

M.A. Reading List: British Literature I
English Dept., University of Nebraska at Omaha

NARRATIVE / EPIC POETRY

1. Beowulf (Heaney trans.)
2. OLD ENGLISH BIBLICAL VERSE (choose one):
 - Genesis A & B
 - Judith
3. CHAUCER, The Canterbury Tales

General Prologue
 Knight's Prologue and Tale
 Miller's Prologue and Tale

Plus choose two:

 - Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale
 - Pardoner's Prologue and Tale
 - Reeve's Prologue and Tale
 - Tale of Sir Thopas
 - Prioress's Prologue and Tale
 - Chaucer's Retraction
4. Sir Gawain and the Green Knight (Borroff trans.)
5. MIDDLE ENGLISH ROMANCES (choose one):
 - Havelok the Dane
 - Sir Orfeo
 - King Horn
 - The Turk and Sir Gawain
 - The Tale of Gamelyn
 - The Wedding of Sir Gawain and Dame Ragnell
6. SPENSER, The Faerie Queene (choose two):

<input type="checkbox"/> Book 1, Cantos 1-6	<input type="checkbox"/> Book 1, Cantos 7-12
<input type="checkbox"/> Book 2, Cantos 1-6	<input type="checkbox"/> Book 2, Cantos 7-12
<input type="checkbox"/> Book 3, Cantos 1-6	<input type="checkbox"/> Book 3, Cantos 7-12
<input type="checkbox"/> Book 4, Cantos 1-6	<input type="checkbox"/> Book 4, Cantos 7-12
<input type="checkbox"/> Book 5, Cantos 1-6	<input type="checkbox"/> Book 5, Cantos 7-12
<input type="checkbox"/> Book 6, Cantos 1-6	<input type="checkbox"/> Book 6, Cantos 7-12
<input type="checkbox"/> Mutabilitie cantos	
7. MILTON, Paradise Lost, Books 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 10, 12
8. SAMUEL BUTLER, Hudibras, Part I, Canto I
9. ALEXANDER POPE, Rape of the Lock
10. JAMES THOMSON, The Seasons, "Winter"

LYRIC

11. OLD ENGLISH LYRIC (in translation):

“Dream of the Rood” (Kennedy trans.)

Plus choose one:

- “The Wife’s Lament”
- “The Wanderer”
- “The Ruin”
- “Caedmon’s Hymn”

12. MARIE DE FRANCE, Lais (Hanning and Ferrante trans.)

Prologue

“Lanval”

Plus choose one:

- “Guigemar”
- “Le Fresne”
- “Bisclavret”
- “Yonec”

13. SKELTON, “Philip Sparrow”; “The Tunning of Elinour Ruming” (beginning to the end of the “Primus Passus”)

14. DONNE, “The Canonisation”; “The Ecstasy”; “Air and Angels”; “A Fever”

15. MARVELL, “The Garden”; “The Mower, Against Gardens”; “The Mower to the Glo-Worms”; “The Mower’s Song”

16. RENAISSANCE SONNETS

Wyatt, “Whoso List to Hunt”; “My Galley”; “The Long Love That in My Thought Doth Harbor”

Shakespeare, 3, 17, 18, 20, 73, 105, 126, 127, 130, 138

Donne, Divine Sonnets 5, 10, 14, 19

17. LYRIC SUB-SPECIALTIES (RENAISSANCE)

Choose two of the following sub-specialties:

- COUNTRY-HOUSE POEM
Aemilia Lanyer, “Description of Cooke-ham”
Ben Jonson, “To Penshurst”
Marvell, “Upon Appleton House”
- EPITHALAMION
Spenser, Epithalamion
Donne, “Epithalamion . . . on St. Valentine’s Day”
Jonson, “Epithalamion”
- PASTORAL / ELEGY
Spenser, The Shepheardes Calender, “August” and “October”
Marlowe, “The Passionate Shepherd to His Love”
Sir Walter Raleigh, “The Nymph’s Reply”
Milton, “Lycidas”
- RELIGIOUS / DEVOTIONAL
George Herbert, “The Collar”; “Easter Wings”; “Jordan (I)”
Donne, “Hymn to God, My God in My Sickness”
Aemilia Lanyer, Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum (lines 1-328 and 745-856)
Marvell, “A Dialogue between the Soul and the Body”

