

Saint Louis University

Department of English

PhD Exam Lists

September 2025

Rhetoric and Composition

“What is rhetoric?” [...], ‘The art of never finally answering that question.’ [...] [but] even if rhetoric is the art of never finally answering the question, ‘What is rhetoric?’ this art would necessarily include all attempts to finally answer that question.” John Muckelbauer

Rhetoric evolves in response to both time and place. Though rhetoric can be understood as an art and practice that endures across time and place, it is also an art and practice that is particular to time and place. Indeed, we could go so far as to say that each moment has its own unique rhetoric(s). Across these locations, rhetorics emerge and evolve, each building from and against those before and around it. Importantly, the history of rhetoric can be read as the accumulation of rhetorics each apart from and a part of the rest. These arguments continue to shape contemporary instruction in rhetoric and composition. Historical practices of argument challenge contemporary practices; at the same time, contemporary technologies can return to and augment ancient questions about the nature of knowledge, embodiment, and subjectivity. The student of this list should be able describe the evolution of rhetoric, writing, and technology and analyze how that evolutions shapes the contemporary discipline.

Please note: a few items on this list contain a series of landmark articles rather than books. These items introduce the students to ongoing arguments, arguments that have emerged in journals rather than monographs or collections. Given the disciplinary orientation of rhetoric and composition, which tends to make critical and theoretical texts the primary source of study, these items are arranged to stand as the equivalent of a single book.

1. Bizzell, Patricia and Bruce Herzberg, *The Rhetorical Tradition: Readings from Classical Times to the Present* (2001)
2. Kennedy, George A, *Classical Rhetoric and Its Christian and Secular Tradition from Ancient to Modern Times* (1999)
3. Foss, Karen A., Sonja K. Foss & Robert Trapp, *Readings in Contemporary Rhetoric* (2002) and *Contemporary Perspectives on Rhetoric* (2001)
4. Murphy, James J., *A Short History of Writing Instruction: From Ancient Greece to Modern America* (2001)
5. Kimball, Bruce A., *Orators and Philosophers: A History of the Idea of Liberal Education* (1995)
6. Sloane, Thomas O., *On the Contrary* (1997)
7. White, Eric Charles, *Kaironomia* (1987)
8. Grassi, Ernesto, *Rhetoric as Philosophy* (1990)
9. Glenn, Cheryl, *Rhetoric Retold: Regendering the Transition from Antiquity through the Renaissance* (1997)
10. Lunsford, Andrea A., *Reclaiming Rhetorica: Women in the Rhetorical Tradition* (1995)
11. Hawhee, Debra, *Bodily Arts* (2009)
12. Plato, *Phaedrus, Gorgias, and Protagoras* (Edited by Nienkamp, 1999)
13. Aristotle, *Rhetoric* (translated by Kennedy, 2nd. ed. 2006)
14. Isocrates, *Against the Sophists* and *Antidosis* (translated by Norlin, 1929)
15. The Sophists and the Teaching of Rhetoric
 - a. Poulakos, John, “Toward a Sophistic Definition of Rhetoric.” *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, vol. 16, no. 1, 1983, pp. 35-48.

- b. Schiappa, Edward, "Neo-Sophistic Rhetorical Criticism or the Historical Reconstruction of Sophistic Doctrines?" *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, vol. 23, no. 3, 1990, pp. 192-217.
 - c. Poulakos, John, "Interpreting Sophistical Rhetoric: A Response to Schiappa." *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, vol. 23, no. 3, 1990, pp. 218-228.
 - d. Schiappa, Edward, "History and Neo-Sophistical Criticism: A Reply to Poulakos." *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, vol. 23, no. 4, 1990, pp. 307-315
 - e. Vitanza, Victor, "The Sophists?" *Negation, Subjectivity, and the History of Rhetoric*. Albany: SUNY Press, 1996.
 - f. Crowley, Sharon, "A Plea for the Revival of Sophistry." *Rhetoric Review*, vol. 7, 1989, pp. 318-34.
 - g. Gagarin, Michael, "Did the Sophists Aim to Persuade?" *Rhetorica*, vol. 19, no. 3, 2001, pp. 275-91.
16. Cicero, *On Invention and On the Orator* (translated by Hubbell, 1976)
 17. Quintilian, *Institutes of Oratory, I. X-XII* (translated by Russell, 2001); Lanham, "The 'Q' Question" (1993)
 18. Augustine, *On Christian Doctrine* (translated by Robertson, 1958)
 19. Burke Kenneth, *Attitudes Toward History* (1984)
 20. Burke, Kenneth, *Rhetoric of Motives* (1969)
 21. Perelman, Chaïm and Lucie Olbrechts-Tyteca, *The New Rhetoric* (1991)
 22. Toulmin, Stephen, *Cosmopolis* (1992)
 23. Jarratt, Susan C., *Rereading the Sophists: Classical Rhetoric Refigured* (1998)
 24. Ong, Walter, *Orality and Literacy* (1982)
 25. Ong, Walter, *Presence of the Word*, (1967)
 26. Havelock, Eric, *Preface to Plato* (1963)
 27. The Rhetorical Situation
 - a. Bitzer, Lloyd, "The Rhetorical Situation." *Philosophy and Rhetoric* vol. 1, no. 1, 1968, pp. 1-14.
 - b. Burke, Kenneth. "The Rhetorical Situation." *Communication: Ethical and Moral Issues*, edited by Lee Thayer, Gordon and Breach Science Publishers, 1973, pp. 263-75.
 - c. Consigny, Scott. "Rhetoric and Its Situations." *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, vol. 7, no. 3, 1974, pp. 175-186.
 - d. Vatz, Richard E. "The Myth of the Rhetorical Situation." *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, vol. 6, no. 3, 1973, pp. 154-61.
 - e. Biesecker, Barbara A. "Rethinking the Rhetorical Situation from Within the Thematic of Differance." *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, vol. 22, no. 2, 1989, pp. 110-30.
 - f. Edbauer, Jennifer. "Unframing Models of Public Distribution: From Rhetorical Situation to Rhetorical Ecologies." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, vol. 35, no. 4, 2005, pp. 5-24.
 - g. Rickert, Thomas. "In the House of Doing: Rhetoric and the Kairos of Ambience." *JAC*, vol. 24, no. 4, 2004, pp. 901-927.
 28. The Agency of the Rhetor
 - a. Miller, Carolyn. "What Can Automation Tell Us About Agency." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, vol. 37, no. 2, 2007, pp. 137-157.
 - b. Lundberg, Christian and Joshua Gunn. "'Ouija Board, Are There Any Communications?' Agency, Ontotheology, and the Death of the Humanist Subject, or, Continuing the ARS Conversation." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, vol. 35, no. 4, 2005, pp. 83-105.

- c. Herndl, Carl and Adela Licona. "Shifting Agency: Agency, Kairos and the Possibilities of Social Action." *Communicative Practices in Workplaces and the Professions*, edited by Mark Zachry and Charlotte Thralls, Baywood, 2007, pp. 133-153.
 - d. Geisler, Cheryl. "How Ought We to Understand the Concept of Rhetorical Agency? Report from the ARS." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, vol. 34, no. 3, 2004, pp. 9-17.
 - e. Geisler, Cheryl. "Teaching the Post-Modern Rhetor: Continuing the Conversation on Rhetorical Agency." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, vol. 35, no. 4, 2005, pp. 107-113.
 - f. Cooper, Marilyn. "Rhetorical Agency as Emergent and Enacted." *College Composition and Communication*, vol. 62, no. 3, 2001, pp. 420-449.
 - g. Cooper, Marilyn. "Being Linked in the Matrix: Biology, Technology, and Writing." *Rhetorics and Technologies: New Directions in Writing and Communication*, edited by Stuart A. Selber, University of South Carolina Press, 2013, pp. 15-32.
29. Berlin, James A., *Writing Instruction in Nineteenth-Century American Colleges* (1984)
 30. Brereton, John C., *The Origins of Composition Studies in the American College, 1875-1925: A Documentary History* (1995)
 31. Crowley, Sharon, *Composition in the University* (1998)
 32. Berthoff, Ann E., *Forming, Thinking, Writing* (1978)
 33. Hawk, Byron, *Counter-History of Composition* (2007)
 34. Phelps, Louise Wetherbee, *Composition as a Human Science: Contributions to the Self-Understanding of a Discipline* (1991)
 35. Miller, Thomas, *The Formation of College English: Rhetoric and Belles Lettres in the British Cultural Provinces* (1997)
 36. Dobrin, Sidney I., J.A. Rice, & Michael Vastola, *Beyond Post-Process* (2011)
 37. Lutkewitte, Claire, *Multimodal Composition: A Critical Sourcebook* (2013)
 38. Shipka, Jody, *Toward a Composition Made Whole* (2011)
 39. Pedagogies of New Media
 - a. Rice, Jenny Edbauer. "Rhetoric's Mechanics: Retooling the Equipment of Writing Production." *College Composition and Communication*, vol. 60, no. 2, 2008, pp. 366-387.
 - b. Selfe, Cynthia L. "Technology and Literacy: A Story about the Perils of Not Paying Attention." *College Composition and Communication*, vol. 50, no. 3, 1999, pp. 411-436.
 - c. Anson, Chris M. "Distant Voices: Teaching and Writing in a Culture of Technology." *College English*, vol. 61, no. 3, 1999, pp. 261-280.
 - d. Bernhardt, Stephen A. "The Shape of Text to Come: The Texture of Print on Screens." *College Composition and Communication*, vol. 44, no. 2, 1993, pp. 151-175.
 - e. Blackmon, Samantha. "(Cyber)Conspiracy Theories? African-American Students in the Computerized Writing Environment" *Labor, Writing Technologies, and the Shaping of Composition in the Academy*, edited by Takayoshi and Sullivan, 2007, pp. 153-166.
 - f. Miller, Richard. "When the Cutting Edge of Technology is at Your Throat." *Labor, Writing Technologies, and the Shaping of Composition in the Academy*, edited by Takayoshi and Sullivan, 2007, pp. 23-38.
 40. Rhetoric Theory and New Media
 - a. Bay, Jennifer, and Thomas Rickert. "New Media and the Fourfold." *JAC*, vol. 28, no. 1/2, 2008, pp. 209-244.
 - b. Brooke, Collin Gifford. "Forgetting to be Posthuman." *JAC*, vol. 20, no. 4, 2000, pp. 775-95.
 - c. Blythe, Stuart. "Agencies, Ecologies, and the Mundane Artifacts in Our Midst." *Labor, Writing Technologies, and the Shaping of Composition in the Academy*, edited by Pamela Takayoshi and Patricia Sullivan. Hampton P, 2007, pp. 167-86.

