



Book Resume: An African American and Latinx History of the United States

An African American and Latinx History of the United States by Paul Ortiz

Beacon Press, 2017

ISBN: 9780807005934 (Paperback)

Age Range*: 14 and up

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Spanning more than two hundred years, *An African American and Latinx History of the United States* is a revolutionary, politically charged narrative history, arguing that the “Global South” was crucial to the development of America as we know it. Scholar and activist Paul Ortiz shows how placing African American, Latinx, and Indigenous voices unapologetically front and center transforms US history into one of the working class organizing against imperialism.

Drawing on rich narratives and primary source documents, Ortiz links the struggles of African American civil rights activists fighting Jim Crow laws, of Mexican labor organizers warring against capitalism, of abolitionists, and of Latin American revolutionaries, revealing the radically different ways people of the diaspora have addressed issues still plaguing the US today.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

☆ “A sleek, vital history that effectively shows that ‘from the outset, inequality was enforced with the whip, the gun, and the United States Constitution.’” —*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

“A welcome antidote to the poison of current reactionary attitudes toward people of color, their cultures, and place in the US.” —*Booklist*

“A challenging and necessary approach to understanding our history. A must-read for those who want a deeper perspective than is offered in the traditional history textbook.” —*Library Journal*

“A far more inclusive, alternative history—one developed from the bottom up—that does not worship the cult of Europe.” —*CHOICE*

Response to Challenges

- [Latino authors, activists lead caravan, march against book bans](#) (NBCnews.com)
- [A Texas lawmaker is targeting 850 books that he says could make students feel uneasy](#) (NPR)

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Beacon Press

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*A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.