

FROG Book Group Rules

The Jefferson Humanists' (JH) book discussion group, known as the Freethinkers Reading Opportunity Group (FROG), meets monthly to discuss humanist themes in fiction and non-fiction books. Sometimes topics are selected for a monthly meeting, in which case members read any book (or watch a documentary or film) they like that matches the topic. FROG endeavors to conduct open and respectful discussions that allow all members to share their thoughts and ideas.

1. In October of each year the group will select books and/or topics for the upcoming calendar year.
2. Book and topic suggestions are made by completing the form (for 2023 at <https://tinyurl.com/3xusaju2>) any time. A cutoff date for suggestions for the coming year will be announced, prior to the October voting period. Notice of these rules, the cutoff date and the voting period will be emailed to everyone on the FROG mailing list.
3. The proposer should have read the book or a few reviews of the book, to be sure it will generate discussion. The proposer must also be willing to facilitate the meeting discussing the book or suggested topic.
4. The FROG coordinator or a designated FROG member will compile the qualifying suggestions and everyone on the FROG email list will be invited to vote via an on-line form for their choices for the upcoming year. Voting will be open for two weeks.
4. The FROG coordinator or designated member will tabulate the results. Each person on the FROG email list may vote for a maximum of 12 items on the voting form and may vote no more than once for any given item. The top 12 books/topics will be the selections for the upcoming calendar year.
5. A draft schedule of the top vote getters will be compiled and sent to the proposers who will be facilitating the discussions in the coming year. The proposers will have an opportunity to confirm or request a switch of their allocated month. Once the schedule has been finalized, it will be distributed to FROG members, and will be posted on the JH website. It is anticipated the list for the upcoming year will be available by early December.
6. Each facilitator should send to the FROG leader, for distribution to the group, at least 6 discussion or study questions on his/her upcoming book or topic at least a week before the meeting.
7. If a facilitator becomes unavailable for their assigned month, they will be responsible for working with the FROG leader to find a substitute. The facilitator should provide their substitute and the FROG leader (who will distribute it) with a list of discussion or study questions for the meeting.
8. If a designated facilitator leaves the group before leading their discussion, the FROG coordinator will seek a substitute. If no facilitator can be found to lead the discussion, the Leader has the discretion to change the book or topic.

Rules Last Updated June, 2022