- d. Covino, William A. "Grammars of Transgression: Golems, Cyborgs, and Mutants." *Rhetoric Review*, vol. 14, no. 2, 1996, pp. 355–373.
- e. Haraway, Donna. "A Manifesto for Cyborgs: Science, Technology, and Socialist Feminism in the 1980s." *Feminism/Postmodernism*, edited by Linda Nicholson, Routledge, 1990, pp. 190-233.
- f. Longo, Bernadette. "Human+ Machine Culture: Where We Work." *Digital Literacy for Technical Communication*, edited by Rachel Spilka, Routledge, 2009, pp. 163-184.
- g. Taylor, Nicholas. "Where the Women Are." *Play Between Worlds: Exploring Online Game Culture*, MIT Press, 2009, pp. 93-124
- 41. Rickert, Thomas, *Ambient Rhetoric* (2013)
- 42. Davis, Diane, *Inessential Solidarity* (2010)
- 43. Biesecker, Barbara, *Addressing Postmodernity* (1997)
- 44. Muckelbauer, John, *Future of Invention* (2009)
- 45. Yagelski, Robert, *Writing as Way of Being* (2011)
- 46. Alcorn, Marshall W., *Changing the Subject* (2002)
- 47. Dolmage, Jay Timothy, *Disability Rhetoric* (2014)
- 48. Banks, Adam J., *Digital Griots* (2010)
- 49. Alexander, Jonathan and Jacqueline Rhodes, *Sexual Rhetorics: Methods, Identities, Publics* (2015)
- 50. Lynch, Paul and Nathaniel Rivers, *Thinking With Bruno Latour in Rhetoric and Composition* (2015)

Late Medieval and Sixteenth Century Literature

The rationale behind this list is that intending Ph.D. candidates should obtain a grasp of a range of writings in Middle English and the Tudor period, and of the powerful and provocative texts that show that range. It attends to the extraordinary variety of genres that make up medieval and Tudor literature, and asks you to think about the kind of dialogue that might be set up among them. It includes major authors, such as Chaucer, that you'll be expected to know thoroughly as a scholar and future teacher, but also aims to indicate emerging and less well-known areas that have redefined the whole shape of the field in the last decades and produced new canons: race and ethnicity, medieval women's writing, conflicts around political and religious hierarchy, theories of sex, gender, bodies, and identities, disability, national histories, book and manuscript histories, and the questioning of period boundaries between "medieval" and "early modern."

1. Marie de France, *Lais* (in translation) (late twelfth century)
2. Chrétien de Troyes, *Yvain* and *Lancelot* (in translation) (late twelfth century)
3. Guillaume de Lorris and Jean de Meun, *Le Roman de la Rose* (in translation) (1230-1275)
4. Layamon's *Brut* (ca. 1190)
5. *The Life of Christina of Markyate*, trans. C.H. Talbot, revised Fanous and Leyser, Oxford World's Classics 2008 (twelfth century)
6. *The Owl and the Nightingale* (late twelfth or thirteenth century)
7. *Ancrene Wisse* (early thirteenth century)
8. Middle English romances: "Havelok," "Ywain and Gawain," "Sir Orfeo," "Sir Launfal," "The Awntyrs off Arthure at the Terne Wathelyne," "The Weddyng of Syr Gawen and Dame Ragnell," "The Sege off Melayne," (all in *Middle English Romances*, ed. Stephen H.A. Shepherd, Norton Critical Editions), *Sir Gowther*, *The Tale of Gamelyn*, *King of Tars*. (ca.1225 to ca.1500)
9. Middle English lyrics (either Richard L. Hoffman and Maxwell S. Luria, eds. *Middle English Lyrics* (Norton Critical Editions) or Thomas G. Duncan, ed. *Medieval English Lyrics: 1200-1400*, Penguin Classics,1996) (thirteenth to fifteenth centuries)
10. Geoffrey Chaucer, *Canterbury Tales* (all) (ca. 1387-1400)
11. Geoffrey Chaucer, *Troilus and Criseyde* (1381-86)
12. Geoffrey Chaucer, *Book of the Duchess*, *House of Fame*, *Parliament of Fowls*, *Legend of Good Women*, *Anelida and Arcite* and shorter poems (in Chaucer, *Dream Visions and Other Poems*, ed. Kathryn L. Lynch, Norton Critical Editions) (late 1370s-1388)
13. Thomas Usk, *The Testament of Love* (1384-5)
14. *St Erkenwald* (ca. 1386)
15. *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, *Pearl*, *Cleanness*, *Patience* (1400-1410)
16. William Langland, *Piers Plowman* (B Text) (ca. 1377)
17. *Wynnere and Wastoure* (ca. 1352)
18. John Gower, *Confessio Amantis* (1390)
19. *The Siege of Jerusalem* (ca. 1382-1390)
20. Alliterative *Morte Arthure* (ca. 1400)
21. Christine de Pizan, *Book of the City of Ladies* (in translation) (1405)
22. Thomas Hoccleve, *The Regement of Princes* and "My Compleinte" and *Other Poems*, ed. Roger Ellis (1411)
23. *Cloud of Unknowing* (late fourteenth century)
24. *The Book of Margery Kempe* (ca. 1436-8)

25. Julian of Norwich, *A Vision and A Revelation* (
26. John Lydgate, *The Siege of Thebes* and *The Temple of Glass* (
27. *Selected Wycliffite Writings*, ed. Anne Hudson (1380s)
28. Osbern Bokenham, *Legends of Holy Women* (1443–1447)
29. *York Play* (ca. 1463–1477)
30. The Digby *Mary Magdalene Play* (late fourteenth/early fifteenth century)
31. *Croxton Play of the Sacrament* (ca. 1491)
32. *Macro Plays* (*Castle of Perseverance*, *Mankind*, *Wisdom*)
33. Sir Thomas Malory, *Morte Darthur* (The Winchester Manuscript, ed. Helen Cooper) (1469–70)
34. Hary, *The Wallace* (ca. 1471–79)
35. Henryson, Douglas, Dunbar: all selections in *The Makars: An Anthology*, ed. Jacqueline Tasioulas (Canongate) (fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries)
36. *Book of John Mandeville*, ed. and trans. Iain MacLeod Higgins (Hackett) (ca. 1357–66)
37. *Paston Letters* (selection, e.g. Diane Watt) (1422–1509)
38. James I, *The Kingis Quair* (fifteenth century)
39. Henry Medwall, *Fulgens and Lucrece* (ca. 1497)
40. Thomas More, *Utopia* (1516), *Dialogue of Comfort Against Tribulation* (1553)
41. John Skelton, *Bowge of Court*, *Philip Sparowe*, *Tunning of Elynour Rummyng*, *Speke Parott*, *Collyn Cloute*, *Garland of Laurel* (1513–1522)
42. William Baldwin, *Beware the Cat* (1553)
43. William Tyndale, *The Obedience of a Christian Man* (1528)
44. John Bale, *King John* (1538)
45. Thomas Wyatt, *Songs*, *Epigrams*, *Sonnets*, *Satires*, *Psalms* (1557)
46. Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, poems, translations, Psalm paraphrases (1557)
47. Sir Thomas Elyot, *The Boke named the Governour* (1531)
48. John Heywood, *The Play of Love*, *The Play of the Wether* (1533)
49. *The Examinations of Anne Askew* (1547)
50. Nicholas Udall, *Roister Doister* (ca. 1451), *Respublica* (1553)

