

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH & WRITING STUDIES
PhD FIELD EXAMINATION READING LIST
RENAISSANCE NON-DRAMATIC

In order to develop a wide-ranging competency to teach and research in the field of Renaissance Non-Dramatic, candidates will prepare a reading list according to the instructions and requirements below.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Field Exam

Students will be expected to have a thorough command of the material and a reasonably broad and representative knowledge of both sixteenth- and seventeenth-century literature in both poetry and prose. The examination will evaluate both the ability to analyze texts and the capacity to contextualize them. They should develop a sense of how and why particular authors and texts, whether conventionally deemed “major” or “minor,” are worthy of attention. They should consider the ways in which texts relate to each other and to such larger issues as genre, gender, conditions of textual production, and intellectual trends (including classical and continental influences). Students should read both widely and deeply--brief acquaintance with some selections should be balanced with in-depth choices that cover both centuries but permit students to pursue individual interests (e.g. women’s writing; civil war writing; rhetoric; prose fiction/romance).

Students are strongly encouraged to read some of the recommended secondary sources listed below.

2. Exam Structure

- i. Students will be asked to write THREE answers from a range of approximately ten questions.
- ii. Answers should demonstrate a reasonably broad and representative knowledge of both poetry and prose, and of both sixteenth- and seventeenth-century literature.

LIST OF TEXTS

- Anger, Jane. *Protection for Women*.
- Askew, Anne. *The Examinations*. (Martin, *Women Writers*)
- Bacon, Francis. *Essays; selections from The Advancement of Learning and Novum Organum*.
- Barnfield, Richard. *The Affectionate Shepherd*
- The Bible*, (King James (1611): Genesis, Exodus, I and II Samuel, the Psalms, and a Gospel).
- Browne, Thomas. *Religio Medici*.
- Burton, Robert. Selections from *Anatomy of Melancholy*. (“Democritus Junior to the Reader”, “Third Partition: Love Melancholy”)
- Carew, Thomas. Selected poems.
- Castiglione, Baldassare, *The Courtier* Book I, IV
- Cavendish, Margaret. *A True Relation of My Birth, Breeding, and Life, The Blazing World*; selections from the poetry and prose (see Bowerbank and Mendelson, *Paper Bodies* anthology)
- Clifford, Anne. *The Memoir of 1603 and the Diary of 1616-1619* (Martin, *Women Writers*)
- Crashaw, Richard. Selected poems.
- Clinton, Elizabeth. *Countess of Lincoln’s Nurserie* (Martin, *Women Writers*)
- Daniel, Samuel. *Delia; The Complaint of Rosamond*.
- Deloney, Thomas. *Jack of Newbury*
- Donne, John. *The poetry; selections from Devotions and Sermons*. (from *Devotions*, #1, 4, and 17 Sermon—“Deaths Duell”)
- Drayton, Michael. selections *Idea*, “To the Virginia Voyage”
- Elyot, Thomas. *The Book Called the Governor* (Selections)
- Erasmus, Desiderius. *The Praise of Folly*
- Fanshawe, Anne. *Memoirs*
- Foxe, John. From *Acts and Monuments*. selections [Account of death of Ridley and Latimer, Death of Anne Askew]
- Gascoigne, George. Selected poems; *The Adventures of Master F.J.*
- Greene, Robert. *Pandosto: The Triumph of Time*.
- Hakluyt, Richard. *Voyages. Selections* (“*The Voyage of Master Anthony Jenkinson*”, *Sir John Hawkins*, “*Account of His third voyage*”)
- Halkett, Anne. *The Memoirs of Anne, Lady Halkett* .
- Herbert, George. *The Temple*.
- Herbert, Mary (Sidney), Countess of Pembroke. *The Psalmes* (selected) (Martin, *Women Writers*)
- Herrick, Robert. Selections from the poetry.
- Hobbes, Thomas. *Leviathan*. (Selections: Perhaps “Introduction”, “Part 1: Of Man”)
- Howard, Henry, Earl of Surrey. Selections from the poetry.
- Hutchinson, Lucy. *Order and Disorder*
- Jonson, Ben. The poetry. and selections from *Timber*.
- Lanyer, Aemilia. *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*. (Martin, *Women Writers*)
- Leigh, Dorothy. *The Mothers Blessing* (Martin, *Women Writers*)
- Lock, Anne. Selected poems.
- Lodge, Thomas. *Rosalind*.
- Lovelace, Richard. Selected poems.
- Lyly, John. *Euphues: The Anatomy of Wit*.

