

MAJOR FIELD EXAM IN RENAISSANCE

Student: _____

Supervisor: _____

Anticipated Exam Date: _____

The purpose of this reading list (and, by extension, the examination) is to expose students to the multiplicity and richness of poetic discourse over the centuries, and to provide literary and theoretical contexts for the students' own research interests. Students are expected to achieve a balance of breadth and depth in their preparations – to be able to demonstrate their skills in close textual analyses as well as an ability to synthesize and generalize based on their readings.

The reading list has been divided into three parts:

- | | |
|----------|-------|
| Part I | Drama |
| Part II | Verse |
| Part III | Prose |

Following the guidelines and suggestions provided, students will design their own reading lists in consultation with their examination supervisor, for **a total of approximately 100 texts spread evenly over the three sections**. Departures from the specific listed texts will be considered in consultation with the advisor and exam committee. A copy of the candidate's list must be approved by and filed with the Graduate Study committee at least two months before the written examination. The list should be submitted alongside the default list below, annotated to make clear how the student has met the requirements here outlined.

PART I. DRAMA	GUIDANCE:
<p>A. Major Playwrights</p> <p>Jonson, Ben. Any masque, <i>The Alchemist</i>, <i>Volpone</i>, <i>Epicoene</i>, <i>Bartholomew Fair</i>, <i>Everyman In His Humour</i>, <i>Sejanus</i></p> <p>Marlowe, Christopher. <i>Dido</i>, <i>Queen of Carthage</i>, <i>Doctor Faustus</i>, <i>The Jew of Malta</i>, <i>Tamburlaine the Great</i>, <i>Parts One and Two</i>, <i>Edward II</i></p> <p>Middleton, Thomas. <i>The Changeling</i> (with Rowley), <i>A Chaste Maid in Cheapside</i>, <i>Game at Chess</i>, <i>Women Beware Women</i>, <i>The Revenger's Tragedy</i>, <i>The Roaring Girl</i> (with Dekker)</p> <p>Shakespeare, William. Complete plays.</p>	<p>Students should choose at least 3 plays and 1 masque by Jonson; at least 3 plays by Marlowe; at least 3 plays by Middleton; and 12-16 plays by Shakespeare with representation across comedy, history, tragedy, and romance.</p>
<p>B. Other Plays, Masques, and Entertainments</p> <p>Anon. <i>Arden of Faversham</i></p> <p>Anon. <i>Famous Victories of Henry V</i></p> <p>Anon. <i>Gammer Gurton's Needle</i></p> <p>Anon. <i>True Tragedy of Richard III</i></p> <p>Beaumont, Francis, and John Fletcher. <i>The Knight of the Burning Pestle</i>, <i>The Maid's Tragedy</i>,</p>	<p>Students should select approximately 10 works from this section, including a range of authors, genres, and forms (plays, masques, and closet dramas). Students should generally choose no more than 1</p>

<p><i>Philaster</i></p> <p>Brome, Richard. <i>The Antipodes</i></p> <p>Cary, Elizabeth. <i>The Tragedy of Mariam</i></p> <p>Cavendish, Margaret. <i>Bell in Campo, The Convent of Pleasure</i></p> <p>Chapman, George. <i>Bussy D'Ambois, The Widow's Tears</i></p> <p>Dekker, Thomas. <i>The Shoemakers' Holiday</i></p> <p>Ford, John. <i>'Tis Pity She's a Whore, The Broken Heart, The Witch of Edmonton</i> (with Dekker and Rowley)</p> <p>Greene, Robert. <i>Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay</i></p> <p>Heywood, Thomas. <i>A Woman Killed With Kindness</i></p> <p>Kyd, Thomas. <i>The Spanish Tragedy</i></p> <p>Lyly, John. <i>Galatea, Endymion</i></p> <p>Marston, John. <i>The Malcontent, The Dutch Courtesan</i></p> <p>Massinger, Philip. <i>A New Way to Pay Old Debts</i></p> <p>Milton, John. <i>Comus</i></p> <p>Norton, Thomas, and Thomas Sackville. <i>Gorboduc (Ferrex and Porrex)</i></p> <p>Peele, George. <i>The Troublesome Raigne of King John</i></p> <p>Webster, John. <i>The Duchess of Malfi, The White Devil</i></p>	<p>play by a given author. Most lists will include selections by Cary, Ford, Kyd, Milton, and Webster.</p>
---	--

