DIVERSITY FILM & BOOK CLUB FALL 2020

“Identity & Intersectionality”

PLEASE EMAIL CTL FOR HYPERLINKS TO JOIN MEETINGS


*PAIRED WITH:


Join us for our second cohort of a faculty book club series and introducing a new companion film component focusing on a wide range of experiences and identities using current and past literature.

**Purpose:** Allow opportunities to meet other Marquette faculty and others who instruct and work with students, read recent literature and watch films with cultural meaning, and build community membership across campus.

**Meetings will be held Fridays from Noon-1:15 and will be conducted through Microsoft Teams.**

Books will be provided upon request from the CTL. [Email](mailto:) to schedule a time to pick up at the CTL office or to provide a mailing address if working remotely.

*Some of the films are open access, others require rental. If you would like to have a discussion about access, please feel free to email the [CTL](mailto:).

**NOTE:** You do not need to attend all of these, you can register individually.
Kickoff book meeting was September 18, 2020. A few copies remain for those interested.

James Baldwin’s groundbreaking novel about love and the fear of love is set among the bohemian bars and nightclubs of 1950s Paris. In the 1950s Paris of American expatriates, liaisons, and violence, a young man finds himself caught between desire and conventional morality. With a sharp, probing imagination, James Baldwin's now-classic narrative delves into the mystery of loving and creates a moving, highly controversial story of death and passion that reveals the unspoken complexities of the human heart.

**Paired with:**

**Moonlight (2016)**

(available on hoopla and Netflix)

A young African American man grapples with his identity and sexuality while experiencing the everyday struggles of childhood, adolescence, and burgeoning adulthood.

Director: Barry Jenkins. Run time: 111 minutes.
When sixteen-year-old Omishto, a member of the Taiga Tribe, witnesses her Aunt Ama kill a panther— an animal considered to be a sacred ancestor of the Taiga people—she is suddenly torn between her loyalties to her Westernized mother, who wants her to reject the ways of the tribe, and to Ama and her traditional people, for whom the killing of the panther takes on grave importance. Written by Linda Hogan.

**Paired with:**

**Drunktown’s Finest (2014)**
(available for rent on Amazon Prime Video, Google Play, YouTube, and Vudu for $2.99)

Three young Native Americans – an adopted Christian girl, a rebellious father-to-be, and a promiscuous transsexual – strive to escape the hardships of life on an Indian reservation. Directed by Sydney Freeland. Run time: 95 minutes.
Inspired by the author’s personal experience with her own transgender child, *This Is How it Always Is* is a powerful and timely story about a young boy who knows he is meant to be a girl. In it, Rosie and Penn, the heads of a loving clan made up of mom, dad, and five sons, learns that their youngest child, Claude, is transgender. While the parents want to support Claude, they are not quite ready for the world to know, and instead try and keep it a secret. That is, until one day the secret explodes and changes everything in their lives. A touching story about family, magic, and identity, *This Is How it Always Is* will leave your book club feeling full of love. Written by Laurie Frankel.

**Paired with:**

**Gun Hill Road (2011)**
(available on hoopla and tubi. For rent on Amazon Prime Video, Google Play, and YouTube for $1.99)

An ex-con returns home to the Bronx after three years in prison to discover his wife estranged and his child exploring a gender transformation that will put the fragile bonds of their family to the test. Directed by Rashaad Ernesto Green. Run time: 88 minutes
Afghan-American Nadia Hashimi’s powerful novel is about a young woman in 2007 Kabul who takes advantage of an ancient custom in order to dress and be treated like a boy until she is of marriageable age—a custom her grandmother invoked a century earlier to save her own life. A testament to the disparity of gender roles, THE PEARL THAT BROKE ITS SHELL is a perplexing look at the ongoing struggles of Afghan women.

Paired with:

**Buzkashi Boys (2012)**
(available for free on YouTube)

Set on the harsh and stunning backdrop of Kabul city, Buzkashi Boys is a tale of two boys growing to adulthood in one of the most war-torn countries on earth. Filmed entirely on location in Kabul by an alliance of Afghan and international filmmakers, “Buzkashi Boys” is a look at life that continues beyond the headlines of war in Afghanistan.
Directed by Sam French. Runtime: 28 minutes.
Thirty years ago, Piri Thomas made literary history with this lacerating, lyrical memoir of his coming of age on the streets of Spanish Harlem. Here was the testament of a born outsider: a Puerto Rican in English-speaking America; a dark-skinned morenito in a family that refused to acknowledge its African blood. Here was an unsparring document of Thomas's plunge into the deadly consolations of drugs, street fighting, and armed robbery—a descent that ended when the twenty-two-year-old Piri was sent to prison for shooting a cop.

As he recounts the journey that took him from adolescence in El Barrio to a lock-up in Sing Sing to the freedom that comes of self-acceptance, faith, and inner confidence, Piri Thomas gives us a book that is as exultant as it is harrowing and whose every page bears the irrepressible rhythm of its author's voice. Thirty years after its first appearance, this classic of manhood, marginalization, survival, and transcendence is available in an anniversary edition with a new Introduction by the author.

**Paired with:**

**Moving in Place (2018)**
(available on tubi and Amazon Prime Video)

Young Puerto Ricans navigate the difficult decision of whether to stay on or leave the island, especially in the devastating wake of Hurricane Maria.
Directors: Lyka Sethi & Geoffrey Iwata

Co-sponsored by the Center for Teaching & Learning, Women's Innovation Network (WIN), Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion, and Raynor Memorial Libraries