Ph. D. Reading List
Modernism: British and American Literature. 1900-1945

The following is a fundamental reading list for doctoral candidates to use as a guide in preparing for their comprehensive examination in the field of Modernism. A student is expected to have read widely in the field; to be thoroughly familiar with the major writers; and to read widely in the journal literature. The following reading list is suggestive rather than definitive, a list for the student and Committee on Studies to begin with. The list has four sections:

- Poetry
- Drama
- Fiction
- Secondary Sources

NOTE: ** denotes that the item can be selected by the graduate committee for master's reading list/exam.

POETRY
W.H. Auden
The Letter
Five Songs
V. ("O where are you going?"
The Wanderer
Adolescence
Our Hunting Fathers
Who’s Who
As I Walked Out One Evening
Lullaby
Museé des Beaux Arts
Epitaph on a Tyrant
Sonnets from China
XIII. ("Far from a cultural centre")
In Memory of W. B. Yeats
In Memory of Sigmund Freud
Leap Before You Look
Mundus et Infans
The Sea and the Mirror
(Miranda: "My Dear One is mine")
In Praise of Limestone
Their Lonely Betters
The Shield of Achilles
A Lullaby

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cummings, e. e.

[All in green went my love riding]
[O sweet spontaneous]
[the Cambridge ladies who live in furnished souls]
[i was sitting in mcsorley’s]
[a man who had fallen among thieves]
[come, gaze with me upon this dome]
[i sing of Olaf glad and big]
[space being (don’t forget to remember) curved]
[little joe gould has lost his teeth and doesn’t know where]
[you shall above all things be glad and young]
[the way to hump a cow is not]
[my father moved through dooms of love]
[a salesman is an it that stinks excuse]
[plato told]
[maggie and milly and molly and may]
[all nearness pauses, while a star can grow]
[now comes the good rain farmers pray for (and]
["right here the other night something]
[out of midsummer’s blazing most not night]

H.D. (Hilda Doolittle).

“Sea Rose”
”Garden”
”Oread”
”Helen”
”Fragment Sixty-Eight”
”Tribute to the Angels”
24-31 ("Every hour, every moment")
36-41 ("Ah (you say), this is Holy Wisdom")

Eliot, T[homas] S[terns].

The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock
Whispers of Immortality
Sweeney Among the Nightingales
Gerontion
The Waste Land
Landscapes
I. New Hampshire
V. Cape Ann
Little Gidding

Frost, Robert.

Mending Wall
After Apple-Picking
The Wood-Pile
The Road Not Taken
An Old Man’s Winter Night
The Oven Bird
Birches
Putting in the Seed

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Range-Finding
The Sound of Trees
The Witch of Coos
Fire and Ice
Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening
For Once, Then, Something
To Earthward
The Need of Being Versed in Country Things
Spring Pools
Tree at My Window
Acquainted with the Night
The Bear
Two Tramps in Mud Time
A Drumlin Woodchuck
Desert Places
Neither Out Far nor In Deep
Design
Provide, Provide
The Bearer of Evil Tidings
Never Again Would Birds’ Song Be the Same
The Subverted Flower
The Gift Outright
Directive
Hughes, Langston.
  The Negro Speaks of Rivers
  The Weary Blues
  Brass Spittoons
  Sylvester’s Dying Bed
  Morning After
  50-50
  Madam’s Past History
  Catch
  Theme for English B

**Moore, Marianne.
  “The Fish’’
  ”Poetry”
  “Critics and Connoisseurs”
  “A Grave”
  “The Steeple-Jack”
  “The Pangolin”
  “What Are Years?”
  “He ‘Digesteth Harde Yron’”
  “Spenser’s Ireland”

Owen, Wilfred.
  Anthem for Doomed Youth
  Dulce et Decorum Est
  Strange Meeting
  Futility

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Greater Love
Mental Cases
Disabled
Exposure

Pound, Ezra.
Portrait d'une Femme
The Return
The River-Merchant's Wife: A Letter
A Pact
The Rest
In a Station of the Metro
The Temperaments
Hugh Selwyn Mauberley: Life and Contacts
Mauberley
The Cantos
  I ("And then went down to the ship")
  II ("Hang it all, Robert Browning")
  VII ("Eleanor (she spoiled in a British climate")
  LXXXI ("Zeus lies in Ceres' bosom")

Issac Rosenberg
The Mirror
Break of Day in the Trenches
Louse Hunting
Returning, We Hear the Larks
Dead Man's Dump

Sassoon, Sigfried.
To His Dead Body
"Blighters"
The Rear-Guard
Dreamers
The General
Repression of War Experience
Everyone Sang
On Passing the New Menin Gate

Stevens, Wallace.
Sunday Morning
Peter Quince at the Clavier
Disillusionment of Ten O'Clock
The Worms at Heaven's Gate
Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird
Anecdote of the Jar
The Snow Man
Bantams in Pine-Woods
A High-Toned Old Christian Woman
The Emperor of Ice-Cream
The Idea of Order at Key West
Farewell to Florida
A Postcard from the Volcano

