
Ph.D. Comprehensive Exams in Literary and Cultural Studies
Exam #1 Reading List: British Literature since 1750

Poetry

Blake, from *Songs of Innocence and Experience*: “Introduction,” “The Lamb,” “The Chimney Sweeper,” “On Another’s Sorrow,” “The Sick Rose,” “The Tyger,” “London,” “The Human Abstract”

Barbauld, “The Mouse’s Petition,” “The Rights of Woman,” “Washing-Day”

Wordsworth, from *Lyrical Ballads*: “Lines Written in Early Spring,” “Expostulation and Reply,” “The Tables Turned,” “Lines Composed a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey,” “The Ruined Cottage,” “Michael: A Pastoral Poem,” “I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud,” “Strange Fits of Passion Have I Known,” “She Dwelt Among the Untrodden Ways,” “A Slumber Did My Spirit Seal,” “I Travelled Among Unknown Men,” “Three Years She Grew”

Coleridge, “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner,” “Frost at Midnight,” “The Eolian Harp,” “Kubla Khan,” “This Lime-Tree Bower My Prison”

Shelley, “Mutability,” “Ode to the West Wind,” “Mont Blanc,” “Ozymandias,” “England in 1819”

Keats, “Ode to a Nightingale,” “Ode on Melancholy,” “On First Looking into Chapman’s Homer,” “Ode on a Grecian Urn,” “This Living Hand, Now Warm and Capable,” “To Autumn,” “La Belle Dame Sans Merci”

Byron, from *Don Juan*: “Juan and Donna Julia,” “The Shipwreck,” “Juan and Haidee”

Barrett Browning, from *Sonnets from the Portuguese*: 1 (“I thought how once Theocritus had sung”), 6 (“Go from me. Yet I feel that I shall stand”), 14 (“If thou must love me, let it be for nought”), 22 (“When our two souls stand up erect and strong”), 38 (“First time he kissed me, he but only kissed”), 43 (“How do I love thee? Let me count the ways”)

Browning, “My Last Duchess,” “The Bishop Orders His Tomb,” “Porphyria’s Lover,” “Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came,” “Fra Lippo Lippi,” “Caliban upon Setebos”

Tennyson, “The Lady of Shalott,” “The Lotus-Eaters,” “Ulysses,” “Break, Break, Break,” “The Charge of the Light Brigade,” *In Memoriam A.H.H.*

Hopkins, “God’s Grandeur,” “As Kingfishers Catch Fire,” “The Windhover,” “Pied Beauty,” “Carrion Comfort,” “No worst, there is none,” “I wake and feel the fell of dark, not day,” “That Nature is a Heraclitean Fire,” “Thou art indeed just, Lord”

Arnold, “To Marguerite-Continued,” “Stanzas from the Grande Chartreuse,” “Dover Beach”

Rossetti, “Goblin Market,” “In an Artist’s Studio,” “Passing Away,” “Up-Hill”

Hardy, “On the Western Circuit,” “The Darkling Thrush,” “The Ruined Maid”

Owen, “Dulce Et Decorum Est,” “Strange Meeting”

Yeats, “The Lake Isle of Innisfree,” “Who Goes with Fergus,” “September 1913,” “Easter 1916,” “The Second Coming,” “Leda and the Swan,” “Sailing to Byzantium,” “Crazy Jane Talks with the Bishop,” “Under Ben Bulbin,” “The Circus Animal’s Desertion”

Eliot, “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock,” “The Waste Land,” “The Hollow Men”

Auden, "Spain," "As I Walked Out One Evening," "In Memory of W.B. Yeats," "The Unknown Citizen"

Thomas, "Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night"

Heaney, "Digging," "The Forge," "Punishment," "Casualty," "Anything Can Happen"

Boland, "That the Science of Cartography is Limited," "The Dolls Museum in Dublin"

Hughes, "Wind," "Relic," "Theology"

Walcott, "A Far Cry from Africa," "The Season of Phantasmal Peace," from *Omeros*

Oswald, from *Dart*

Breeze, from *Riddym Ravings and Other Poems*

Drama

Byron, *Manfred: A Dramatic Poem*

Shaw, *Major Barbara* or *Pygmalion* or *Mrs. Warren's Profession*

Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*

Synge, *The Playboy of the Western World*

Beckett, *Waiting for Godot* or *Endgame*

Pinter, *The Homecoming*

Osborne, *Look Back in Anger*

Churchill, *Top Girls*

Prose

Walpole, *The Castle of Otranto*

Sterne, *A Sentimental Journey*

Burney, *Evelina: or, A Young Lady's Entrance into the World*

Austen, *Pride and Prejudice* or *Emma*

Shelley, *Frankenstein: or, the Modern Prometheus*

Bronte, *Wuthering Heights*

Bronte, *Jane Eyre*

Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities* or *Great Expectations*

Eliot, *Middlemarch* or *Adam Bede* or *Silas Marner*

Hardy, *The Mayor of Casterbridge*

Stoker, *Dracula*

Wilde, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*

Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*

Wells, *Tono-Bungay*

Forster, *Howards End* or *A Passage to India*

Lawrence, *Sons and Lovers*

Joyce, *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*

Tagore, *The Home and the World*

Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea*

Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*

Mansfield, select stories

Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters*
Orwell, *Nineteen Eighty-Four*
Amis, K., *Lucky Jim*

Amis, *Money* or *London Fields*
Ishiguro, *The Remains of the Day*
Rushdie, *Midnight's Children* or *The Satanic Verses*
Phillips, *Crossing the River*
McEwan, *Atonement*
Smith, *White Teeth* or *On Beauty*
McBride, *A Girl is a Half-Formed Thing*

Other

Burke, excerpts from *Reflections on the Revolution in France*
Wollstonecraft, excerpts from *A Vindication of the Rights of Men* and *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*
Paine, excerpts from *Rights of Man*
Gronniosaw, from *A Narrative of the Most Remarkable Particulars in the Life of James Albert Ukafjaki Ukawsaw Gronniosaw, and African Prince, As Related by Himself*
Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*
Wedderburn, from *The Horrors of Slavery*

Wordsworth, "Preface" to *Lyrical Ballads* (1802)
Coleridge, *Biographia Literaria*: Chapters 13-20 and 22
Shelley, excerpts from *A Defense of Poetry*
Mill, excerpts from *On Liberty*, *The Subjection of Women*
Prince, *The History of Mary Prince*
Arnold, from *Culture and Anarchy*
Wilde, *The Critic as Artist*

Woolf, *A Room of One's Own*
Eliot, "Tradition and the Individual Talent"