Early Modern British Literature

In terms of literary culture, the early-modern period may be characterized as beginning with the wide-scale introduction of printing into England and Scotland (and later to Ireland) in the late fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries. When it ended is a matter of dispute, but for the purposes of this list we are adopting the development of new poetic and literary styles associated with post-Restoration culture as an appropriate *terminus ad quem*. That is not to say that manuscript culture disappeared with the arrival of the printed book. Far from it. But the dissemination of printed works effected profound changes in relationships between authors and readers. The works selected here are representative of some (not all) of the dominant literary styles and genres of the first two hundred years of anglophone print culture. The range is purposefully broad, encompassing: courtly lyric poetry; religious and controversial works; romance; handbooks for behavior; satire; rhetorical treatises; play texts; voyage narratives; philosophical inquiry; political treatises; autobiography; and religious poetry. Certain texts may be considered literary and cultural landmarks (e.g. the 1611 or “King James” Bible, *The Book of Common Prayer*, the 1623 folio of Shakespeare’s plays, Milton’s *Paradise Lost*) whose lasting effects on literary culture still resonate with modern writers and readers. Other texts are more immediately rooted in the circumstances of their production, which include religious debate, questions concerning government, gender, and the mid-seventeenth century political confrontations of the British civil wars. A student who has read the works on this list and thought about the different patterns of similarity and difference which may be traced between and amongst the texts we have selected, should, we feel, be reasonably well prepared to begin further scholarly inquiry at doctoral level into early-modern literature and culture.

1. John Skelton, selected poetry (c. 1489-1523) (suggested edition Scattergood, 1983).
2. William Dunbar, selected poetry (c. 1500-1513) (suggested editions Bawcutt, 1998, or Conlee, 2004).
3. Sir Thomas More, *Utopia* (1516).
4. Sir Thomas Wyatt, selected poetry (c. 1525-42) (suggested edition Daalder, 1975).
5. Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, selected poetry (c. 1530s-1547) (suggested edition Jones, 1964).
6. Sir Thomas Elyot, *The Book called the Governor* (1531).
7. *The Book of Common Prayer* (either 1552 or 1662 edition).
8. John Knox, *The First Blast of the Trumpet Against the Monstrous Regiment of Women* (1558).
9. Queen Elizabeth I, selected prose and poetry (suggested edition Marcus, Rose, and Mueller, 2002).
10. The Bible (Geneva version (1560) or Authorized (1611) version): Genesis, Exodus, Judges, 1-2 Samuel, Song of Solomon, Job, Luke, John, 1-2 Corinthians, Romans, Revelation.
11. Baldassare Castiglione, *The Book of the Courtier* (trans. Sir Thomas Hoby, 1561).
12. Isabella Whitney, selections from *The Copy of a Letter... to her Unconstant Lover* (1566-7), *A Sweet Nosegay* (1573).
13. William Baldwin, *Beware the Cat* (1553).
14. Edmund Spenser, *The Shepheardes Calendar* (1579), *The Faerie Queene*. I-III (1590), “The Mutabilitie Cantos” (1609) (suggested edition Hamilton, 2001).
15. Sir Walter Raleigh, selected poetry (c. 1582-92) (suggested edition Rudick, 1999).
16. Christopher Marlowe, *Tamburlaine* (Pt. I) (c. 1587), *Edward II* (c. 1592), *Doctor Faustus* (1593).
17. George Puttenham, *The Art of English Poesy* (1589) (suggested edition Rebhorn and Whigham, 2007).
18. Sir Philip Sidney, *Astrophil and Stella* (1591), *An Apologie for Poetry* (1595).

19. Thomas Kyd, *The Spanish Tragedy* (1592).
20. John Donne, selections from the poetry and prose (suggested edition Carey, 1990).
21. Thomas Nashe, *The Unfortunate Traveller* (1594).
22. Selections from Richard Hakluyt, *The Principal Navigations, Voyages, Traffiques and Discoveries of the English Nation* (1598-1600) (suggested edition Beeching, 1972).
23. King James VI and I, *Basilicon Doron* (1599) (suggested edition Sommerville, 1994).
24. Sir John Davies, "Nosce Teipsum" (1599) (suggested edition Krueger, 1975).
25. Mary (Sidney) Herbert, Countess of Pembroke, *Psalms* (trans., with Sir Philip Sidney, 1599) (suggested edition Hannay et al., 1998).
26. Michel de Montaigne, selections from the *Essays* (trans. John Florio, 1603).
27. William Shakespeare: of the 37 plays, select 5 comedies, 5 histories, 5 tragedies (as designated in the 1623 First Folio); study the structure (including paratexts) of the 1623 Folio and be aware of special problems involving variant quarto editions.
28. Sir Francis Bacon, *The Advancement of Learning* (1605).
29. Thomas Middleton, *The Revengers Tragedy* (1606).
30. Ben Jonson, *Volpone* (c. 1605-6), *The Masque of Blackness* (1608), *The Alchemist* (1610), *Bartholomew Fair* (1614), *The Forrest* (1616).
31. Aemilia Lanyer, *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum* (1611).
32. John Webster, *The White Devil* (1612).
33. Elizabeth Cary, *The Tragedie of Mariam* (1613).
34. Mary Wroth, Pamphilia to Amphilanthus from *The Countesse of Montgomery's Urania* (1621) (suggested edition Roberts, *The Poems of Lady Mary Wroth*, 1983).
35. William Rowley, John Ford, Thomas Dekker, *The Witch of Edmonton* (1621)
36. Thomas Middleton and William Rowley, *The Changeling* (1622).
37. George Herbert, selections from *The Temple* (1633).
38. Sir Thomas Browne, *Religio Medici* (1643).
39. John Milton, *Poems* (1645), *Paradise Lost* (1667), *Samson Agonistes* (1671), *Areopagitica* (1644).
40. Richard Crashaw, selections from *Steps to the Temple* (1646).
41. Richard Lovelace, selections from *Lucasta* (1649), *Lucasta: Posthume Poems* (1660).
42. Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan* (1651) Parts I and II.
43. Anna Trapnel, *The Cry of a Stone* (1654).
44. Margaret Cavendish, *The Blazing World* (1666).
45. Katherine Philips, selected poetry (first authorized edition 1667) (suggested edition Thomas, 1995).
46. John Wilmot, 2nd Earl of Rochester, selected poems (c. 1672-1676) (suggested edition Walker, 1988).
47. John Bunyan, *The Pilgrim's Progress* (1678).
48. Andrew Marvell, selected poems (first edition 1681) (suggested edition Smith, 2006).
49. John Dryden, *Absalom and Achitophel* (1681).
50. Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko* (1688).

Nineteenth Century American Literature

The following list of literary works, ranging from the beginning of the nineteenth century and into the first decade of the twentieth, is designed with two general goals in mind. First, this wide-ranging list contains texts that are generally considered to be among the most important works written during the period. Though we are wary of the term canonical, it is also the case that professionals seeking expertise in the field should be familiar with the vast majority of these titles. Second, the list has been constructed with the intention of illustrating in broad strokes some of the fundamental themes and concepts of the peculiarly American ideologies that arose during the time period covered. While it is true that ideology can mean many things to many people, it is also clear that large amounts of effort in the field of American studies have historically been devoted to the meaning and effects of race, slavery, and conquest; the study of the rise of American empire; and the lingering influence of such concepts as myth and symbol, American exceptionalism, and the American dream. The titles presented here are illustrative of these rhetorical and ideological constructs.

1. Foster, Hannah. *The Coquette* (1797)
2. Brown, Charles Brockden. *Wieland; Or, the Transformation* (1798)
3. Irving, Washington. *The Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon* (1820)
4. Sedgwick, Catharine Maria. *Hope Leslie* (1827)
5. Cooper, James Fenimore. *Last of the Mohicans* (1828)
6. Walker, David. *Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World* (1829)
7. Emerson, Ralph Waldo. Selected Essays: "Nature" (1836), "The American Scholar" (1837), "War" (1838), "The Divinity School Address" (1838), "Self Reliance" (1841), "Circles" (1841), "Experience" (1844), "The Poet" (1844)
8. Poe, Edgar Allan. *Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym* (1838) 29)
9. Poe, Edgar Allan. Selected Tales: "The Man of the Crowd" (1840), "The Murders in the Rue Morgue" (1840), "The Gold-Bug" (1843), "A Tale of the Ragged Mountains" (1844), "The Fall of the House of Usher" (1843), "The Purloined Letter" (1844-1845)
10. Hawthorne, Nathaniel. *The Scarlet Letter* (1850)
11. Fuller, Margaret. *Women in the Nineteenth Century* (1845)
12. Douglass, Frederick. *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* (1845)
13. Truth, Sojourner. *The Narrative of Sojourner Truth* (1850)
14. Warner, Susan. *The Wide, Wide World* (1850)
15. Melville, Herman. *Moby-Dick* (1851). Selected Tales: "Bartleby the Scrivener" (1853), "Benito Cereno" (1855)
16. Fern, Fanny. *Ruth Hall* (1854)
17. Cummins, Susanna. *The Lamplighter* (1854)
18. Stowe, Harriet Beecher. *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1852)
19. Thoreau, Henry David. *Walden* (1854)
20. Whitman, Walt. *Leaves of Grass* (1855) and the following poems from later editions: "Crossing Brooklyn Ferry"; "Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking"; "As I Ebb'd with the Ocean of Life"; "Passage to India"; "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloomed"
21. Lincoln, Abraham. Selected Speeches: The "House Divided" Speech (1858); The Cooper Union Speech (1860); "First Inaugural" (1861); "Gettysburg Address" (1863); "Second Inaugural" (1865)
22. Southworth, E.D.E.N. *The Hidden Hand* (1859)
23. Jacobs, Harriet. *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (1861)
24. Davis, Rebecca. *Life in the Iron Mills* (1861)