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The Man with the Blue Guitar
I ("The man bent over his guitar")
A Rabbit as King of the Ghosts
Study of Two Pears
The Man on the Dump
The Sense of the Sleight-of-Hand Man
Of Modern Poetry
Notes toward a Supreme Fiction
("Soldier, there is a war between the mind")
The Old Lutheran Bells at Home
A Quiet Normal Life
To an Old Philosopher in Rome
The Plain Sense of Things
Reality Is an Activity of the Most August Imagination

Thomas, Dylan
And Death Shall Have No Dominion
The Hand That Signed the Paper
The Force That through the Green Fuse Drives the Flower
When All My Five and Country Senses See
Twenty-Four Years
The Hunchback in the Park
Poem in October
A Refusal to Mourn the Death, by Fire, of a Child in London
Fern Hill
In My Craft or Sullen Art
Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night
Williams, William Carlos.
Tract
Queen-Ann’s-Lace
The Widow’s Lament in Springtime
The Great Figure
Spring and All
The Red Wheelbarrow
At the Ball Game
Portrait of a Lady
This Is Just to Say
Flowers by the Sea
The Yachts
The Young Housewife
Raleigh Was Right
The Dance
Burning the Christmas Greens
Paterson
Preface

Book I. The Delineaments of the Giants
III ("Paterson lies in the valley . . .")
III ("They begin!")

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III ("Thought clambers up")
Book II. Sunday in the Park
  I ("Outside")
    The Ivy Crown

Book V
  III ("Edward / Paterson has grown older")
Pictures from Breughel
  II. Landscape with the Fall of Icarus
  VI. Haymaking

Yeats, William Butler.
  The Song of the Happy Shepherd
  Down by the Salley Gardens
  To the Rose upon the Rood of Time
  The Lake Isle of Innisfree
  The Sorrow of Love
  When You Are Old
  Who Goes with Fergus?
  The Man Who Dreamed of Faeryland
  The Lamentation of the Old Pensioner
  To Ireland in the Coming Times
  The Hosting of the Sidhe
  Michael Robartes Bids His Beloved Be at Peace
  The Cap and Bells
  Aedh Thinks of Those Who Have Spoken Evil of His Beloved
  Aedh Wishes for the Cloths of Heaven
  In the Seven Woods
  Adam’s Curse
  No Second Troy
  On Hearing that the Students of Our New University Have Joined the Agitation
  Against
  Immoral Literature
  Friends
  The Cold Heaven
  September 1913
  Beggar to Beggar Cried
  The Magi
  The Dolls
  A Coat
  The Wild Swans at Coole
  The Fisherman
  An Irish Airman Foresees His Death
  Solomon and the Witch
  Easter 1916
  The Second Coming
  A Prayer for My Daughter
  To Be Carved on a Stone at Thoor Ballylee
  Leda and the Swan
  Sailing to Byzantium

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The Tower
Among School Children
Mohini Chatterjee
In Memory of Eva Gore-Booth and Con Markiewicz
A Dialogue of Self and Soul
Coole Park and Ballylee, 1931
The Choice
Byzantium
Vacillation
Fragments
Crazy Jane Talks with the Bishop
Meru
The Gyres
Lapis Lazuli
An Acre of Grass
The Statues
News for the Delphic Oracle
Long-Legged Fly
The Circus Animals’ Desertion
Under Ben Bulben

Drama
Brecht, Bertholt. Mother Courage
Eliot, T. S. Murder in the Cathedral
**Hellman, Lillian. The Little Foxes
**Ibsen, Henrik. A Doll’s House
O’Casey, Sean. Juno and the Paycock
**O’Neill, Eugene. Long Day’s Journey into Night
Pirandello, Luigi. Six Characters in Search of an Author
**Shaw, George Bernard. Major Barbara
**Synge, John Millington.
Riders to the Sea
Playboy of the Western World
Wilde, Oscar. The Importance of Being Earnest
Wilder, Thornton. Our Town
Yeats, William Butler.
Purgatory

Fiction
Cather, Willa. Death Comes for the Archbishop
**Chopin, Kate. The Awakening
**Conrad, Joseph. Heart of Darkness
Dreiser, Theodore. Sister Carrie
Faulkner, William.
**The Sound and the Fury
Absalom, Absalom!

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**Fitzgerald, F. Scott. *The Great Gatsby*

Forster, E. M. *A Passage to India*

Hemingway, Ernest.

**The Sun Also Rises**
"Indian Camp"
"The Doctor and the Doctor's Wife"
"The Killers"
"A Way You'll Never Be"
"Fathers and Sons"
"The Snows of Kilimanjaro"

**F. Scott Fitzgerald, E. M. Forster, Ernest Hemingway.**

"Indian Camp"
"The Doctor and the Doctor's Wife"
"The Killers"
"A Way You'll Never Be"
"Fathers and Sons"
"The Snows of Kilimanjaro"

**Hurston, Zora Neale. *Their Eyes Were Watching God*

Huxley, Aldous. *Brave New World*

James, Henry.

*The Portrait of a Lady*
*The Ambassadors*

Joyce, James

**A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man**
*Ulysses*

**Lawrence, D. H. Sons and Lovers**

Lewis, Sinclair. *Babbitt*

Stein, Gertrude. *The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas*

**Steinbeck, John. *The Grapes of Wrath***

Wharton, Edith. *The House of Mirth*

Woollf, Virginia. *To the Lighthouse*

**Wright, Richard. *Native Son***

**SECONDARY SOURCES**


Perkins, David.


