

St Peter's College, Oxford

ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

Preliminary Reading List

This list provides some suggestions for reading before you come up to Oxford. You do not *need* to read any of these items (yet!), but you might enjoy looking at a few things as you get ready to begin your course. As you will see, the list is in two parts.

Part 1 is a very short list with recent books on social anthropology, human evolution and archaeology. These are very useful preparatory readings that discuss many of the fundamental themes you will encounter in your first year.

Part 2 is longer. It includes standard books and specialised studies that you will encounter during your degree, as well as non-academic works and films. Your goal should be to enjoy dipping in and out of a variety of things – these are just suggestions. Remember, if a book or film or poem is to do with people, it is relevant to the degree. Have fun!

Part 1

a) Social anthropology

Engelke, M. 2017. *Think Like an Anthropologist*. London: Pelican Books

Monaghan, J. and Just, P. 2000. *Social and Cultural Anthropology: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: OUP.

b) Human evolution

Dunbar, R. 2011. *Human Evolution: A Pelican Introduction*. London: Pelican.

Harris, E. E. 2015. *Ancestors in Our Genome: The New Science of Human Evolution*. New York: OUP.

c) Archaeology

Gamble, C. 2000. *Archaeology: The Basics*. London: Routledge.

Renfrew, C. and Bahn, P. 2019. *Archaeology: Theories, Methods and Practice*. London: Thames & Hudson.

Part 2

a) General books

Fagan, B. 2004. *People of the Earth: An Introduction to World Prehistory*. London: Longman.

Fox, K. 2007. *Watching the English*. London: Hodder & Stoughton.

Gosden, C. 1999. *Anthropology and Archaeology: A Changing Relationship*. London: Routledge.

Haviland, W. 2003. *Cultural Anthropology*. London: Harcourt Brace.

Hendry, J. 1999. *An Introduction to Social Anthropology: Other People's Worlds*. London: Macmillan.

Marshall, M. 2018. *Human Origins*. New Scientist Instant Expert. London: John Murray.

b) Specialised studies

Balter, M. 2005. *The Goddess and the Bull: Çatalhöyük: An Archaeological Journey to the Dawn of Civilization*. London: Free Press.

Barton, N. 2005. *Ice Age Britain*. London: Batsford.

Boellstorff, T. 2008. *Coming of age in Second Life: An Anthropologist Explores the Virtually Human*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Campbell, A. T. 1995. *Getting to Know Waiwai: An Amazonian Ethnography*. London: Routledge.

Hirschon, R. 1998. *Heirs of the Greek Catastrophe*. Oxford: Berghahn.

Marshall Thomas, E. 1956. *The Harmless People*. London: Harcourt.

Myers, F. 1992. *Pintupi Country, Pintupi Self: Sentiment, Place and Politics amongst Western Desert Aborigines*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

Scott, J.C. 2010. *The Art of Not Being Governed: An Anarchist History of Upland South-East Asia*. Yale Agrarian Studies Series.

c) Fiction

There are many fictional and semi-fictional works that can be considered in terms of anthropological and archaeological themes.

Ali, M. 2008. *Brick Lane: A Novel*. London: Simon and Schuster.

Ghosh, A. 1994. *In an Antique Land: History in the Guise of a Traveller's Tale*. London: Vintage.

Gibb, C. 2009. *Sweetness in the Belly*. London: Random House.

Golding, W. 1955. *The Inheritors*. London: Faber & Faber. Mitchener, J. A. 1965. *The Source*. New York: Random House.

Syal, M. 2000. *Life Isn't All Ha Ha Hee Hee*. London: Anchor.

d) (Auto)biography

Bowen, E. S., & Bowen, A. (1964). *Return to Laughter*. New York: Doubleday.

Christie Mallowan, A. 1946. *Come, Tell Me How You Live*. London: Collins.

Obama, B. 2007. *Dreams of My Father*. Edinburgh: Canongate. [especially 'Search for Identity' chapters].

Thesiger, W. 1987. *The Life of My Choice*. Glasgow: Collins.

Wheeler, M. 1956. *Still Digging: Interleaves from an Antiquary's Notebook*. London: Michael Joseph.

e) Film, television and radio

There are many films which deal with anthropological and archaeological themes. As a starting point you might like to look at: *Walkabout* (1972), *East is East* (1999), *Bend It Like Beckham* (2002), *Ten Canoes* (2006) and *Whale Rider* (2003).

Archaeology has traditionally had a strong presence on television including e.g. *Time Team* and *Digging for Britain*. Anthropology has less of a prominence but can found e.g. *Tribe*, *Return of the Tribe* and *Disappearing World*. (Repeat broadcasts can be found on the TV and some shows have their own YouTube channels).

Finally, BBC Radio Four's *A History of the World in 100 Objects* (first aired in 2010) is available online <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00nrttd2/episodes/downloads> and is well worth browsing. Featuring objects from the British Museum's collections, the series provides an excellent introduction to material culture studies and the nature of archaeological inference.