25. Alcott, Louisa May, *Little Women* (1868)
26. James, Henry. *The Ambassadors* (1903).
27. Harris, Joel Chandler. *Nights With Uncle Remus Myths and Legends of the Old Plantation* (Penguin), *Uncle Remus* (1880)
28. Twain, Mark. *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1884).
29. Twain, Mark. *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* (1889)
30. Howells, William Dean. *The Rise of Silas Lapham* (1885).
31. Bellamy, Edward. *Looking Backward: 2000 - 1887* (1888)
32. Dickinson, Emily. *Final Harvest* (Back Bay Books), *Poems* (1890)
33. Riis, Jacob. *How the Other Half Lives* (1890)
34. Bierce, Ambrose. *Tales of Soldiers and Civilians* (1891)
35. Harper, Frances. *Iola Leroy* (1892)
36. Crane, Stephen. *The Red Badge of Courage* (1895)
37. Dunbar, Paul Laurence. *Selected Poems by Paul Laurence Dunbar* (Dover).
38. Jewett, Sarah Orne. *The Country of the Pointed Firs* (1896)
39. Baum, Frank. *The Wizard of Oz* (1900)
40. Chopin, Kate. *The Awakening* (1899)
41. Norris, Frank. *McTeague* (1899)
42. Dreiser, Theodore. *Sister Carrie* (1900)
43. Wharton, Edith. *The House of Mirth* (1900)
44. Zitkala-Sa. *American Indian Stories* (1921; writings originally published 1900-1902)
45. Washington, Booker T. *Up from Slavery* (1901)
46. Chesnutt, Charles. *The Conjure Woman* (1899)
47. Du Bois, W. E. B. *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903)
48. London, Jack. *Call of the Wild* (1903)
49. Sinclair, Upton. *The Jungle* (1906)
50. Eaton, Edith Maude (Sui Sin Far). "Leaves from the Mental Portfolio of an Eurasian," "In the Land of the Free" (1909).

C18-19 African American Literature

As this list represents a small sampling of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in African American literature, it should probably also be noted that this list's other feature is its representation of pre-1800 and pre-1900 black literature that is today still possible to find without difficulty. This also means that the era's total fund of works from which the additional twenty items students must draw may itself have items listed only in rare-book collections. Even some works that first appeared later in the nineteenth century are difficult to locate today without significant archival work; today, however, not only do literary critics but also historians continue to make new discoveries about the American slave past so that its literature becomes more accessible to all of us. Those additional twenty works, then, may take the form of critical or historical commentary among accessible primary works that the student may yet find. The works below are what are both extant and reasonably easy to locate. Venues for some of the works listed herein include *The Norton Anthology of African American Literature*; *Call and Response: The Riverside Anthology of the African American Literary Tradition*; *Early Negro Writing, 1760-1837*, Dorothy Porter, ed.; Oxford University Press's *Schomburg Library of Nineteenth-Century Black Women Writers*, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., gen. ed.; and *The Wiley-Blackwell Anthology of African American Literature*, vol. 1. An excellent online source for writers from the South is the open site managed by UNC-Chapel Hill, Documenting the American South (<https://docsouth.unc.edu>).

1. Briton Hammon, *A Narrative of the Uncommon Sufferings, and Surprising [sic] Deliverance* (1760)
2. Johnson Green, *The Life and Confession* (1786)
3. Olaudah Equiano (Gustavus Vassa), *Interesting Narrative* (1789)
4. Prince Hall, *A Charge Delivered to the African Lodge at Menotomy* (1797)
5. Venture Smith, *A Narrative of the Life and Adventures* (1798)
6. Phillis Wheatley, collected works (*Schomburg Lib.*, Oxford UP 1988)
7. John Marrant, *A Narrative of the Lord's Wonderful Dealings* (1802)
8. "A Member of the African Society," *The Sons of Africans: An Essay on Freedom* (1808)
9. John Joyce, *Confession for the Murder of Mrs. Sarah Cross* (1808)
10. Solomon Bayley, *A Narrative of Some Remarkable Incidents in the Life* (1825)
11. David Walker, *Appeal in Four Articles* [Preamble and Article I only] (1829)
12. Mary Prince, *The History of Mary Prince, a West Indian Slave* (1831)
13. Maria W. Stewart, *Religion and the Pure Principles of Morality; The Sure Foundation on Which We Must Build* (1831)
14. Rev. Paul W. Quinn, *The Origins, Horrors, and Results of Slavery* (1834)
15. Victor Séjour, "The Mulatto" (1837)
16. Moses Roper, *A Narrative of the Adventures and Escape* (1839)
17. Henry Highland Garnet, "An Address to the Slaves of the United States of America" (1843)
18. George Moses Horton, *Naked Genius* (poems, 1843)
19. Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life* (1845)
20. Henry Bibb, *Narrative of the Life and Adventures* (1849)
21. Mary Ann Shadd Cary, *A Plea for Emigration, or, Notes of Canada West* (1852)
22. Solomon Northup, *Twelve Years a Slave* (1853)
23. William Wells Brown, *Clotel; or, a Tale of the Southern States* (1853)
24. Hannah Crafts, *The Bondswoman's Narrative* (? bt. 1853-1861; pub. 2002)
25. Mary Seacole, *The Wonderful Adventures of Mrs. Seacole in Many Lands* (1857)
26. Frank J. Webb, *The Garies and Their Friends* (1857)
27. Harriet Wilson, *Our Nig; or, Sketches from the Life of a Free Black* (1859)
28. Eliza Potter, *A Hairdresser's Experience in High Life* (1859)

29. Martin J. Delany, *Blake; or, the Huts of America* (1859)
30. William and Ellen Craft, *Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom* (1860)
31. Harriet Jacobs, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (1861)
32. Louisa Picquet, *The Octoroon; or, Inside Views of Southern Domestic Life* (1861)
33. Charlotte Forten [Grimké], *The Journals of Charlotte L. Forten* (c. 1850s-60s) [can be found in 1 vol., Ray Allen Billington, ed., 1981]
34. Julia C. Collins, *The Curse of Caste; or, The Slave Bride* (1865)
35. Mattie Jackson, *The Story of Mattie J. Jackson* (1866)
36. Elizabeth Keckley, *Behind the Scenes; or, Thirty Years a Slave and Four Years in the White House* (1868)
37. John Quincy Adams, *Narrative of the Life When in Slavery and Now as a Free Man* (1872)
38. Joshua McCarter Simpson, *The Emancipation Car* (poems, 1874)
39. Josiah Henson, *Uncle Tom's Story of His Life* (1877)
40. Sojourner Truth [b. Isabella Van Wagener], *Narrative of Sojourner Truth* (1878)
41. Amelia E. Johnson (Mrs. A. E. Johnson), *Clarence and Corinne; or, God's Way* (1890)
42. Lucy A. Delaney, *From the Darkness Cometh the Light, or, Struggle for Freedom* (1891)
43. Anna Julia Cooper, *A Voice from the South* (1892)
44. Frances E. W. Harper, *Iola Leroy* (1892)
45. Olivia Ward Bush-Banks, *Collected Works* [Schomburg Lib., Oxford UP 1991]
46. "Sanda" (William Stowers and Robert Anderson), *Appointed: An American Novel* (1894)
47. Ida B. Wells-Barnett, *A Red Record* (1895)
48. Paul Laurence Dunbar, *Lyrics of Lowly Life* (poems, 1895)
49. Albery Allson Whitman, *Twasinta's Seminoles; or, The Rape of Florida* (1895)
50. Sutton Griggs, *Imperium in Imperio* (1899)

The British Long Nineteenth Century

A recognized category of literary history, the long nineteenth century is defined somewhat differently by different scholars. Its origins can be dated to biographically significant events such as Wordsworth's birth in 1770; political upheavals such as the French Revolution in 1789; or landmark literary publications, such as the appearance of *Lyrical Ballads* in 1798. Similarly, its ending could be argued as 1895, the year of Oscar Wilde's trial; 1901, the date of Queen Victoria's death; or 1914, the beginning of the first World War. Understanding the various scholarly arguments for and against these dates, as well as others, is an important beginning for embarking on the study of this literary period. For the purposes of the following list, we have defined this period as beginning in 1789 and ending in 1914. Bracketed by two political upheavals that produced extended periods of military conflict, the long nineteenth century was a period of revolution and radical reform – aesthetically, politically, sexually, and culturally. From the formal and political experiments of the Romantics and Victorians to the vexed attempts by the early Modernists to forge a new literary tradition, the cultures of British long nineteenth century are a key site for the formation of the present.

