MA Reading List
Revised Spring 2011

Medieval:

1. *Beowulf*, trans. Seamus Heaney
2. Bede: *Ecclesiastical History of the English Church and People* (in translation)
3. Geoffrey Chaucer: from *Canterbury Tales*: “Knight’s Tale,” “Miller’s Tale,” “Wife of Bath’s Prologue and Tale,” “Pardoner’s Prologue and Tale”
5. *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, trans. Marie Borroff
6. *The Book of Margery Kempe*
7. The York Crucifixion Play

Renaissance:

1. William Shakespeare: Two of the following: *Measure for Measure; Hamlet; The Tempest; Henry V*; selections from the sonnets: 20, 33, 55, 73, 116, 129, 130, 138, 144, 146, 147.
2. Sir Thomas More: *Utopia*
3. Sir Philip Sidney: *An Apology for Poetry; Astrophel and Stella*, 1, 2, 41
5. Mary Wroth: *The Countess of Montgomery’s Urania*, Book I; from *Pamphilia to Amphilanthus*: 1, 16, 28, 39, 40, 68, 74.

Restoration & Eighteenth-Century British:

1. William Wycherley, George Etherege or Thomas Shadwell: *The Country Wife, The Man of Mode* or *The Woman Captain* (or another Shadwell play)
2. Aphra Behn: *The Rover* (or another Behn play) and *Oroonoko*
3. Dryden: *Marriage a la Mode* (or another Dryden play), *Absalom and Achitophel* and other selected poems
4. Susanna Centlivre, William Congreve and/or John Gay: *A Bold Stroke for a Wife and The Way of the World* or *Beggar’s Opera*
5. Daniel Defoe: *Moll Flanders, Roxana* or *Robinson Crusoe*
6. Samuel Richardson and Henry Fielding: *Pamela, Joseph Andrews* and/or *Tom Jones*
7. Alexander Pope: *The Rape of the Lock* and other poems
9. Laurence Sterne: *Tristram Shandy*
10. Various women novelists, including Haywood, Brooke, Inchbald, Burney and Austen

**Nineteenth-Century British:**


2. Jane Austen: *Pride and Prejudice* or *Sense and Sensibility*

3. Charlotte Bronte and Emily Bronte: *Wuthering Heights* or *Jane Eyre*

4. Charles Dickens: *Great Expectations, Hard Times*, or *Oliver Twist*

5. George Eliot: *Middlemarch* or *Daniel Deronda*


7. Mary Wollstonecraft: *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*: Introduction, Chapter 2, from Chapter 4 (Norton Anthology)


**17th-19th Century American:**


8. Walt Whitman: “Song of Myself.”


Note: we have discussed keeping Wharton on the 17-19th century list or whether to move her to the 20th century. While an argument can be made either way, we’ve agreed to keep her on this list.

**20th and 21st-Century British:**

2. One of the following: George Bernard Shaw: *Mrs. Warren’s Profession, Man and Superman,* or *Saint Joan;* Oscar Wilde: *The Importance of Being Earnest* or John Millington Synge: *The Playboy of the Western World*
4. One of the following: E. M. Forster: *A Passage to India* or *Howards End;* Evelyn Waugh: *Brideshead Revisited* or Graham Greene: *The Power and the Glory* or *The Quiet American*
5. James Joyce: *The Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* or *Dubliners*
7. Virginia Woolf: *To The Lighthouse* or *Mrs. Dalloway*
8. George Orwell: *1984* or *Animal Farm*

**20th and 21st Century American:**

1. Theodore Dreiser: *Sister Carrie* (University of Pennsylvania or Doubleday text)
4. Zora Neale Hurston: *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
5. William Faulkner: one of the following: *As I Lay Dying, The Sound and The Fury,* or *Light in August*
6. Two of the following (by two different authors): Eugene O’Neill: *Long Day’s Journey Into Night,* Arthur Miller: *Death of A Salesman,* Tennessee Williams: *A Streetcar Named Desire* or *The Glass Menagerie*
7. Ralph Ellison: *Invisible Man*
8. Toni Morrison: *Beloved* or *The Bluest Eye*

**Linguistics**

de Saussure, Ferdinand. *Course in General Linguistics*. (either translation is fine)

**One of these:**

**One of these:**

**Either**

or

or

or


and