

# Extending Diversity in the Classroom: How Librarians Contribute



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## RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

The University Library System (ULS) advances the University's strategic priorities by direct engagement in the enterprise of knowledge creation, teaching, and learning on our campuses and beyond.

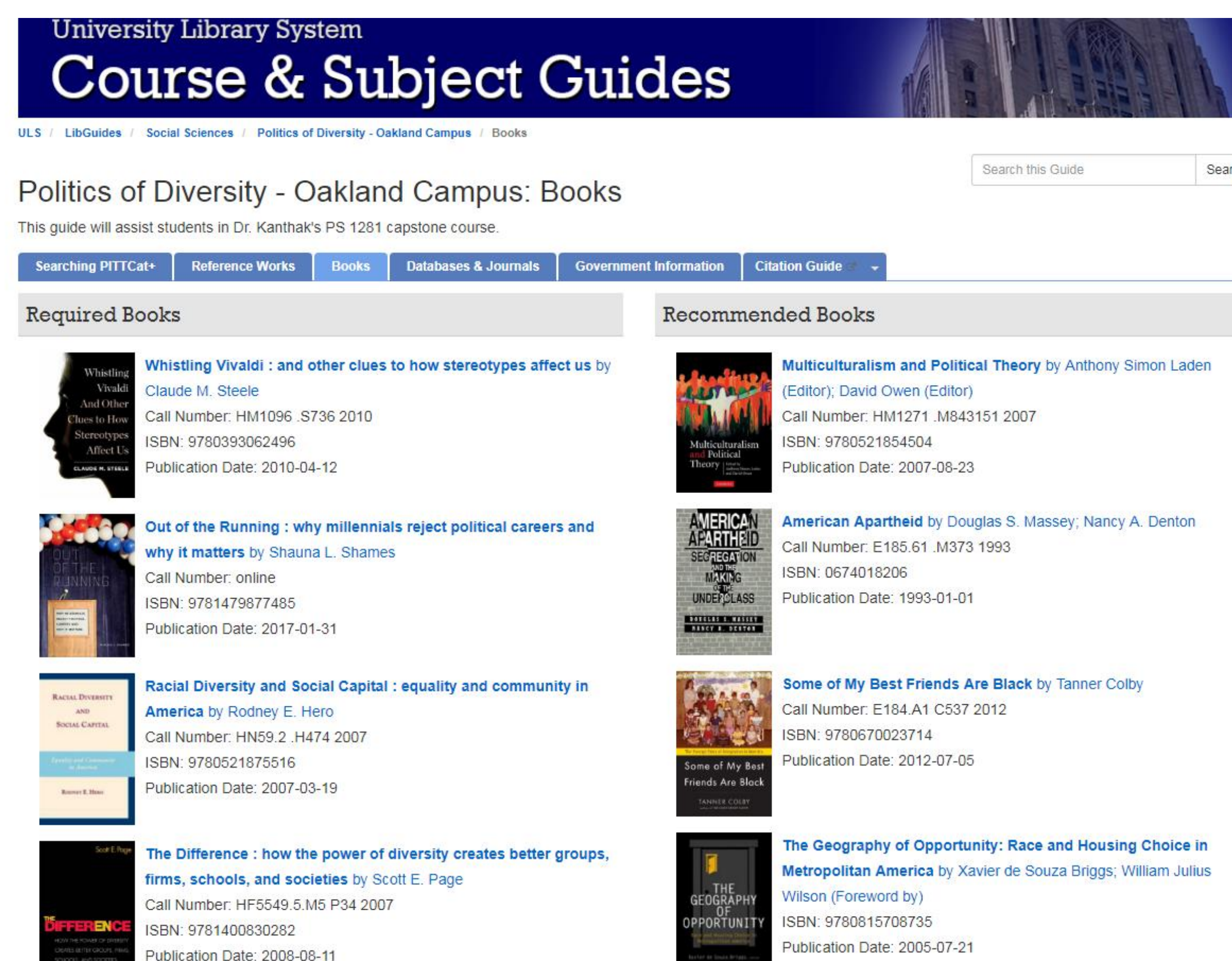
As one of our primary goals we deliver resources, services, and facilities to enhance learning and growth in academic programs and to support excellence and innovation in teaching and instruction.