1. Blake, *Marriage of Heaven and Hell* (1790)
2. Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France* (1790)
3. Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (1792)
4. Godwin, *Caleb Williams* (1794)
5. Wordsworth, *The Prelude* (1799; 1805; 1850)
6. Owenson, *The Wild Irish Girl* (1806)
7. Anon., *The Woman of Colour* (1808)
8. Austen, *Mansfield Park* (1814) and *Sanditon* (1817)
9. Scott, *Waverley* (1814)
10. Edgeworth, *Harrington* (1817)
11. Coleridge, Selected Poems
12. M. Wollstonecraft Shelley, *Frankenstein* (1818 & 1831 editions)
13. Byron, *Don Juan* (1819-1824)
14. Keats, Selected Poems
15. P.B. Shelley, *Prometheus Unbound* (1820)
16. DeQuincey, *Confessions of an English Opium Eater* (1821)
17. Clare, *Poems Descriptive of Rural Life and Scenery* (1820)
18. Hemans, *Records of Women* (1828)
19. Mary Prince, *The History of Mary Prince* (1831)
20. Carlyle, *Past and Present* (1843)
21. SELECTED POEMS BY WOMEN ON SLAVERY, INDIGENEITY, EMPIRE AND THE WORKING CLASS:
L.E.L., "The Factory" (1835); Eliza Hamilton Dunlop, ["The Aboriginal Mother"](#) (1841); Elizabeth Barrett Browning, "The Cry of the Children" (1843), "The Runaway Slave at Pilgrim's Point" (1848) and "A Curse for a Nation" (1856); Eliza Cook, "A Song for the Workers," "A Song to 'the People of England'" (c. 1845), and "The Englishman" (1851)
22. Tennyson, *In Memoriam* (completed 1849); *Maud* (1855); "Opening of the Indian and Colonial Exhibition" (1886)
23. C. Brontë, *Jane Eyre* (1847) and *Villette* (1853)
24. E. Brontë, *Wuthering Heights* (1847)
25. Dickens, *Bleak House* (1853)
26. Gaskell, *North and South* (1855)
27. Trollope, *The Warden* (1855)

28. R. Browning, selected poems: "Fra Lippo Lippi," "My Last Duchess," "Porphyria's Lover," "How they Brought the Good News from Ghent to Aix," "Pippa Passes," "A Toccata of Galuppi's," and "Love Among the Ruins" with Edward Burne-Jones's watercolor of the same name.
29. Seacole, *Wonderful Adventures of Mrs Seacole in Many Lands* (1857)
30. J.S. Mill, *On Liberty* (1859) and *On the Subjection of Women* (1869)
31. Ruskin, *Sesame and Lilies* (1865)
32. Carroll, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (1865)
33. Collins, *The Moonstone* (1868)
34. Arnold, *Culture and Anarchy* (1869) and "Dover Beach" (c. 1851)
35. AESTHETICISM: Pater, *The Renaissance* (1873 edn): "Preface," "The School of Giorgione," "Conclusion"; and Swinburne, *Poems and Ballads* (1866) with Edward Burne-Jones's accompanying painting for "Laus Veneris"
36. George Eliot, *Middlemarch* (1871-2)
37. George Eliot, *Daniel Deronda* (1876)
38. Toru Dutt, *Ancient Ballads and Legends of Hindustan*, with introduction by Edmund Gosse (*posth.* 1882)
39. Christina Rossetti and Dante Gabriel Rossetti, poems: "In an Artist's Studio" (1856; *posth.* 1894); "Goblin Market" (1862); "The Blessed Damozel" (1850) with accompanying painting(s); "Jenny" (1848); "A Sonnet is a Moment's Monument" with accompanying image (1881). See Rossettiarchive.org for images.
40. Hopkins, poems: "God's Grandeur," "As kingfishers catch fire," "The Windhover," "Pied Beauty," and "Carrion Comfort"
41. Schreiner, *Story of an African Farm* (1883)
42. Stevenson, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (1886)
43. Michael Field, *Long Ago* (1889)
44. Wilde, *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1890) and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895)
45. Hardy, *Jude the Obscure* (1895)
46. Stoker, *Dracula* (1897)
47. Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (1899)
48. EMPIRE AND IMPERIALISM: Kipling, *Kim* (1901) and "The White Man's Burden" (poem); Edmund Burke, "Speech in the Impeachment of Warren Hastings," from *The Works of the Right Honourable Edmund Burke*, vol 9 (London: Nimmo, 1899) pp 348-366; Macaulay: "Minute on Indian Education" (1835); Henry Morton Stanley, Address to the Manchester Chamber of Commerce: "On England and the Congo and Manchester trade" (1884); James Anthony Froude, extract from *The English in the West Indies* (1888); John Jacob Thomas, extract from *Froudacity* (1889); Joseph Chamberlain, extract from "The True Conception of Empire" (speech 1897); John A. Hobson, extract from *Imperialism: A Study* (1902)
49. TRAVEL WRITING: Richard Francis Burton, extract from *A Personal Narrative of a Pilgrimage to El-Medinah and Meccah* (1855); Henry Morton Stanley, extract from *Through a Dark Continent* (1878); Mary Kingsley, extract from *Travels in West Africa* (1897)
50. Forster, *Maurice* (1913/14; *posth.* 1971)

C20-21 African American Literature

With the capacious output of African American writers as well as that of all writers virtually anywhere in the world from the beginning of the twentieth century onward, this list can only be considered a very small sampling of what is far more widely available. Nevertheless, it represents a good overview of literature written by black writers in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, given the constraints of this exercise. It is hoped that as augmented by the student, the list will help to present a somewhat fuller picture of study in the African American literature of our time.

1. Pauline Hopkins, *Contending Forces* (1900)
2. Charles W. Chesnutt, *The Marrow of Tradition* (1901)
3. Booker T. Washington, *Up From Slavery* (1901)
4. Paul Laurence Dunbar, *The Sport of the Gods* (1902)
5. W. E. B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903)
6. James Weldon Johnson, *The Autobiography of an Ex-Coloured Man* (1912)
7. John Howard Bruce, *The Black Sleuth* (1912)
8. Otis Shackelford, *Lillian Simmons* (1915)
9. Jean Toomer, *Cane* (1923)
10. Alain Locke, ed. *The New Negro* (1925)
11. George Schuyler, "The Negro Art-Hokum" (1926); *Black No More* (1931)
12. Langston Hughes, *The Weary Blues* (1925); "The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain" (1926)
13. Nella Larsen, *Passing* (1929)
14. Jessie Fauset, *Plum Bun* (1929)
15. Sterling Brown, *Southern Road* (poems, 1932)
16. Zora Neale Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (1937)
17. Richard Wright, *Native Son* (1940)
18. William Attaway, *Blood on the Forge* (1941)
19. Ann Petry, *The Street* (1942)
20. Chester Himes, *Lonely Crusade* (1947)
21. Robert Hayden, *Angle of Ascent: New and Selected Poems* (1975)
22. Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man* (1952)
23. Gwendolyn Brooks, *Maud Martha* (1953)
24. James Baldwin, *Notes of a Native Son* (1955)
25. Lorraine Hansberry, *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window* (1964)
26. Adrienne Kennedy, *Funnyhouse of a Negro* (1964)
27. Amiri Baraka, *The Slave* (1964)
28. Malcolm X and Alex Haley, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* (1965)
29. Larry Neal and Amiri Baraka, eds., *Black Fire* (1968)
30. Ed Bullins, *Goin' a' Buffalo* (1969)
31. Addison Gayle, *The Black Aesthetic* (1972)
32. Ishmael Reed, *Mumbo Jumbo* (1972)
33. Albert Murray, *Train Whistle Guitar* (1974)
34. June Jordan, *Directed by Desire: The Collected Poems of June Jordan* (2007)
35. Toni Cade Bambara, *The Salt Eaters* (1980)
36. Audre Lorde, *Zami: A New Spelling of My Name* (1982)
37. Toni Morrison, *Song of Solomon* (1977)
38. August Wilson, *The Piano Lesson* (1990)

39. John Edgar Wideman, *Philadelphia Fire* (1987)
40. Suzan-Lori Parks, *Topdog/Underdog* (2001)
41. Elizabeth Alexander, *The Black Interior* (2004)
42. Michael Thomas, *Man Gone Down* (2007)
43. Natasha Trethewey, *Native Guard* (2007)
44. Jesmyn Ward, *Salvage the Bones* (2011)
45. Percival Everett, *Erasure* (2011)
46. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *Americanah* (2013)
47. Paul Beatty, *The Sellout* (2015)
48. Ta-Nehisi Coates, *Between the World and Me* (2015)
49. Claudia Rankine, *Citizen* (2015)
50. Colson Whitehead, *The Underground Railroad* (2016)

20th and 21st Century American Literature

In consultation with their committees, students should choose 50 of the following works. Unless noted, excerpts from readers will be determined by the student's dissertation director.

