This is a listing of important books in various areas of Black politics. A capable graduate student will be conversant with at least some of these books. The list should be considered to be exhaustive, though not definitive and will be updated biennially.

A few words on textbooks and scholarly books. A textbook is a compilation of generally acknowledged facts compiled in essays used to explain various political science topics. While they may occasionally be used in selected graduate courses, they are generally geared to introductory undergraduate courses. Consequently, they are inappropriate for use in graduate level comprehensive examinations. Such examinations are designed to ascertain your knowledge of original research, which is found in scholarly books.

**General Perspectives**


**Civil Rights**


**Congress**


**Electoral Politics and Voting Behavior**


**Ideology and Thought**


**Interest Groups and Activism**


**Leadership**


**Parties**


**Pan Africanism and Black Nationalism**


Public Policy


Voting Rights


**Miscellaneous (Notable but not necessarily appropriate for the comprehensive exam)**