- EPYLLION (SHORT OVIDIAN EPIC)
Marlowe, “Hero and Leander”
John Marston, “The Metamorphosis of Pygmalion’s Image”
- CARPE DIEM / EROTIC / PERSUASION POETRY
Elizabeth I, “Ah, Silly Pug, Wert Thou So Sore Afraid?”
Donne, “The Flea”
Robert Herrick, “Corinna’s Going A-Maying”; “Delight in Disorder”; “To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time”
Marvell, “To His Coy Mistress”
- SATIRE
Skelton, “The Bowge of Court” (lines 1-182)
Wyatt, “Mine Own John Poynz”
John Marston, The Scourge of Villanie, Satyre 8

18. ROCHESTER, “The Disabled Debauchee”; “The Imperfect Enjoyment”; “Upon Nothing”
19. APHRA BEHN, “The Disappointment”
20. JOHN DRYDEN, Mac Flecknoe
21. ANNE FINCH, “The Introduction”; “The Spleen”; “A Nocturnal Reverie”
22. JONATHAN SWIFT, “The Lady’s Dressing Room”
23. LADY MARY WORTLEY MONTAGU, “The Reasons that Induced Dr S to Write a Poem Call’d the Lady’s Dressing Room”
24. SAMUEL JOHNSON, “London”
25. WILLIAM COLLINS, “Ode to Evening”
26. THOMAS GRAY, “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard”
27. ANNA BARBAULD, “A Summer Evening’s Meditation”; “Washing Day”

DRAMA

28. SHAKESPEARE

Choose two of the following plays (you may elect to fill in one slot with a play of your own choosing):

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| □ <u>Titus Andronicus</u> | □ <u>1 Henry 4</u> |
| □ <u>Twelfth Night</u> | □ <u>As You Like It</u> |
| □ <u>Hamlet</u> | □ <u>Antony and Cleopatra</u> |
| □ <u>The Tempest</u> | □ _____ |

29. ELIZABETHAN/JACOBEAN DRAMA (Besides Shakespeare)

Choose one play from each of the following two groups:

CHRISTOPHER MARLOWE (choose one):

- Edward II
- Jew of Malta
- Dr. Faustus

BEN JONSON (choose one):

- Volpone
- The Alchemist
- Epicoene
- Bartholomew Faire

30. RESTORATION/EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY DRAMA (choose one):

- Thomas Shadwell, The Virtuoso
- John Gay, The Beggar's Opera
- Thomas Sheridan, School for Scandal

PROSE

31. Táin bó Cuailgne

32. Four Branches of the Mabinogi: “Pwyll, Prince of Dyfed”; “Branwen, Daughter of Llyr”; “Manawydan, Son of Llyr”; “Math, Son of Mathonwy”

33. MEDIEVAL WOMEN MYSTICS (Choose one):

- Margery Kempe, Book of Margery Kempe
- Julian of Norwich, Showings (Short Text)

34. ARTHURIAN TRADITION:

THOMAS MALORY, from Le Morte Darthur (Oxford World Classics ed.):
“The Noble Tale of the Sangrail” (pp. 310-402)

Plus choose one:

- “From the Marriage of King Uther Unto King Arthur” (selections: pp. 3-32, 50-81)
- “The Death of Arthur” (pp. 468-527)

WELSH ARTHURIAN TRADITION (choose two):

- Culhwch and Olwen
- Peredur
- Gereint
- The Lady of the Fountain
- The Dream of Rhonabwy

35. SIR THOMAS MORE, Utopia (in translation)

36. ELIZABETH I, “Response to a Parliamentary Delegation on Her Marriage” (1559, 1566); “Speech to the Troops at Tilbury”; “The Golden Speech to Parliament” (1601)

37. SIR PHILIP SIDNEY, Defence of Poesy

38. MISCELLANEOUS RENAISSANCE PROSE

Choose two of the following prose groups:

- HUMANIST TRACTS
 - Erasmus, The Praise of Folly (in translation)
 - Montaigne, Essais, “Of Friendship”; “Of Cannibals” (Donald Frame’s translation)
 - Bacon, Essays, “Of Parents and Children”; “Of Marriage and Single Life”; “Of Love”
 - Milton, Areopagitica