1900-1945

1. Theodore Dreiser, *Sister Carrie* (1900)
2. Zitkála-Šá, *Old Indian Legends* (1901)
3. W. E. B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903)
4. Upton Sinclair, *The Jungle* (1906)
5. Edith Wharton, *The House of Mirth* (1905) or *Ethan Frome* (1911)
6. Willa Cather, *My Antonia* (1918) or *O Pioneers!* (1913)
7. Sui Sin Far, *Mrs. Spring Fragrance* (1912)
8. James Weldon Johnson, *The Autobiography of an Ex-Coloured Man* (1912)
9. Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *Herland* (1915)
10. T. S. Eliot: "Tradition and the Individual Talent" (1917), *The Waste Land* (1922)
11. William Carlos Williams, *Spring and All* (1922)
12. Wallace Stevens, *Harmonium* (1923)
13. Jean Toomer, *Cane* (1923)
14. Ernest Hemingway, *In Our Time* (1925) or *The Sun Also Rises* (1926)
15. F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby* (1926)
16. Langston Hughes, *The Weary Blues* (1926)
17. William Faulkner, *The Sound and the Fury* (1929) or *A Light in August* (1932)
18. Nella Larsen, *Passing* (1929) or *Quicksand* (1928)
19. Claude McKay, *Banjo* (1929) and "America" (1921)
20. Ezra Pound, Cantos I-XXX (1930) and The Pisan Cantos LXXIV-LXXXIV (1948)
21. Zora Neale Hurston: "Characteristics of Negro Expression" (1934) and *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (1937)
22. John Steinbeck, *The Grapes of Wrath* (1939)
23. Richard Wright, *Native Son* (1940)
24. Film cluster: *Birth of a Nation* (1915), *City Lights* (1931) *Gone with the Wind* (1939), *Citizen Kane* (1941)

1945-1970

25. Chester Himes, *If He Hollers Let Him Go* (1945)
26. Gwendolyn Brooks, *A Street in Bronzeville* (1945)
27. Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1947)
28. Shirley Jackson, "The Lottery" (1948) and *The Haunting of Hill House* (1959)
29. Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man* (1952)
30. James Baldwin, *Go Tell It on the Mountain* (1953) and *The Fire Next Time* (1963)
31. Flannery O'Connor, *A Good Man Is Hard to Find and Other Stories* (1955)
32. Allen Ginsberg, *Howl and Other Poems* (1956)
33. Robert Duncan, *The Opening of the Field* (1960)
34. Vladimir Nabokov, *Pale Fire* (1962)
35. Frank O'Hara, *Lunch Poems* (1964)
36. Sylvia Path, *Ariel* (1965)

37. Alex Haley, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* (1965)
38. Thomas Pynchon, *The Crying of Lot 49* (1966)
39. John Barth: "The Literature of Exhaustion" (1967), *Lost in the Funhouse* (1968)
40. N. Scott Momaday, *House Made of Dawn* (1968)
41. Kurt Vonnegut, *Slaughterhouse Five* (1969) or *Player Piano* (1952)
42. Film cluster: *Sunset Boulevard* (1950), *Vertigo* (1958), *2001: A Space Odyssey* (1968), *Midnight Cowboy* (1969)

1970-1990

43. Ishmael Reed, *Mumbo Jumbo* (1972)
44. LeRoi Jones/Amiri Baraka, *The LeRoi Jones/Amiri Baraka Reader* excerpts (1973)
45. Adrienne Rich, *Diving into the Wreck* (1973)
46. Ursula K. Le Guin, *The Dispossessed* (1974)
47. John Ashbery, "Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror" (1975)
48. Samuel R. Delany, *Triton/Trouble on Triton* (1976)
49. Maxine Hong Kingston, *The Woman Warrior* (1976)
50. Elizabeth Bishop, *Geography III* (1977)
51. Leslie Marmon Silko, *Ceremony* (1977)
52. Language Poetry Cluster: Charles Bernstein and Bruce Andrews, eds, *The Language Book* excerpts (1978-1984); excerpts from Lynn Hejinian, *My Life* (1980); Ron Silliman, "The New Sentence" (1987)
53. Marilynne Robinson, *Housekeeping* (1980)
54. Art Spiegelman, *Maus* (1980-1991)
55. Cherríe Moraga and Gloria Anzaldúa, *This Bridge Called My Back* (1981)
56. Alice Walker, *The Color Purple* (1982)
57. Sandra Cisneros, *The House on Mango Street* (1984)
58. Don DeLillo, *White Noise* (1985) or *Underworld* (1997)
59. Paul Auster, *City of Glass* (1985)
60. Octavia Butler, *Dawn* (1987) or *Kindred* (1979)
61. Toni Morrison, *Beloved* (1987)
62. Louise Erdrich, *Tracks* (1988)
63. Film cluster: *The Godfather* (1972), *Taxi Driver* (1976), *Platoon* (1986), *Do the Right Thing* (1989)

1990-Present

64. John Edgar Wideman, *Philadelphia Fire* (1990)
65. Gish Jen, *Typical American* (1991)
66. Tony Kushner, *Angels in America* (1991)
67. Susan Howe, *The Nonconformist's Memorial* (1992)
68. Louise Gluck, *The Wild Iris* (1992)
69. Yusef Komunyakaa, *Neon Vernacular: New and Selected Poems* (1993)
70. Miguel Algarin and Bob Holman, eds., *Aloud: Voices from the Nuyorican Poets Cafe* (1994)
71. David Foster Wallace, *Infinite Jest* (1996)
72. Karen Tei Yamashita, *Tropic of Orange* (1997)
73. Chris Kraus, *I Love Dick* (1997)
74. C.D. Wright, *Deepstep Come Shining* (1998)
75. Ruth Ozeki, *My Year of Meats* (1998)

76. Jhumpa Lahiri, *Interpreter of Maladies* (1999)
77. Percival Everett, *Erasure* (2000)
78. Jonathan Franzen, *The Corrections* (2001)
79. Harryette Mullen, *Sleeping with the Dictionary* (2002)
80. Salvador Plascencia, *People of Paper* (2005)
81. Allison Bechdel, *Fun Home* (2006)
82. Cormac McCarthy, *The Road* (2006)
83. Myung Mi Kim, *Dura* (2008)
84. Colson Whitehead, *Zone One* (2011)
85. Conceptual Writing Cluster: Kenneth Goldsmith, "Being Boring"; excerpt from "Uncreative Writing" (2011); excerpt from *Seven American Deaths and Disasters* (2013); Entries from *Against Expression: An Anthology of Conceptual Writing*, Dworkin & Goldsmith, eds. (2011) by Christian Bök, Craig Dworkin, Kenneth Goldsmith, Trisha Low, K. Silem Mohammad, M. NourbeSe Philip, and Vanessa Place.
86. Claudia Rankine, *Citizen* (2012)
87. Jeff VanderMeer, *Annihilation* (2014)
88. Ben Lerner, *10:04* (2014)
89. Jesmyn Ward, *Sing, Unburied Sing* (2017)
90. Richard Powers, *The Overstory* (2018)
91. Film cluster: *Thelma and Louise* (1991), *Fight Club* (1999) *Fruitvale Station* (2013), *Get Out* (2017)

Literary History, Criticism, Theory

92. Gloria Anzaldúa, *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza* (1987)
93. Fredric Jameson, *Postmodernism, or the Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism* (1989)
94. Toni Morrison, *Playing in the Dark* (1992)
95. Fred Moten, *In the Break: The Aesthetics of the Black Radical Tradition* (2003)
96. Lauren Berlant, *The Female Complaint: The Unfinished Business of Sentimentality in American Culture* (2008) or *Cruel Optimism* (2011)
97. Mark McGurl, *The Program Era* (2009)
98. José Estaban Muñoz, *Cruising Utopia: The Then and There of Queer Futurity* (2009)
99. Jodi Melamed, *Represent and Destroy: Rationalizing Violence in the New Racial Capitalism* (2011)
100. Sianne Ngai, *Our Aesthetic Categories: Zany, Cute, Interesting* (2012)

Contemporary Postcolonial / Global Anglophone Literature & Cultures

Postcolonial Studies as an academic field is traditionally thought to have begun in 1978, with the publication of Edward Said's landmark text, *Orientalism*. Nevertheless, scholars and creative artists had been writing about their experiences with European colonialism since the turn of the 19th century. Currently, Postcolonial Studies as an academic field overlaps, thematically, with Global South, Global Anglophone, African, South Asian and South Asian Diasporic, 20th and 21st Century English and Anglophone, Francophone, and Lusophone Studies. This list, therefore, includes literary and cultural texts, written from the early-to-mid twentieth century onwards, with a focus on Anglophone texts written after the 1960s. They incorporate the experiences of post 1960s Anglophone writers and creative artists in Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, the Caribbean, and, to a lesser extent, in South America, West Asia, and in the Francophone and Lusophone diasporas. They deal with, or articulate, political, gendered, sexual, class-based, racial, and ethnic issues/injustices; and provide insights about critical and scholarly debates within their various cultures.