We also seek to advocate and exemplify the principles of diversity and inclusion, broad access to information, the free flow of ideas, and an informed citizenry by being a locus of shared, openly accessible and trusted content about our city and the Pittsburgh region, enabling self-education and the pursuit of cultural, professional, economic and personal interests.

Six ULS librarians participated in the 2017-2018 EDE on the Oakland campus. This presentation highlights a selection of the library's expertise, resources, and services that were incorporated by our faculty fellows in the program.

## LIBGUIDES

Librarians create interactive LibGuides to direct students to the rich offerings of our library collections. Below is a guide created for Dr. Kanthak's Political Science Capstone class on the Politics of Diversity.



The screenshot shows a LibGuide page with a search bar and two columns of book recommendations. The 'Required Books' column includes:

- Whistling Vivaldi: and other clues to how stereotypes affect us** by Claude M. Steele. Call Number: HM1096 .S736 2010. ISBN: 9780393062496. Publication Date: 2010-04-12.
- Out of the Running: why millennials reject political careers and why it matters** by Shauna L. Shames. Call Number: online. ISBN: 9781479877485. Publication Date: 2017-01-31.
- Racial Diversity and Social Capital: equality and community in America** by Rodney E. Hero. Call Number: HM459 .Z .H474 2007. ISBN: 9780521675616. Publication Date: 2007-03-19.
- The Difference: how the power of diversity creates better groups, firms, schools, and societies** by Scott E. Page. Call Number: HF5549 .S.M5 P34 2007. ISBN: 9781400830282. Publication Date: 2008-06-11.

The 'Recommended Books' column includes:

- Multiculturalism and Political Theory** by Anthony Simon Laden (Editor); David Owen (Editor). Call Number: HM1271 .M843151 2007. ISBN: 9780521854504. Publication Date: 2007-08-23.
- American Apartheid** by Douglas S. Massey; Nancy A. Denton. Call Number: E184.A1 .C537 2012. ISBN: 9574016206. Publication Date: 1993-01-01.
- Some of My Best Friends Are Black** by Tanner Colby. Call Number: HM459 .Z .H474 2007. ISBN: 9780521675616. Publication Date: 2012-07-05.
- The Geography of Opportunity: Race and Housing Choice in Metropolitan America** by Xavier de Souza Briggs; William Julius Wilson (Foreword by). Call Number: HF5549 .S.M5 P34 2007. ISBN: 9780815708735. Publication Date: 2005-07-21.

## REVIEWING THE LITERATURE

Librarian specialists can meet with faculty to identify optimal databases, journals, websites, and other resources to consider when conducting a robust search for relevant scholarship.

Librarians work in partnership with faculty by surveying diversity-related academic output in specific disciplines. Materials identified include articles, books, and white papers. Identifying historical and current discourse is useful to instructors in designing classes and selecting potential course readings.

## ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



Primary sources are available too! Faculty can explore the social structuring of diversity through historical and pop culture materials like comic books, children's literature, underground newspapers, fanzines, and the like.

Not sure if there are resources to expand the conversation? Faculty can work with ULS Specialists to view and discuss materials and to curate content for a class visit and/or other course use.

## CITATION MANAGEMENT

Librarians assist faculty in setting up EndNote or Mendeley to make exporting, organizing and accessing citations and PDFs as easy as possible. In brief hands-on consultations, researchers can:

- Import citations from PITTCat+, databases, and Google Scholar
- Set up folders to gather literature for research or teaching
- Automatically generate endnotes and bibliographies
- Access papers from anywhere online

## FOSTERING COLLABORATION

Librarians reach beyond the library by:

- Identifying and facilitating cross-disciplinary connections between faculty colleagues with similar teaching or research goals related to classroom diversity
- Suggesting and connecting faculty to other university resources and student or community groups and initiatives that support or enhance classroom diversity efforts



Extended Diversity 2016-17  
Faculty, Librarians, and Instructional Designers working together

## CONTINUING CONTRIBUTIONS

- Extended diversity in the classroom must result from collaboration among teaching faculty, librarians, and instructional designers in order to fully utilize University resources and enable the optimal student experience.
- Continued dialog among participants in this program was essential, resulting in relationships, ideas, and knowledge that we will seek to expand upon at every opportunity.
- Librarians will always be eager to contribute to extending diversity, and we hope that the program grows to include more courses and members of the University community.

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