MA Reading List
Revised Spring 2014

Medieval:

1. *Beowulf* [any of the anthologized or trade translations (e.g., Longman’s, Norton, Penguin, Everyman’s)—see Dr. Crofts if in doubt]
2. *Battle of Maldon*
4. Bede: *History of the English Church and People*, Book I; Book II chapters 12 & 13
5. Geoffrey Chaucer: from *Canterbury Tales*: “Knight’s Tale,” “Miller’s Tale,” “Wife of Bath’s Prologue and Tale,” “Pardoner’s Prologue and Tale,” “Chaucer’s Retraction”
6. Middle English lyrics:
   - Chaucer: “To Adam Scrivein,” “Truth: Balade de Bon Conceyl,” “To Rosamunde,” ‘Complaint unto his Purse’
   - *anonymous*: “Cuckoo Song,” “What is he, this lordling, that cometh from the fight,” “Westron Wind,” “Sunset on Calvary,” “Alison,” “Adam Lay Bound,” “Corpus Christi Carol”
8. *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, trans. Marie Borroff (recommended)
9. Marie de France, *Lanval*
10. The York Play of the Crucifixion

Renaissance:

1. William Shakespeare: *Two of the following*: *Measure for Measure; Hamlet; The Tempest; Henry V; Twelfth Night*, and 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
7. John Milton: from *Paradise Lost*: Books 1-3
8. Christopher Marlowe: *Dr. Faustus* and either *Tamburlaine* or *The Jew of Malta*
9. Thomas Kyd: *The Spanish Tragedy*

### Restoration & Eighteenth-Century British:

1. William Wycherley, George Etherege or Thomas Shadwell: *The Country Wife* and *The Man of Mode* or *The Woman Captain* or another Shadwell play, along with Collier’s “A Short View of the Immorality and Profaneness of the English Stage”
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 selected poems
4. Susanna Centlivre, William Congreve and John Gay: *A Bold Stroke for a Wife*, *The Way of the World* and *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*, *Essay on Criticism* or *Essay on Man* and other poems, “Epistle to Arbuthnot” and *Dunciad* Bk. I
9. Laurence Sterne: *Tristram Shandy*
10. Eighteenth-century women novelists, including Haywood, Brooke, Inchbald, Burney and Austen
11. Samuel Johnson’s “Vanity of Human Wishes” and excerpts from Boswell’s *Life of Johnson*
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*)


9. Burns’s “To a Mouse” or, “Song: For A’ That”

10. George Bernard Shaw: *Mrs. Warren’s Profession* and Oscar Wilde: *The Importance of Being Earnest*

17th-19th Century American:


2. Benjamin Franklin: from *The Autobiography* (selections included in the *Norton Anthology*): Part One, Part Two; and Jonathan Edwards: “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”
3. Ralph Waldo Emerson: *Nature* and “Self-Reliance” and “The Poet” or Henry David Thoreau: *Walden*


5. Melville: *Moby-Dick*

6. Harriet Beecher Stowe: *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* or Margaret Fuller: *Woman in the Nineteenth Century*


8. Either Frederick Douglass: *A Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, 1845 edition* or Harriet Jacobs’ *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*


10. Twain: *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

11. One of the following: Sarah Orne Jewett: *The Country of the Pointed Firs*; Kate Chopin: *The Awakening*; Edith Wharton: *The Custom of the Country*

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


2. Two of the following: Terrance Rattigan: *The Winslow Boy*; Harold Pinter: *The Birthday Party*; John Osborne’s *Look Back in Anger*; Samuel Beckett: *Waiting for Godot*; Tom Stoppard: *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*; Caryl Churchill: *Cloud Nine* or Sarah Kane: *Blasted*


4. One of the following: E. M. Forster: *A Passage to India* or *Howards End*; Evelyn Waugh: *Brideshead Revisited* or *A Handful of Dust*; Graham Greene: *The Power and the Glory* or *Heart of the Matter*; Ford Madox Ford: *The Good Soldier*

5. One of the following: Doris Lessing: *The Golden Notebook*; John Fowles: *The French Lieutenant’s Woman*; Muriel Spark: *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*

6. One of the following: George Orwell: 1984; Aldus Huxley: *Brave New World*; Anthony Burgess: *A Clockwork Orange*

7. One of the following: A. S. Byatt, *Possession*; Angela Carter, *Nights at the Circus*; Jeanette Winterson, *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* or *Written on the Body*
8. **Be familiar with the major works of the following poets**: William Butler Yeats, Patrick Kavanagh, W. H. Auden, Philip Larkin, Dylan Thomas, R. S. Thomas, Ted Hughes, Geoffrey Hill, Seamus Heaney, Eavan Boland


10. **One of the following**: Irvine Welsh: *Trainspotting*; Roddy Doyle: *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha*; Alasdair Gray: *Lanark*; Christopher Meredith, *Shifts*

11. **One of the following**: Zadie Smith: *White Teeth*; David Mitchell: *Cloud Atlas*; Ali Smith: *Hotel World*; Julian Barnes: *The Sense of an Ending*; Monica Ali: *Brick Lane*

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**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**: Eugene O’Neill: *Long Day’s Journey Into Night*; Arthur Miller: *Death of A Salesman or All My Sons*; Tennessee Williams: *A Streetcar Named Desire or The Glass Menagerie*; Lorraine Hansberry: *A Raisin in the Sun*; Amiri Baraka: *Dutchman*; Sam Shepard: *True West*; Suzan-Lori Park: *Topdog/Underdog*

7. Ralph Ellison: *Invisible Man*

8. Toni Morrison: *Beloved or The Bluest Eye*


11. Cormac McCarthy: *All the Pretty Horses, Blood Meridian, or Suttree*

12. Harriette Arnow: *The Dollmaker* or James Still: *River of Earth*

**Linguistics**

**1: General Linguistics**

One of these three:


and all of the following:


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


2: Grammar

One of these:


3: History of English

One of these:


4: Applied Linguistics

Either


or


or

or both of these:


and