LIST A: THEORETICAL TEXTS [all 18 texts are required]

1. Léopold Sédar Senghor, *Négritude, Black Poetry from Africa and the Caribbean (Anthologie de la nouvelle poésie nègre et malgache de langue française)*, 1948), suggested translation by Norman R. Shapiro (1970)
2. Aimé Césaire, *Discourse on Colonialism (Discours sur le colonialisme)*, 1950), suggested translation by Joan Pinkham (1972)
3. Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth (Les damnés de la terre)*, 1961), suggested translation by Constance Farrington (1963)
4. Wole Soyinka, *Myth, Literature and the African World* (1976)
5. Said, Edward. *Orientalism* (1979).
6. Gayatri Spivak, *In Other Worlds: Essays in Cultural Politics* (1987)
7. Homi Bhaba, ed. *Nation and Narration* (1990).
8. Partha Chatterjee. *The Nation and Its Fragments: Colonial and Postcolonial Histories* (1993)
9. Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, *Moving the Centre: The Struggle for Cultural Freedoms* (1993)
10. Paul Gilroy, *The Black Atlantic: Modernity and Double Consciousness* (1993)
11. Rey Chow, *Writing Diaspora: Tactics of Intervention in Contemporary Cultural Studies* (1993)
12. Homi Bhabha, *The Location of Culture* (1994)
13. Edward Said, *Culture and Imperialism* (1994)
14. Mahmood Mamdani, *Citizen and Subject: Contemporary Africa and the Legacy of Late Colonialism* (1996)
15. Brent Edwards, *The Practice of Diaspora: Literature, Translation, and the Rise of Black Internationalism* (2003)
16. Rob Nixon, *Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor* (2011)
17. Stef Craps, *Postcolonial Witnessing: Trauma Out of Bounds* (2013)
18. Stuart Hall, *The Fateful Triangle: Race, Ethnicity, Nation* (2017)

LIST B: FOCUS TEXTS [pick 8 texts from each of the 4 categories below]

I. AFRICA & THE AFRICAN DIASPORA:

1. Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart* (1958)
2. Ousmane Sembène, *God's Bits of Wood (Les bouts de bois de Dieu)*, 1960), suggested translation by Francis Price (1962)
3. Nuruddin Farah, *Maps* (1969)
4. Charity Waciuma, *Daughter of Mumbi* (1969)

5. Christopher Okigbo, *Labyrinths* (1971)
6. Ayi Kwei Armah, *Two Thousand Seasons* (1973)
7. Wole Soyinka, *Death and the King's Horseman* (1975)
8. Mariama Bâ, *So Long a Letter* (*Une si longue lettre*, 1979), suggested translation by Modupé Bodé-Thomas (1981)
9. Buchi Emecheta, *The Joys of Motherhood* (1979)
10. Tsitsi Dangarembga, *Nervous Conditions* (1988)
11. J. M. Coetzee, *Disgrace* (1999)
12. Taiye Selasi, *Ghana Must Go* (2013)
13. NoViolet Bulawayo, *We Need New Names* (2014)
14. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *Americanah* (2014)
15. Nnedi Okorafor, *Binti* (2015)
16. Abdulrazak Gurnah, *Gravel Heart* (2018)

II. THE CARIBBEAN & SOUTH AMERICA:

1. C. L. R. James, *Minty Alley* (1936)
2. Pablo Neruda, *Canto General* (1950), suggested translation by Jack Schmitt (1991)
3. George Lamming, *In the Castle of My Skin* (1953)
4. Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea* (1966)
5. Gabriel Garcia Marquez, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* (*Cien años de soledad*, 1967), suggested translation by Gregory Rabassa (1970)
6. Aimé Césaire, *A Tempest* (*Une tempête*, 1969), suggested translation by Richard Miller (1985)
7. Isabelle Allende, *The House of the Spirits* (*La casa de los espíritus*, 1982), suggested translation by Magda Bogin (1985)
8. Grace Nichols, *I Is a Long Memored Woman* (1983)
9. Michelle Cliff, *Abeng* (1984)
10. Jamaica Kincaid, *Annie John* (1985), and *Lucy* (1990)
11. Dionne Brand, *No Language is Neutral* (1990)
12. Derek Walcott, *Omeros* (1990)
13. Patrick Chamoiseau, *Texaco* (1992), suggested translation by Rose-Myriam Réjouis and Val Vinokurov (1997)
14. Edwidge Danticat, *The Farming of Bones* (1998)
15. Nalo Hopkinson, *Brown Girl in the Ring* (1998)
16. Naomi Jackson, *The Star Side of Bird Hill* (2016)

III. SOUTH ASIA & THE SOUTH ASIAN DIASPORA:

1. R.K. Narayan, *The Man-Eater of Malgudi* (1961)
2. Salman Rushdie, *The Satanic Verses* (1988)
3. Amitav Ghosh, *The Shadow Lines* (1988)
4. Taslima Nasrin, *Shame* (*Lajja*, 1993), suggested translation by Anchita Ghatak (2014)
5. Rohinton Mistry, *A Fine Balance* (1995)
6. Chitra Bannerjee Divakaruni, *The Mistress of Spices* (1997)
7. Michael Ondaatje, *Anil's Ghost* (2000)
8. Zadie Smith, *White Teeth* (2000)
9. Monica Ali, *Brick Lane* (2003)
10. Amitava Kumar, *Bombay, London, New York* (2002)
11. Jhumpa Lahiri, *Namesake* (2004)
12. Arjun Appadurai, *Fear of Small Numbers: An Essay on the Geography of Anger* (2006)

13. Kiran Desai, *The Inheritance of Loss* (2006)
14. Mohsin Hamid, *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* (2008)
15. Kamila Shamsie, *Burnt Shadows* (2009)
16. Arundhati Roy, *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness* (2017)

IV. WEST ASIA & THE MAGHRIB:

1. Naguib Mahfouz, *Sugar Street (Al-Sukkariyya)*, 1957), suggested translation by William Maynard Hutchins & Angele Botros Samaan (1992)
2. Ghassan Kanafani, *Men in the Sun (Rijāl fī al-Shams)*, 1962), suggested translation by Hilary Kilpatrick (1999)
3. Tayeb Salih, *Season of Migration to the North (Mawsim al-Hijrah ilā al-Shamāl)*, 1966), suggested translation by Denys Johnson-Davis (1969)
4. Tawfiq al-Hakim, *Fate of a Cockroach: Four Plays of Freedom* (1973) [includes *Fate of a Cockroach/Masir Sarsar*, *The Song of Death/Ughniyyat al-Mawt*, *The Sultan's Dilemma/Al-Sultan al-Ha-ir*, and *Not a Thing Out of Place/Kull Shay' fī Mahallih*], suggested translation by Denys Johnson-Davies
5. Nawal El Saadawi, *Woman at Point Zero (Emra'a enda noktat el sifr)*, 1977), suggested translation by Sherif Hetata (1983)
6. Assia Djebar, *Fantasia: An Algerian Cavalcade (L'amour, la fantasia)*, 1985), suggested translation by Dorothy S. Blair (1993)
7. Naomi Shihab Nye, *Yellow Glove* (1986).
8. Etel Adnan, *The Arab Apocalypse* (1989)
9. Mahmoud Darwish, *Memory for Forgetfulness (Dhakirah li-al-nisyan)*, 1987), suggested translation by Ibrahim Muhawi (1995)
10. Saadi Youssef, *Without an Alphabet, Without a Face: Selected Poems* (2002), suggested translation by Khaled Mattawa
11. Khaled Mattawa, *Zodiac of Echoes* (2003).
12. Dunya Mikhail, *The War Works Hard (al-Harb ta'malu bi-jid)*, 2005), suggested translation by Elizabeth Winslow.
13. Adonis, *Selected Poems* (2011), suggested translation by Khaled Mattawa (2012).
14. Joumana Haddad, *The Book of Queens (Kitab al-Jeem)*, 2012).
15. Elyse Dodgson, ed. *Plays from the Arab World* (2011) [Includes Mohammad Al Attar's *Withdrawal/Insahab*, translated by Clem Naylor; Imad Farajin's *603*, translated by Hassan Abdulrazak; Kamal Khalladi's *Damage*, translated by Houda Echouafni; Arzé Khodr's *The House*, translated by Khalid Laith; and Laila Soliman's *Egyptian Products*, translated by Khalid Laith]
16. Leila Aboulela. *Elsewhere, Home* (2018).

Ecocriticism and Environmental Literature

Students are required to read all the texts under “Required Texts” and should fill out the remaining 33 works from the lists that follow in consultation with their committee members.

