

20TH-/21ST-CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION READING LIST SELECTED BY THE GRADUATE FACULTY

THE CANDIDATE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL WRITERS AND WORKS FROM LIST A, AT LEAST THREE WRITERS FROM LIST B, AND AT LEAST THREE WRITERS FROM LIST C.

LIST A

POETRY:

W.H. Auden. Selected Poetry

T.S. Eliot. "The Hollow Men," "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock," *The Waste Land*

Thomas Hardy, Selected Poetry from *Satires of Circumstances*

Seamus Heaney. Selected Poetry

Ted Hughes. Selected Poetry

Philip Larkin. Selected Poetry

Dylan Thomas. Selected Poetry

William Butler Yeats. Selected Poems, including "The Second Coming"; "Leda and the Swan"; "Easter, 1916"; "When You Are Old"; "The Wild Swans at Coole," "The Lake Isle of Innisfree," "The Circus Animals' Desertion," "Sailing to Byzantium," and "Crazy Jane Talks with the Bishop"

Representative World War I Poets. Suggested: Wilfred Owen, Rupert Brooke, Siegfried Sassoon, Robert Graves

PROSE:

Kingsley Amis. *Lucky Jim*

Joseph Conrad. Any One of the Following: *Heart of Darkness*, *Nostramo*, *The Secret Agent*, *Under Western Eyes*

T.S. Eliot. "Tradition and the Individual Talent"

E.M. Forster. *Howards End* or *A Passage to India*

James Joyce. *Dubliners* and One of the Following: *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* or *Ulysses*

D.H. Lawrence. Selected Short Fiction and Any One of the Following: *Sons and Lovers*, *The Rainbow*, or *Women in Love*

Doris Lessing. *The Golden Notebook* or Any Other Novel

Katherine Mansfield, “At the Bay,” “Prelude,” “Je ne Parle pas Francais,” “The Daughters of the Late Colonel”

Iris Murdoch. Any One Novel

George Orwell. *1984* or *Animal Farm*

Ezra Pound. “The Imagist Manifesto”

Evelyn Waugh. Any One of the Following: *Decline and Fall*, *A Handful of Dust*, or *Brideshead Revisited*

Virginia Woolf. *Mrs. Dalloway*, *To the Lighthouse*, Selected Short Fiction to Include “Kew Gardens” and “Mark on the Wall”

DRAMA:

Samuel Beckett. *Endgame*, *Waiting for Godot*

T.S. Eliot. *Murder in the Cathedral*

George Bernard Shaw. *Man and Superman*, *Major Barbara*, or Any Other 20th-Century Play

Tom Stoppard. *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* or *Arcadia*

John Synge. *The Playboy of the Western World*

LIST B

PROSE AND DRAMA (CHOOSE AT LEAST THREE FROM THE LIST THAT FOLLOWS):

Martin Amis. *The Rachel Papers* or *Time’s Arrow*

Julian Barnes. *Flaubert’s Parrot*

Samuel Beckett. Any Novel

Elizabeth Bowen. Selected Short Fiction or Any Novel

Anthony Burgess. *A Clockwork Orange*

A.S. Byatt. *Possession* or *Angels and Insects*
 Roddy Doyle. *The Barrytown Trilogy*
 Ford Madox Ford. *The Good Soldier*
 John Fowles. *The French Lieutenant's Woman* or Any Other Novel
 John Galsworthy. *The Silver Box* or *Justice*
 William Golding. *The Lord of the Flies* or Any Other Novel
 Graham Greene. Any Novel
 Aldous Huxley. *Point Counterpoint* or *Brave New World*
 Kazuo Ishiguro. *Remains of the Day*
 Hanif Kureishi. *The Buddha of Suburbia* or *The Black Album*
 W. Somerset Maugham. *Of Human Bondage* or Any Other Novel
 Ian McEwen. *Atonement*
 Edna O'Brien. Any Novel or Selected Short Stories
 Sean O'Casey. *Juno and the Paycock* or *The Plough and the Stars*
 John Osborne. *Look Back in Anger*
 Harold Pinter. *The Dumb Waiter*, *The Collection*, *The Care Taker*, or *The Birthday Party*
 Jean Rhys. *Wide Sargasso Sea*
 Dorothy Richardson. *Pointed Roofs* or Any Other Novel
 Alan Sillitoe. *The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner*
 Zadie Smith. *White Teeth*
 William Trevor. *Felicia's Journey* or *The Story of Lucy Gault*
 Fay Weldon. *Praxis* or Any Other Novel
 H.G. Wells. *Tono-Bungay*
 Jeanette Winterson. *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*, *Written on the Body*, or Any Other Novel

LIST C

POETRY (CHOOSE AT LEAST THREE FROM THE LIST THAT FOLLOWS):

Eavan Boland. Selected Poetry
 Keith Douglas. Selected Poetry
 A.E. Housman. Selected Poetry
 Rudyard Kipling. Selected Poetry
 D.H. Lawrence. Selected Poetry
 Hugh MacDiarmid. Selected Poetry
 Louis MacNeice. Selected Poetry
 Thom Gunn. Selected Poetry
 Geoffrey Hill. Selected Poetry
 Paul Muldoon. Selected Poetry
 Stevie Smith. Selected Poetry
 Stephen Spender. Selected Poetry
 Jon Stallworthy. Selected Poetry

A candidate may also submit a list of readings to supplement, but not replace, the readings from the core (“A”) list above. The supplementary list should be submitted for approval with the declaration of intent to take the comprehensive examination form.