PART II. VERSE	GUIDANCE:
<p>A. Major Poets</p> <p>Donne, John. <i>Songs and Sonnets, Holy Sonnets, Anniversaries</i>, other representative works</p> <p>Herbert, George. <i>The Temple</i></p> <p>Marlowe, Christopher. <i>Hero and Leander</i>, “The Passionate Shepherd to His Love”</p> <p>Milton, John. <i>Lycidas, Samson Agonistes, Paradise Lost</i>, other representative works</p> <p>Shakespeare, William. <i>Sonnets, Rape of Lucrece, Venus and Adonis</i></p> <p>Sidney, Philip. <i>Astrophil and Stella</i></p> <p>Spenser, Edmund. <i>The Faerie Queene, The Shepheardes Calendar, Epithalamion</i></p>	<p>Students should choose at least 20 texts from this group, including a complete work and/or a major selection of poems from each poet listed.</p>
<p>B. Other Poets</p> <p>Cavendish, Margaret</p> <p>Crashaw, Richard</p> <p>Daniel, Samuel</p> <p>Drayton, Michael</p> <p>Elizabeth I</p> <p>Herrick, Robert</p> <p>Jonson, Ben</p> <p>Lanyer, Amelia</p>	<p>Students should choose representative selections (at least 10 poems) from at least 8 poets. (The <i>Norton Anthology of English Literature</i> provides a reasonable guide for such selections.)</p>

<p>Marvell, Andrew Philips, Katherine Raleigh, Walter Skelton, John Surrey, Henry Howard, Earl of Traherne, Thomas Vaughan, Henry Whitney, Isabella Wroth, Mary Wyatt, Thomas</p>	
--	--

PART III. PROSE	GUIDANCE:
<p>Ascham, Roger. <i>The Scholemaster</i> Askew, Anne. <i>Examinations</i> (either Bale or Foxe edition) Bacon, Francis. <i>Selected Essayes, The New Atlantis</i> Browne, Thomas. <i>Religio Medici</i> Castiglione, Baldassare. <i>The Book of the Courtier</i> (tr. Hoby) Charles I. <i>Eikon Basilike</i> Donne, John. <i>Selected Sermons, Devotions Upon Emergent Occasions</i> Elizabeth I. Selected Writings Erasmus, Desiderius. <i>The Praise of Folly, The Education of a Christian Prince</i> Greene, Robert. <i>Pandosto: The Triumph of Time</i> James I. <i>Basilikon Doron</i>, other selected writings Jonson, Ben. <i>Timber, or Discoveries</i> Lodge, Thomas. <i>Rosalynde, A Margarite of America</i> Lyly, John. <i>Euphues: The Anatomy of Wit</i> Machiavelli, Niccoló. <i>The Prince</i> Makin, Bathsua. <i>An Essay to Revive the Antient Education of Gentlenwomen</i> Milton, John. <i>Areopagitica</i> Montaigne, Michel. <i>Selected Essays</i> (tr. Florio) More, Thomas. <i>Utopia</i> (tr. Robinson) Nashe, Thomas. <i>The Unfortunate Traveller</i> Puttenham, George. <i>The Arte of English Poesie</i> Sidney, Philip. <i>An Apology for Poetry (The Defense of Poesy), Old Arcadia, Countess of Pembroke's Arcadia</i> Wroth, Mary <i>The Countess of Pembroke's Urania</i></p>	<p>Students should choose at least 25 texts from this group, taking care to choose from a range of genres, including romance, utopia, religious prose, essay, poetics, political prose, and other forms of nonfiction.</p>

Revised: April 2015.