Required Texts

1. Romantic poetry: William Wordsworth, “Tintern Abbey”; Percy Bysshe Shelley, “Mont Blanc”; John Keats, “Ode on a Nightingale”; John Clare, “Early Nightingale,” “The Skylark,” “Badger,” “Autumn Birds”
2. Ralph Waldo Emerson, “Nature” (1836)
3. Henry David Thoreau, *Walden* (1854)
4. Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass* (1855)
5. Darwin, from *On the Origin of Species* (1859)
6. Paul Laurence Dunbar, “The Haunted Oak” (1903)
7. Aldo Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac* (1949)
8. Rachel Carson, *Silent Spring* (1962)
9. Raymond Williams, *The Country and the City* (1973)
10. Gary Snyder, *Turtle Island* with “Four Changes” (1974)
11. Wendell Berry, *The Unsettling of America: Culture and Agriculture* (1977)
12. Toni Morrison, *Beloved* (1987)
13. William Cronon, “The Trouble with Wilderness” & Responses (1995)
14. Craig Waddell (Ed.), *Landmark Essays on Rhetoric and the Environment* (1998)
15. Selections from *The Norton Book of Nature Writing*, (2002): entries on Gilbert White, William Bartram, Merriwether Lewis, John James Audubon, John Burroughs, John Muir, Mary Austin, Luther Standing Bear, Richard Wright, J. A. Baker, Ursula LaGuin, E. O. Wilson, N. Scott Momaday, William Least Heat-Moon, Annie Dillard, Barry Lopez, Evelyn White, Terry Tempest Williams, Bill McKibben
16. Lawrence Buell, *The Future of Environmental Criticism* (2005)
17. Robin Wall Kimmerer, *Braiding Sweetgrass* (2013)

Nonfiction Nature Writing

18. Mary Rowlandson, “A Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson” (1682); Sherman Alexie, “Captivity” (1993); Louise Erdrich, “Captivity” (2003)
19. Margaret Fuller, *Summer on the Lakes, in 1843* (1844)
20. John McPhee, *Encounters with the Archdruid* (1971)
21. Merrill Gilfillan, *Magpie Rising: Sketches of the Great Plains* (1988)
22. Jon Krakauer, *Into the Wild* (1996)
23. Ken Lambertson, *Wilderness and Razor Wire: A Naturalist’s Observations from Prison* (2000)
24. Michael Pollan, *The Botany of Desire: A Plant’s Eye View of the World* (2001)
25. Andrew Blackwell, *Visit Sunny Chernobyl: And Other Adventures in the World’s Most Polluted Places* (2012)
26. Naomi Oreskes and Erik M. Conway, *The Collapse of Western Civilization: A View from the Future* (2014)
27. David Wallace-Wells, *The Uninhabitable Earth: Life After Warming* (2019)
28. Robert MacFarlane, *Underland: A Deep Time Journey* (2019)
29. Cal Flynn, *Islands of Abandonment: Nature Rebounding in the Posthuman Landscape* (2021)
30. Andreas Malm, *How to Blow Up a Pipeline: Learning How to Fight in a World on Fire* (2021)

Poetry

31. Gerard Manley Hopkins, "The Windhover," "Pied Beauty," "Binsley Poplars," "As kingfishers catch fire, dragonflies draw flame" (1876–1889)
32. H.D., "Oread" (1914); *Sea Garden* (1916)
33. D.H. Lawrence, "The Wild Common" (1916); "Medlars and Sorb Apples," "Humming-Bird" (1929)
34. William Carlos Williams, "Pastoral (when I was younger...)" (1917); "Blueflags" (1921); "By the Road to the Contagious Hospital," "To Elsie" (1923)
35. Marianne Moore, "The Fish," "An Octopus" (1924); "He 'Digesteth Harde Yron'" (1941)
36. Muriel Rukeyser, *The Book of the Dead* (1938)
37. Australian Poetry Cluster: Judith Wright, "Bora Ring" (1946), "Drought Year" (1953), "Black Cockatoos" (1962); Oodgeroo Noonuccal, "We Are Going" (1964), "No More Boomerang" (1966); Robert Adamson, "Green Prawn Map" (1989), "The Greenshank" (2006), "Listening to Cuckoos" (2016); Les Murray, "Presence: Translations from the Natural World" (1992)
38. Robert Duncan, "Often I Am Permitted to Return to a Meadow" (1960)
39. Seamus Heaney, "Death of a Naturalist" (1966)
40. Ian Hamilton Finlay, "Little Sparta" (1966–2006): <https://www.littlesparta.org.uk>
41. Lorine Niedecker, "My Life by Water," *Lake Superior* (1968)
42. James Schuyler, "Scarlet Tanager" (1972); "The Bluet," "The Walk" (1974)
43. Derek Walcott, "The Sea Is History" (1979)
44. A. R. Ammons, *Garbage* (1993)
45. Ed Roberson, *Atmosphere Conditions* (1999)
46. Juliana Spahr, *This Connection of Everyone with Lungs* (2005)
47. Arthur Sze, *The Ginkgo Light* (2009)
48. Karen Solie, "Bitumen" (2015)
49. Tommy Pico, *Nature Poem* (2017)
50. Craig Santos Perez, *Habitat Threshold* (2020)

Fiction

51. Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1851)
52. Herman Melville, *Moby-Dick* (1851)
53. Charles Dickens, *Hard Times* (1854)
54. Harriet Jacobs, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (1861)
55. Sarah Orne Jewett, "A White Heron" (1886)
56. Stephen Crane, "The Open Boat" (1897)
57. Charles W. Chesnutt, *The Conjure Stories* (~1899)
58. Joseph Conrad, *The Heart of Darkness* (1899)
59. Upton Sinclair, *The Jungle* (1905)
60. Ursula K. Le Guin, *The Word for World is Forest* (1972)
61. Edward Abbey, *The Monkey Wrench Gang* (1975)
62. Patrick White, *A Fringe of Leaves* (1976)
63. Leslie Marmon Silko, *Ceremony* (1977)
64. David Malouf, *Harland's Half Acre* (1984)
65. Octavia Butler, *Xenogenesis* (1987-1989)
66. Ruth Ozeki, *My Year of Meats* (1998)
67. Margaret Atwood, *Oryx and Crake* (2003)
68. Josh Neufeld, *A.D.: New Orleans after the Deluge* (2009)

69. Jesmyn Ward, *Salvage the Bones* (2011)
70. Barbara Kingsolver, *Flight Behavior* (2012)
71. Philippe Squarzoni, *Climate Changed* (2014)
72. N. K. Jemisin, *The Fifth Season* (2015)
73. Jeff VanderMeer, *Borne* (2017)
74. Richard Powers, *The Overstory* (2018)
75. Stephen Graham Jones, *The Only Good Indians* (2020)
76. Kim Stanley Robinson, *The Ministry for the Future* (2020)

Theory

77. Jakob von Uexkull, *A Foray in the Worlds of Animals and Humans* (1934)
78. Leo Marx, *The Machine in the Garden* (1964)
79. Gregory Bateson, *Ecology of Mind* (1972)
80. M. Jimmie Killingsworth & Jacqueline Palmer, *Ecospeak: Rhetoric and Environmental Politics in America* (1992)
81. Karl Kroeber, *Ecological Literary Criticism* (1994)
82. Carl Herndl & Stuart. Brown (Eds.), *Green Culture: Environmental Rhetoric in Contemporary America* (1996)
83. Vandana Shiva, *Biopiracy* (1997)
84. Bruno Latour, *Politics of Nature* (1999)
85. Kevin Deluca, *Image Politics: The New Rhetoric of Environmental Activism* (1999)
86. John Zerzan, *Against Civilization* (1999); Derrick Jensen, "20 Premises" (2006)
87. Joni Adamson, Mei Mei Evans, Rachel Stein, *The Environmental Justice Reader: Politics, Poetics, and Pedagogy* (2002)
88. Timothy Sweet, *American Georgics: Economy and Environment in Early American Literature* (2002)
89. Greg Garrard, *Ecocriticism* (2004)
90. Phaedra Pezzullo, *Toxic Tourism: Rhetorics of Pollution, Travel, and Environmental Justice* (2007)
91. Jane Bennett, *Vibrant Matter* (2010)
92. Rob Nixon, *Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor* (2011)
93. Peter Goggin (Ed.), *Environmental Rhetoric and Ecologies of Place* (2013)
94. Samantha Frost, *Biocultural Creatures: Toward a New Theory of the Human* (2016)
95. Amitav Ghosh, *The Great Derangement* (2016)
96. Donna Haraway, *Staying with the Trouble* (2016)
97. Lynn Keller, *Recomposing Ecopoetics: North American Poetry of the Self-Conscious Anthropocene* (2017)
98. Soren C. Larsen & Jay T Johnson, *Being Together in Place* (2017)
99. Anna Tsing, Heather Swanson, Elaine Gan, Nils Bubandt, *Arts of Living on Damaged Planet* (2017)
100. Angela Hume & Gillian Osborne, *Ecopoetics: Essays in the Field* (2018)