

# COMMODITIES

## Reading & Viewing List

Here is a selection (in alphabetical order, by author or director) of classic and recent books and films on commodities. You should choose one book or film from the list for your final paper.

If you choose your book or film early in the semester, and read or view it more than once, you will find it much easier to prepare the essay due at the end of the semester. While the library may have a copy, you should consider buying the book or film you choose to give you more time to read or view it without worrying about library availability or return policies. All these books and videos can be purchased at major bookstores or online through any of the major internet retailers.

Students reading the same book or viewing the same film, or reading different books or viewing different films on the same topic, are encouraged to work together. I will post the list of students' choices soon after the deadline (19 March).

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Marcia Angell, *The Truth About the Drug Companies: How They Deceive Us and What to Do About It*

Emily Apter and William Pietz, *Fetishism as Cultural Discourse*

Jacques Attali, *Noise: The Political Economy of Music*

Joel Bakan, *The Corporation: The Pathological Pursuit of Profit and Power*

Deborah Barndt, *Tangled Routes: Women, Work, and Globalization on the Tomato Trail*

John Bowe, *Nobodies: Modern American Slave Labor and the Dark Side of the New Global Economy*

J. C. Chandor, *Margin Call*

Michael Channan, "Music Becomes a Commodity." in *Musica Practica: The social practice of Western music from Gregorian chant to postmodernism*

Charles Chaplin, *Modern Times*

Ko-lin Chin, *The Golden Triangle: Inside Southeast Asia's Drug Trade*

Jane L. Collins, *Threads: Gender, Labor, and Power in the Global Apparel Industry*

William Cronon, *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West*

Charles Eisenstein, *Sacred Economics: Money, Gift, and Society in the Age of Transition*

Barry Estabrook, *Tomatoland: How Modern Industrial Agriculture Destroyed Our Most Alluring Fruit*

Charles H. Ferguson, *Inside Job*

Marc Francis and Nick Francis, *Black Gold*

Betty Fussell, *The Story of Corn*

John Gantz and Jack B. Rochester, *Pirates of the Digital Millennium*

Jeff Goodell, *Big Coal: The Dirty Secret Behind America's Energy Future*

David Graeber, *Debt: The First 5,000 Years*

John Michael Greer, *The Wealth of Nature: Economics as if Survival Mattered*

Doug Henwood, *After the New Economy: The Binge and the Hangover That Won't Go Away*

Harold A. Innis and Arthur Ray, *The Fur Trade in Canada*

Dan Jaffee, *Brewing Justice*

Oliver James, *Affluenza*

Charles Joyner, *Down by the Riversid*

Barbara Kopple, *Harlan County U.S.A.*

Mark Kurlansky, *Salt: a World History*

Mark Kurlansky, *Cod: A Biography of the Fish that Changed the World*

Geoff Mann, *Our Daily Bread*

Richard P. McIntyre, *Are Worker Rights Human Rights?*

Jim Klein, *Taken for a Ride*

Michael Krondl, *The Taste of Conquest: The Rise and Fall of the Three Great Cities of Spice*

Bruce Laurie, *Artisans into Workers: Labor in Nineteenth-Century America*

Lawrence Lessig, *Free Culture: The Nature and Future of Creativity*

James C. McCann, *Maize and Grace: Africa's Encounter with a New World Crop, 1500-2000*

Giles Milton, *Nathaniel's Nutmeg: Or the True and Incredible Adventures of the Spice Trader Who Changed the Course of History*

Sidney W. Mintz, *Sweetness and Power: The Place of Sugar in Modern History*

Michael Moore, *Sicko*

June Nash, *We Eat the Mines and the Mines Eat Us: Dependency and Exploitation in Bolivian Tin Mines*

Jonathan Nossiter, *Mondovino*

Daragh O'Reilly, Gretchen Larsen, and Krzysztof Kubacki, *Music, Markets and Consumption*

Rajeev Patel, *Stuffed and Starved*

Adrian Pennick, *The Ascent of Money*

Kevin Phillips, *American Theocracy: The Peril and Politics of Radical Religion, Oil, and Borrowed Money in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

Michael Pollan, *The Omnivore's Dilemma*

Jason Reitman, *Up in the Air*

Paul Roberts, *The End of Oil: On the Edge of a Perilous New World*

Seth Rockman, *Scraping By: Wage Labor, Slavery, and Survival in Early Baltimore*

Ferruccio Rossi-Landi, *Language as Work and Trade*

Jack Turner, *Spice: The History of a Temptation*

Irene van Staveren, Diane Elson, Caren Grown and Nilufer Cagatay, eds., *The Feminist Economics of Trade*

Michael T. Taussig, *The Devil and Commodity Fetishism in South America*

Arturo Warman, *Corn and Capitalism: How a Botanical Bastard Grew to Global Dominance*

John Wells, *The Company Men*

Daniel Yergin, *The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money & Power*

Jim Yong and Joyce V. Millen, *Dying For Growth: Global Inequality and the Health of the Poor*