

Climate Change Leadership in Practice - CCLIP 2022 Literature Overview

Literature for this course will include both the course books listed below and other readings that connect to assignments or lectures. Here we will discuss course books; you will receive information about the other readings at a later date.

There are four course books that are required reading for all students. These are listed below under *Required Course Books*. Please prioritize *Reflexive Leadership* and *Climate Change and Society* for the first two weeks of the course, as we will be working with these during our mandatory literature seminar on 12/9. You are expected to continue to engage with these books throughout the course, including during the project period, but, beyond the literature seminar, your timeline for reading them will be largely self-guided.

In addition to the four required books, you will pick another 2-4 books based on your interests and on your chosen course project. We have compiled a list of pre-approved books from which you may pick, listed below under *Other Books*. You will work with these 'other books' during the project period of the course. If you feel that there are books that would be better suited to your project which are not on our list, please email the course coordinators giving a brief (3 sentence max) explanation of what the book addresses and how it connects to your project. Based on this, we will decide if the book can become one of your course books.

Required Course Books:

- Alvesson, M., et al, [Reflexive Leadership: Organising in an Imperfect World](#). Sage Publications; 2016. 249pp.

“Making a case for a reflexive approach to leadership, the authors draw upon decades of carrying out in-depth studies of professionals trying to “do” leadership. Through interviews with managers and their subordinates, getting a good understanding of organizational context, and critically interpreting their observations considering both leadership theories and a wealth of other perspectives, their celebration of reflexivity is used to question dominant leadership thinking.”

- Wallace-Wells, D., [Uninhabitable Earth: A story of the future](#). Penguin Random House; 2019. 320pp.

A journalistic account of the far-reaching and interconnected consequences of climate change.

- Dunlop, R., and Brulle, R.J., [Climate Change and Society: Sociological Perspective](#), Oxford University Press; 2015. 481pp.

“This book breaks new theoretical and empirical ground by presenting climate change as a thoroughly social phenomenon, embedded in our institutions and cultural practices. Drawing on a variety of sociological literature, thirty-eight sociologists summarize existing approaches to understanding the social, economic, political, and culture dimensions of climate change, detailing the causes, impacts, and responses.”

- Brown, A.M., [Emergent Strategy: Shaping Change, Changing Worlds](#). AK Press; 2017. 274pp.

“Emergent Strategy is radical self-help, society-help, and planet-help designed to shape the futures we want to live. Change is constant. The world is in a continual state of flux. It is a stream of ever-mutating, emergent patterns. Rather than steel ourselves against such change, this book invites us to feel, map, assess, and learn from the swirling patterns around us in order to better understand and influence them as they happen.”

Other books (choose 2-4):

- Kimmerer, R.W., [*Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and Teachings of Plants*](#). Milkweed Editions; 2015. 390pp.

“Drawing on her life as an indigenous scientist, a mother, and a woman, Kimmerer shows how other living beings—asters and goldenrod, strawberries and squash, salamanders, algae, and sweetgrass—offer us gifts and lessons, even if we’ve forgotten how to hear their voices. In a rich braid of reflections that range from the creation of Turtle Island to the forces that threaten its flourishing today, she circles toward a central argument: that the awakening of a wider ecological consciousness requires the acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world.”

- Roy A: [*Azadi: Freedom, Fascism, Fiction*](#). Penguin Books; 2020. 214pp.

“In this series of electrifying essays, Arundhati Roy challenges us to reflect on the meaning of freedom in a world of growing authoritarianism.”

- Akomolafe B: [*These Wilds Beyond Our Fences: Letters to My Daughter on Humanity’s Search for Home*](#). North Atlantic Books; 2017. 352pp.

“Tackling some of the world’s most profound questions through the intimate lens of fatherhood, Bayo Akomolafe embarks on a journey of discovery as he maps the contours of the spaces between himself and his three-year-old daughter, Alethea. In a narrative that manages to be both intricate and unguarded, he discovers that something as commonplace as becoming a father is a cosmic event of unprecedented proportions. Using this realization as a touchstone, he is led to consider the strangeness of his own soul, contemplate the myths and rituals of modernity, ask questions about food and justice, ponder what it means to be human, evaluate what we can do about climate change, and wonder what our collective yearnings for a better world tell us about ourselves.”

- Johnson, A.E and Wilkinson, K.K, [*All We Can Save. Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis*](#). Penguin Random House; 420pp.