- POPULAR LITERATURE
Thomas Deloney, “Jack of Newbury”
Thomas Nashe, “The Unfortunate Traveller”
Robert Green, “A Notable Discovery of Cozenage”
- ANTI-FEMINIST CONTROVERSY
Jane Anger, Her Protection for Women
Joseph Swetnam, The Arraignment of Lewd, Idle, Froward, and Unconstant Women
Hic Mulier (anonymous)
Haec Vir (anonymous)
- RELIGIOUS / DEVOTIONAL
Anne Askew, Examinations I and II
Donne, Devotions upon Emergent Occasions: Meditations 10, 17, 19; Expost. 19
Donne, Death’s Duel
- WRITING ON MELANCHOLY AND DEATH
Donne, Biathanatos, “Conclusion”
Robert Burton, Anatomy of Melancholy: First Partition, Section 1 (“Of Diseases in General...”);
Second Partition, Section 1 (“Cure of Melancholy in General”); Third Partition, Section 2
 (“Love-Melancholy”)
Sir Thomas Browne, “Hydriotaphia, or Urn-Burial”

39. JOHN BUNYAN, Pilgrim’s Progress, Part 1 (including Author’s Apology)

40. APHRA BEHN, Oroonoko

41. MISCELLANEOUS ENLIGHTENMENT PHILOSOPHY

Choose 1 of the following prose groups:

- MORAL PHILOSOPHY
John Locke, Essay upon Human Understanding: Bk. 2, chap. 1-2; Bk. 4, chap. 19
David Hume, Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding: Intro.; Parts 1 and 4
Adam Smith, Theory of Moral Sentiments, Section 1
- POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY
John Locke, Second Treatise of Government, chapters 1-5
Mary Astell, Some Reflections upon Marriage (incl. Preface)
Edmund Burke, Reflections upon the Revolution in France (Norton excerpt)
Mary Wollstonecraft, Vindication of the Rights of Woman: Intro.; chapters 1-4

42. MISCELLANEOUS AUGUSTAN SATIRE (choose 1):

- Jonathan Swift, Tale of a Tub
- John Gay, Trivia: Or, the Art of Walking the Streets of London
- Alexander Pope, The Dunciad, Book IV

43. MISCELLANEOUS ENLIGHTENMENT LITERARY CRITICISM (choose 1):

- Alexander Pope, Essay on Criticism
- Edmund Burke, Inquiry into Our Ideas of the Sublime and the Beautiful
- Samuel Johnson, The Lives of the Poets: “Cowley”; “Milton”; “Shakespeare”; “Pope”

44. ADDISON and STEELE, The Spectator, Imagination Papers

45. DANIEL DEFOE (choose 1):

- Robinson Crusoe
- Moll Flanders

46. ELIZA HAYWOOD, Fantomina

47. JONATHAN SWIFT, Gulliver's Travels, Book 2 (Voyage to Brobdingnag)

48. SAMUEL RICHARDSON, Pamela, Vol. 1

49. SAMUEL JOHNSON, Rasselas

50. JAMES BOSWELL, The Life of Johnson (Norton excerpt)

51. OLAUDAH EQUIANO, Interesting Narrative (Norton excerpt)

52. MISCELLANEOUS EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY NOVEL (choose 2):

- Eliza Haywood, Love in Excess
- Henry Fielding, Joseph Andrews
- Lawrence Sterne, Tristram Shandy, Vols. 1-2
- Horace Walpole, Castle of Otranto
- Lawrence Sterne, Sentimental Journey
- Frances Burney, Evelina
- Ann Radcliffe, The Mysteries of Udolpho

53. Relevant Theory or Literary Criticism (optional write-in category)

In the space below, write in any theoretical or critical texts that inform your approach to the primary literature on the list and that you would welcome for incorporation into the examination:

Exam Signature Page

Student signature: _____

Date of signature: _____

Examiners' signatures/dates: _____

Expected exam date: _____

Special circumstances: _____

Once choices have been indicated and both the student and examiners have signed the list, photocopies should be delivered to the examiners and also to the English Dept. Office, for filing in the student's record.