GRADUATE EXAM READING LIST
2009

BRITISH LITERATURE
1. GEOFFREY CHAUCER, Selections from *Canterbury Tales*
   • “General Prologue”
   • “The Wife of Bath’s Prologue”
   • “Wife of Bath’s Tale”
2. JOHN DONNE
   • “A Valediction Forbidding Mourning”
   • “The Flea”
   • “The Bait”
   • “The Canonization”
3. WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
   • *Othello*
   • Sonnet 18 “Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?”
   • Sonnet 130 “My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun”
4. WILLIAM CONGREVE, *The Way of the World*
5. JOHN KEATS
   • “Ode to a Nightingale”
   • “Ode on a Grecian Urn”
6. JOHN MILTON, *Paradise Lost*, Selected books
   • Books 1, 2, 9
7. JANE AUSTEN, *Pride and Prejudice*
8. CHARLOTTE BRONTË, *Jane Eyre*
9. CHARLES DICKENS, *Great Expectations*
10. CHRISTINA ROSSETTI, “Goblin Market”
11. OSCAR WILDE, *The Importance of Being Earnest*
12. JAMES JOYCE, *Dubliners*
13. W.B. YEATS
   • “Leda and the Swan”
   • “The Second Coming”
   • “Sailing to Byzantium”
   • “Among School Children”
   • “Easter 1916”
14. E. M. FORSTER, *Passage to India*
15. JEAN RHYS, *Wide Sargasso*
16. PHILLIP LARKIN
   • “Church Going”
   • “Lines on a Young Lady’s Photograph Album”
   • “MCMXIV”
17. PATRICIA POWELL, *The Pagoda*

U.S. LITERATURE
1. HENRY DAVID THOREAU
   • *Walden*
1. “Civil Disobedience”
2. HERMAN MELVILLE, “Benito Cereno”
3. WALT WHITMAN, Song of Myself
4. HARRIET JACOBS, Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl
5. MARIA AMPARO RUIZ DE BURTON, The Squatter and the Don
6. CHARLES CHESNUTT
   - “The Goophered Grapevine”
   - “A Metropolitan Experience”
   - “The Wife of His Youth”
7. EDITH WHARTON, The House of Mirth
8. HENRY JAMES, The Portrait of a Lady
9. T.S. ELIOT
   - “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”
   - “The Waste Land”
10. F. SCOTT FITZGERALD, The Great Gatsby
11. EMILY DICKINSON
    - “I taste a liquor never brewed”
    - “Some keep the Sabbath going to Church”
    - “I heard a Fly buzz—when I died—”
    - “I cannot live with You”
    - “I dwell in Possibility”
    - “Because I could not stop for Death—”
    - She rose to His Requirement—dropt
12. WILLIAM FAULKNER, The Sound and the Fury
13. ERNEST HEMINGWAY
    - “Soldier’s Home”
    - “Hills Like White Elephants”
    - “The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber”
14. RICHARD WRIGHT, Native Son
15. LORRAINE HANSBERRY, A Raisin in the Sun
16. CATHY SONG
    - “The Youngest Daughter”
    - “Beauty and Sadness”
    - “Lost Sister”
    - “Girl Powdering Her Neck”
    - “The White Porch”
17. FAE MYENNE NG, Bone

THEORY AND CRITICISM
1. WILLIAM WORDSWORTH, “Preface to Lyrical Ballads”
2. VIRGINIA WOOLF, A Room of One’s Own
4. TERRY EAGLETON, Literary Theory: An Introduction
5. BENEDICT ANDERSON, Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism. Selected chapters:
   - “Introduction”
• “Cultural Roots”
• “Origins of National Consciousness”
TONI MORRISON, Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination