, computer and machine learning enthusiast - Ahad's channel is about tinkering with tech and having a bit of fun with it. (Smethurst, B., 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1H1...> - @Jordan Harrod is a PhD student at Harvard and MIT doing research on brain-machine interfaces - her channel is all about machine learning and artificial intelligence! (Smethurst, B., 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGO3...> - @The Academic Society with Toyin Alli - Dr Toyin Alli is a lecturer in mathematics - her YouTube channel is all about graduate school and academia as a whole - if you're interested in going to college or grad school or working in research/academia you can't miss this one. (Smethurst, B., 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZfH...> - AfroHelper - Earyn McGee is a PhD student in herpetology - that's the study of lizards! She's started the [#findthatlizard](#) to highlight her passion for studying lizards of all shapes and sizes. (Smethurst, B., 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/user/TechMe0ut> - @TechMe0ut - From product reviews, unboxings and top apps to download, to vlogs a lot of Technology covered here. (Smethurst, B., 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEKg...> - Rachael P is a meteorologist from VA, USA who makes videos on the science behind everyday things - including weather and night sky phenomena! (Smethurst, B., 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/user/CheetahP...> - Dr Tay is perfect for kids on YouTube making science more fun with experiments you can do from home. (Smethurst, B., 2020)

<https://twitter.com/HeyDrTay> <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCntS...> - Ayanfe Adebayo - Ayanfe is a 19-year-old medical student at the University of Cambridge - on her channel she talks about life as a medical student as well as lifestyle tips too! (Smethurst, B., 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/user/imariwal...> - Imari Walker is a PhD student in environmental engineering - her channel is all about our exposure to micro plastics and harmful chemicals and what we can do to help protect the environment from them. (Smethurst, B., 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4q2...> - Black Girl Scientist aka Zakithi Mkhize is a PhD student in medicine (specifically virology) - her channel is an insight into the day-to-day life as a scientist. (Smethurst, B., 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/user/Bernybabezz> - [@Bernie's Life](#) from medical student Bernadette is all about life as a medical student for all those aspiring high schoolers out there. (Smethurst, B., 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOVE...> - getSTEM is a brand-new channel from neurobiologist PhD student Gwenaëlle Thomas. (Smethurst, B., 2020)

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