Machiavelli. *The Prince*.
 Marlowe, Christopher. *Hero and Leander*, “The Passionate Shepherd,” selections from Ovid’s *Elegies*.
 Marston, John. *The Scourge of Villainy*.
 Marvell, Andrew. The poetry.
 Milton, John. “L’Allegro”, “Il Penseroso”, “Lycidas”, the sonnets, *Paradise Lost*, *Paradise Regained*, *Samson Agonistes*; *Areopagitica*; *On Education*; Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce *Mirror for Magistrates*. [selections: “Thomas Sackville, earl of Dorset “ “Jane Shore“]
 Montaigne, Michel Equem de, *Essais* (Selections “Of Cannibalism” “Of Experience” “On Solitude” “Education of Children” “To Philosophize is to Learn to Die” ”On Reading” “On Books” “Of Friendship” “Of Moderation”)
 More, Thomas. *Utopia*.
 Nashe, Thomas. *The Unfortunate Traveller*.
 Ovid, *Metamorphoses* Selections. Books 1,6, 10, 15
 Parr, Katherine. *Lamentation of a Sinner* (in Martin, *Women Writers*)
 Philips, Katherine. Selections from the poetry.
 Pulter, Hester. selected poems (Eardley edition or online *Pulter Project*)
 Puttenham, George. *The Art of English Poesie*.
 Raleigh, Walter. Selections from poetry and prose.
 Shakespeare, William. *Venus and Adonis*, “The Rape of Lucrece”, the Sonnets
 Sidney, Philip. *Astrophel and Stella*; *An Apology for Poetry*; *New Arcadia*, Bk. I, chaps. 1-14.
 Skelton, John. Selected poems.
 Speght, Rachel. *Muzzle for Melastomus*; *Mortality’s Memorandum*. (Martin, *Women Writers*)
 Spenser, Edmund. *The Faerie Queene*; *The Shepheardes Calendar*; *Epithalamion*; *A View of the Present State of Ireland*.
 Suckling, John. Selected poems.
 Swetnam, Joseph. *The Arraignment of Lewd, Idle, Forward and Unconstant Women*. (in Henderson and McManus, *Half Humankind*)
 Traherne, Thomas. Selected poems.
 Trapnel, Anna. *Report and Plea*
 Vaughan, Henry. Selected poems.
 Vives, Juan Luis. *The Instruction of a Christian Woman*.
 Whitney, Isabella. Selected poems, including “The Manner of Her Will” (Martin, *Women Writers*)
 Wroth, Lady Mary. *Pamphilia to Amphilanthus*; *Urania* Book I.
 Wyatt, Thomas. Selected poetry.

Recommend primary source editions

Blackwell Anthologies, Norton Anthologies, Broadview, Penguin

Acheson, Katherine. *The Memoir of 1603 and The Diary of 1616-1619*. By Anne Clifford. Broadview, 2007.

Bowerbank, Sylvia and Sara Mendelson, eds. *Paper Bodies: A Margaret Cavendish Reader*. Broadview, 2000.

Black, Joseph, ed. *The Broadview Anthology of British Literature. Volume 2, The Renaissance and the Early Seventeenth Century*. Third edition., Broadview Press, 2016.

Braden, Gordon, ed. *Sixteenth-Century Poetry : An Annotated Anthology*. Blackwell, 2005.

Cummings, R. M., ed. *Seventeenth-Century Poetry: An Annotated Anthology*. Blackwell, 2000.

Eardley, Alice, ed. *Poems, Emblems, and The Unfortunate Florinda*. By Hester Pulter. ITER and CRRS, 2014.

Henderson, Katherine Usher and Barbara F. McManus, eds. *Half Humankind: Contexts and Texts of the Controversy about Women in England 1540-1640*. U of Illinois P, 1985.

Loftis, John, ed. *The Memoirs of Anne, Lady Halkett and Ann, Lady Fanshawe*. Clarendon, 1979.

Martin, Randall, ed. *Women Writers in Renaissance England*. Harlow: Longman, 1997, 2010.

The Pulter Project. <https://pulterproject.northwestern.edu>

Recommended Secondary Sources

Students are invited to pursue relevant secondary reading in preparation for the exam. The listed secondary texts are highly recommended but are not required reading. Your answers should demonstrate an awareness of the historical and cultural moment in which the literature was written, but students are not required to quote or directly refer to secondary reading.

Bates, Catherine Teresa, ee.. *A Companion to Renaissance Poetry*. 1st ed., Wiley Blackwell, 2018. Corns, Thomas N., ed. *The Cambridge Companion to English Poetry, Donne to Marvell*. s, Cambridge University Press, 1993.

Corns, Thomas N. *A History of Seventeenth-Century English Literature*. 1st ed., Wiley Blackwell, 2014.

Greenblatt, Stephen, ed. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature: The Sixteenth and the Early Seventeenth Century* Herman, Peter *A Short History of Early Modern England: British Literature in Context*. Wiley-Blackwell, 2011.

Kinney, Arthur F., ed. *The Cambridge Companion to English Literature, 1500-1600*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2000.

Leonard, John. *The Value of Milton*. Cambridge University Press, 2016.

Loewenstein, David, and Janel M. Mueller, editors. *The Cambridge History of Early Modern English Literature*. 1st ed., Cambridge University Press, 2002.

McCabe, Richard A. *The Oxford Handbook of Edmund Spenser*. Oxford University Press, 2010.

Pinchcombe, Mike and Cathy Shrank, eds. *The Oxford Handbook of Tudor Literature, 1485-1603*. Oxford University Press, 2009.

Students may also draw on bibliographies of recent anthologies listed below and consult with the examining committee members for recommended readings.

Black, Joseph, editor. *The Broadview Anthology of British Literature. Volume 2, The Renaissance and the Early Seventeenth Century*. Third edition., Broadview Press, 2016.

Braden, Gordon, ed. *Sixteenth-Century Poetry: An Annotated Anthology*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2005.

Cummings, Robert, ed. *Seventeenth-Century Poetry: An Annotated Anthology*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2000.

Greenblatt, Stephen, ed. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature: The Sixteenth and the Early Seventeenth Century*.

Loughlin, Marie H., Sandra Bell, Patricia Brace, eds. *The Broadview Anthology of Sixteenth-Century Poetry and Prose*. Peterborough: Broadview, 2012.

Martin, Randall, ed. *Women Writers in Renaissance England*. Harlow: Longman, 1997, 2010.

Rudrum, Alan, Joseph Black, Holly Faith Nelson, eds. *The Broadview Anthology of Seventeenth-Century Verse and Prose*. Rev. ed. Peterborough: Broadview, 2004.

Stevenson, Jane and Peter Davidson, eds. *Early Modern Women Poets: An Anthology*. Oxford and New York: Oxford UP, 2001.

Departmental regulations regarding PhD qualifying exams can be found @ the following site:
https://uwo.ca/english/graduate/programs/phd_program/phd_regulations.html