

Reading List for the M.A. Exam For the Master's classes entering Fall, 2008 and after

The one-hour exam will cover a list, changing yearly, consisting of **twelve works** chosen by the department to represent a variety of periods and genres. The outstanding candidate will move with dexterity between close readings of a text, the critical heritage and cultural and historical contexts. A new list will be developed each spring and distributed each fall for students planning to take their exam within the following academic year. Students will choose their committee, with the objective of assembling examiners covering a range of areas.

The existing groups within the department that meet yearly for course planning purposes (the pre-1800 group; the post-1800 group, and the American group) will forward their suggestions for the list from the particular areas of expertise. The graduate committee will coordinate these suggestions and compile the MA list for the upcoming academic year. The pre-1800 fields will be represented by five slots; the post-1800, by four; and American literature, by three.

A **thirteenth work**, to be chosen by the student, will consist of an influential theoretical or critical text. This work will be selected from a list of ten, compiled by the department as a whole, and which will be reviewed and revised at three-year intervals.

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight

More, *Utopia*

Shakespeare, *Othello*

Wycherley, *The Country Wife*; Centlivre, *A Bold Stroke for a Wife*

Wordsworth/Coleridge, *Lyrical Ballads* (1800)

Eliot, *Middlemarch*

Whitman, *Song of Myself*

Woolf, *To the Lighthouse*

Yeats, 20 poems: "The Stolen Child," "The Lake Isle of Innisfree," "To Ireland in the Coming Times," "The Song of Wandering Aengus," "Adam's Curse," "No Second Troy," "September 1913," "The Wild Swans at Coole," "An Irish Airman Foresees His Death," "Easter 1916," "The Second Coming," "A Prayer for my Daughter," "Sailing to Byzantium," "Meditations in Time of Civic War" (entire 7 poem sequence), "Nineteen Hundred and Nineteen," "Leda and the Swan," "Coole Park, 1929," "The Municipal Gallery Revisited," "Under Ben Bulbin," "The Circus Animals' Desertion"

Faulkner, *Absalom, Absalom!*

Soyinka, 5 plays: *Death and the King's Horseman*, *Kong's Harvest*, *The Trials of Borthor Jero*, *The Lion and the Jewel*, *The Strong Breed*

Welles, *Citizen Kane*

Theory and Criticism List for the M.A. Exam 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011

Aristotle, *Poetics*

Bakhtin, *The Dialogic Imagination*

Derrida, *Writing and Difference*

Foucault, *The History of Sexuality, Volume I*

Kant, *Critique of Judgment*

Kristeva, *Powers of Horror*

Marx, *The German Ideology*

Said, *Orientalism*

Spivak, *In Other Worlds*

Wiley, *Composition in Four Keys*