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

Poetry

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”
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”
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”

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


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 Pygmalian 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

Walpol, 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 Ukffiall 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”