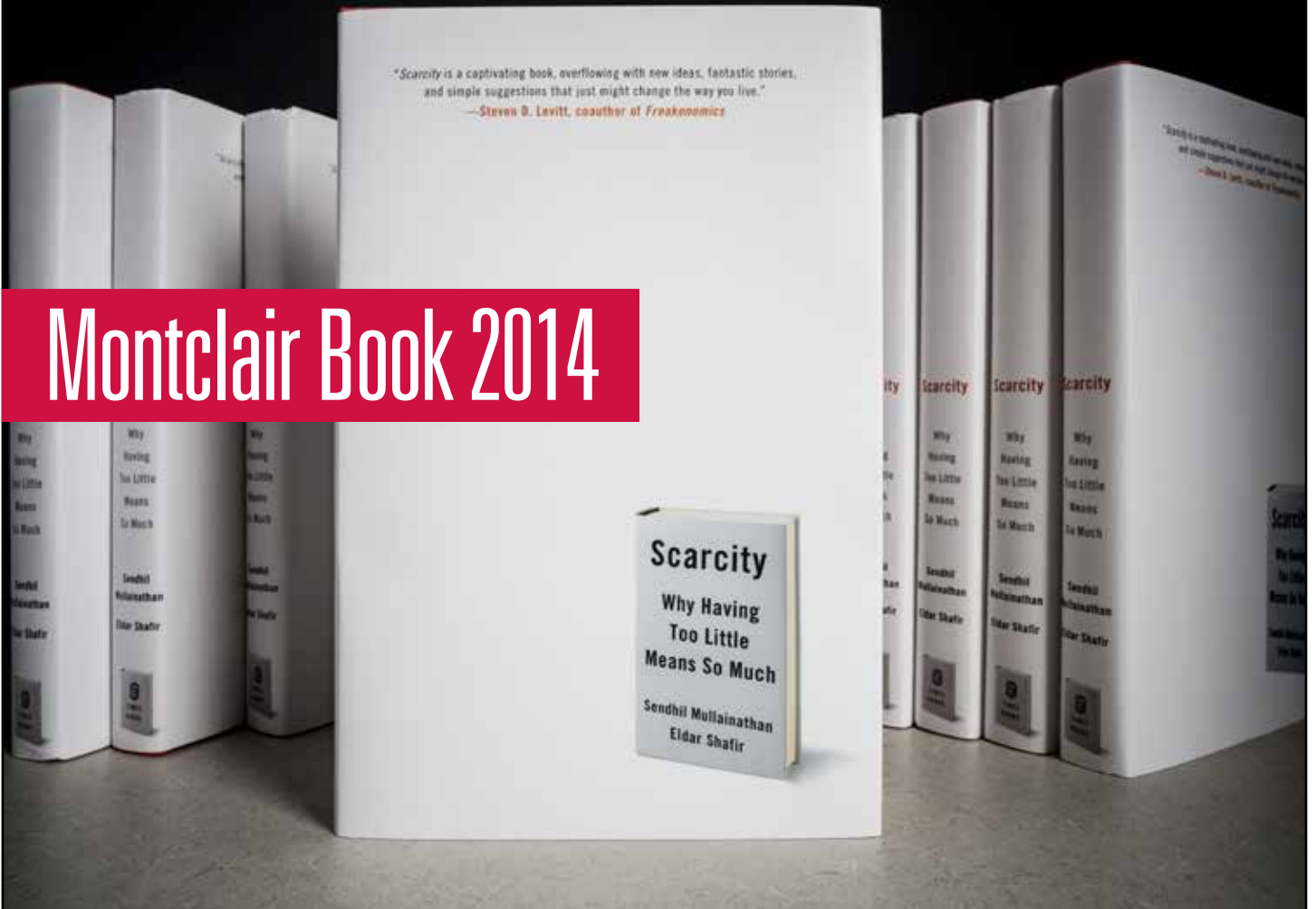


A common reading experience for first-year students

Montclair Book 2014



By Sendhil Mullainathan and Eldar Shafir

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Montclair Book 2014, jointly sponsored by the Center for Writing Excellence,
the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, the First-Year Writing Program
and Student Development and Campus Life,
is a common reading experience for first-year students.
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For more information, visit montclair.edu/cwe/MontclairBook

It's all here. Montclair State University
montclair.edu

FAQ for New Students

What is Montclair Book 2014?

Montclair Book 2014 is a campus-wide program for the Montclair State community, jointly sponsored by the Center for Writing Excellence, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, the First-Year Writing Program and Student Development and Campus Life. Each year, a faculty advisory committee selects a book to be read by all incoming first-year students before they arrive.

The goals for this program are to:

- Provide a common intellectual experience
- Engage in interdisciplinary dialogue and debate
- Build community around a shared understanding of relevant issues
- Celebrate the written word
- Offer opportunities for students to reflect on their roles as readers and learners
- Encourage campus-wide engagement with the book's theme



Which book was chosen?

For our 2014 selection, the faculty advisory committee chose *Scarcity*. Here is an excerpt from the book:

Our interest in scarcity led us to a remarkable study from more than a half century ago. The authors of that study did not think of themselves as studying scarcity, but to our eyes they were studying an extreme form of it—starvation. It was toward the end of World War II, and the Allies realized they had a problem. As they advanced into German-occupied territories, they would encounter great numbers of people on the edge of starvation. The problem was not food; the Americans and British had enough to feed the prisoners and the civilians they were liberating. Their problem was more technical. How do you begin feeding people who have been on the edge of starvation for so long? Should they be given full meals? Should they be allowed to eat as much as they want? Or should you start by underfeeding them and slowly increase their intake? What was the safest way to bring people back from the edge of starvation?

Where do I get the book?

The book will be available in the Montclair State bookstore beginning in late March.

When should I read it?

Your first assignment for college is to read the book. You will need it as you prepare your writing placement essay and again in your first-year writing class in the fall.

How will I use this book?

Several ways. Here are some examples:

- Discussions in the New Student Seminar and other courses
- Theme-related events on campus
- Keynote event
- Essay contest
- First-Year Writing classes (you will write an essay based on the book)

Where can I find more information?

The Montclair Book 2014 website will have more information. Go to:

montclair.edu/cwe/MontclairBook

You can also learn more about the author and the book by visiting the website: **<http://us.macmillan.com/scarcity/SendhilMullainathan>**

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