“All We Can Save illuminates the expertise and insights of dozens of diverse women leading on climate in the United States—scientists, journalists, farmers, lawyers, teachers, activists, innovators, wonks, and designers, across generations, geographies, and race—and aims to advance a more representative, nuanced, and solution-oriented public conversation on the climate crisis. These women offer a spectrum of ideas and insights for how we can rapidly, radically reshape society.”

- Ghosh A: [*The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable.*](#) University of Chicago Press; 2017. 176pp.

*“Are we deranged? The acclaimed Indian novelist Amitav Ghosh argues that future generations may well think so. How else to explain our imaginative failure in the face of global warming? In his first major book of nonfiction since *In an Antique Land*, Ghosh examines our inability—at the level of literature, history, and politics—to grasp the scale and violence of climate change.”*

- Dahr, J., [*The End of Ice: Bearing Witness and Finding Meaning in the Path of Climate Disruption.*](#) The New Press; 2020. 273pp.

*“In *The End of Ice*, we follow Jamail as he scales Alaska’s Denali, the highest peak in North America, dives in the warm crystal waters of the Coral Sea only to find bleached coral reefs, and explores the tundra of St. Paul Island where he meets the last subsistence seal hunters of the Bering Sea and witnesses its collapsing food web.”*

- Dabiri, E., [*What White People Can do Next.*](#) Penguin Books; 2021. 157pp.

Discusses race, allyship, white supremacy, and leadership

- Hausdoerffer, J., Hecht, B.P., Nelson, M.K. and Cummings, K.K., [*What Kind of Ancestor Do You Want to Be.*](#) University of Chicago Press; 2021. 248pp.

*“As we face an ever-more-fragmented world, *What Kind of Ancestor Do You Want to Be?* demands a return to the force of lineage—to spiritual, social, and ecological connections across time. It sparks a myriad of ageless-yet-urgent questions: How will I be remembered? What traditions do I want to continue? What cycles do I want to break? What new systems do I want to initiate for those yet-to-be-born? How do we endure?”*

- Hulme, M., [*Contemporary Climate Change Debates.*](#) Routledge; 2020. 251pp

“For the complex policy challenges surrounding climate migration, adaptation and resilience, structured debates become effective learning devices for students. This book is organised around 15 important questions, and is split into four parts:

- *What do we need to know?*
- *What should we do?*
- *On what grounds should we base our actions?*
- *Who should be the agents of change?”*

- Tsing, A.L., [*The Mushroom at the End of the World.*](#) Princeton University Press; 2017. 331pp.

*A tale of diversity within our damaged landscapes, *The Mushroom at the End of the World* follows one of the strangest commodity chains of our times to explore the unexpected corners of capitalism. Here, we witness the varied and peculiar worlds of matsutake*

commerce: the worlds of Japanese gourmets, capitalist traders, Hmong jungle fighters, industrial forests, Yi Chinese goat herders, Finnish nature guides, and more. These companions also lead us into fungal ecologies and forest histories to better understand the promise of cohabitation in a time of massive human destruction.

- Danowski, D., Viveiros de Castro., [*The Ends of the World*](#). Wiley; 2016. 180pp.

“In this book, philosopher Déborah Danowski and anthropologist Eduardo Viveiros de Castro offer a bold overview and interpretation of these current discourses on ‘the end of the world’, reading them as thought experiments on the decline of the West’s anthropological adventure that is, as attempts, though not necessarily intentional ones, at inventing a mythology that is adequate to the present.”

- Wray, B., [*Generation Dread*](#). Penguin Random House; 2022. 278pp.

“In Generation Dread, Britt Wray seamlessly merges scientific knowledge with emotional insight to show how these intense feelings are a healthy response to the troubled state of the world. The first crucial step toward becoming an engaged steward of the planet is connecting with our climate emotions, seeing them as a sign of humanity, and learning how to live with them. We have to face and value eco-anxiety, Wray argues, before we can conquer the deeply ingrained, widespread reactions of denial and disavowal that have led humanity to this alarming period of ecological decline.”

- Tsing, A., Bubandt, N., Gan, E., and Swanson, H., [*Art of Living on a Damaged Planet: Ghosts and Monsters of the Anthropocene*](#). University of Minnesota Press; 2017. 368pp.

“As human-induced environmental change threatens multispecies livability, Arts of Living on a Damaged Planet puts forward a bold proposal: entangled histories, situated narratives, and thick descriptions offer urgent “arts of living.” Included are essays by scholars in anthropology, ecology, science studies, art, literature, and bioinformatics who posit critical and creative tools for collaborative survival in a more-than-human Anthropocene.”

If you have any questions related to the course literature please feel free to contact us through the following emails:

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