

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH & WRITING STUDIES
PhD FIELD EXAMINATION READING LIST
RESTORATION AND EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

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

INSTRUCTIONS

Students are responsible for all of the titles on the reading list.

EXAM STRUCTURE

This examination consists of THREE questions of equal value. Please answer three questions, taking care not to write on any author in detail more than once. You may of course refer in passing to an author as often as you see fit. Provide at least THREE examples in each answer. Demonstrate as broad a range of understanding as possible in your paper as a whole.

Most of the selections on this list in the “Poetry” and “Prose” sections can be found in David Damrosch, *et al.*, eds. *The Longman Anthology of British Literature. Vol. IC The Restoration and 18th Century* **and/or** the *Norton Anthology of English Literature: The Restoration and 18th Century*, Vol C. Many of the poems can be found in Roger Lonsdale, ed. *The New Oxford Book of Eighteenth-Century Verse*; in Paula Backscheider and Catherine Ingrassia, eds. *British Women Poets of the Long Eighteenth Century*; and in David Fairer and Christine Gerrard, eds., *Eighteenth-Century Poetry: An Annotated Anthology*.

POETRY

Anna Barbauld, “The Mouse’s Petition to Dr. Priestley”, “The Rights of Women”, “Washing Day”

Aphra Behn, “The Disappointment”, “The Willing Mistress”

Mary Collier, *The Woman's Labour*

William Collins, “Ode to Fear”, “Ode to Evening”, “Ode, Written in the Beginning of the Year 1746”, “Ode on the Popular Superstitions of the Highlands”

William Cowper, “The Castaway”, *The Task* (Broadview selections)

John Denham, “Cooper’s Hill”

John Dryden, *MacFlecknoe*, *Absalom and Achitophel*, “To the Pious Memory of the Accomplished Young Lady Mrs. Anne Killigrew”, “A Song for St. Cecilia’s Day”

Stephen Duck, “The Thresher's Labour”

Anne Finch, Countess of Winchilsea, “The Introduction”, “To the Nightingale”, “A Tale of the Miser and the Poet”, “A Nocturnal Reverie”, “The Spleen”

John Gay, *Trivia* (at least Book II)

Oliver Goldsmith, *The Deserted Village*, “Retaliation”

Thomas Gray, “Elegy Written in a Country Church-yard”, “Sonnet on the Death of Mr. Richard West”

Samuel Johnson, *London*, *The Vanity of Human Wishes*

Mary Leapor, “An Epistle to a Lady,” “Crumble-Hall”

Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, “Saturday: The Small Pox”, “The Reasons that Induced Dr. S. to write a Poem called *The Lady's Dressing Room*”, “Versus Addressed to the Imitator of Horace”

Alexander Pope, *An Essay on Criticism*, *Windsor Forest*, *The Rape of the Lock*, *Eloisa to Abelard*, *Moral Essays*, *An Epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot*, “The First Epistle of the Second Book of Horace Imitated”

Earl of Rochester (John Wilmot), “Satyr Against Reason and Mankind”, “The Disabled Debauchee”, “Upon his Drinking a Bowl”, “A Letter from Artemisa in the Town to Chloe in the Country”

Charlotte Smith, from *Elegiac Sonnets*, I-IV, VII, VIII, XII, XLIV, LXX

Jonathan Swift, “A Description of the Morning”, “The Progress of Beauty”, “Strephon and Chloe”, “Verses on the Death of Dr. Swift”, “A Description of A City Shower”, “Stella’s Birthday, 1721”, “Stella’s Birthday, 1726/7”, “The Lady’s Dressing Room”

James Thomson, *The Seasons* (“Winter”), “Rule Britannia”

Edward Young, *The Complaint, or Night Thoughts*, (I. “On Life, Death, and Immortality”)

NOVELS

Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko*

John Bunyan, *Pilgrim’s Progress*

Fanny Burney, *Evelina*

Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe* or *Moll Flanders*

Henry Fielding, *Tom Jones*, *Shamela*

Eliza Haywood, *Fantomina*

Elizabeth Inchbald, *A Simple Story*

Samuel Johnson, *Rasselas*

Charlotte Lennox, *The Female Quixote*

Henry Mackenzie, *The Man of Feeling*

Sydney Owenson (Lady Morgan), *The Wild Irish Girl*

Ann Radcliffe, *The Mysteries of Udolpho*

Samuel Richardson, *Pamela*

Laurence Sterne, *Tristram Shandy* or *Sentimental Journey*

Horace Walpole, *Castle of Otranto* (note in particular Prefaces to 1st and 2nd editions)

Mary Wollstonecraft, *Mary*, *A Fiction*

DRAMA

Aphra Behn, *The Rover*

Susanna Centlivre, *A Bold Stroke for A Wife*

William Congreve, *The Way of the World*

John Dryden, *Aureng-Zebe*

George Etherege, *The Man of Mode*

John Gay, *The Beggar's Opera*

Oliver Goldsmith, *She Stoops to Conquer*

Nicholas Rowe, *The Fair Penitent*

Richard Sheridan, *The School for Scandal*

Thomas Southerne, *Oroonoko*

Richard Steele, *The Conscious Lovers*

William Wycherley, *The Country Wife*

PROSE

Joseph Addison and Richard Steele, *The Tatler*, no. 32 (“The Gentleman: The Pretty Fellow”), *The Spectator*, no. 11 (“Inkle and Yarico”) and “Pleasures of the Imagination” essays, nos. 411-421

James Boswell, *Life of Johnson*, (Norton Anthology selections)

Edmund Burke, *A Philosophical Enquiry into the Origins of our Ideas of the Sublime and Beautiful* (Selections), *Reflections on the Revolution in France* (Selections)

John Dryden, “Of Dramatic Poesy, An Essay”

Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*

Henry Fielding, *The Female Husband*, “Mortality of Print” *Covent Garden Journal* (Broadview anthology)

Elizabeth Hamilton, *Translation of the Letters of a Hindoo rajah*

Eliza Haywood, *The Female Spectator* (Broadview Anthology selections)

David Hume, "Of the Standard of Taste", *An Enquiry concerning Human Understanding*

Samuel Johnson, *Ramblers* 4, 60, 97, 170, 171 *Idlers* 31,81, "Preface to *Shakespeare*", *Lives of Savage, Dryden, Pope, Gray*

John Locke, *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, Book II. "Of Ideas", chapters 1-12, 19, 27; Book IV. "Of Knowledge and Opinion", chapters 14, 17-21, *Second Treatise of Government* chapter 5 ("Of Property")

Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, *Turkish Embassy Letters*

Samson Occom, *A Short Narrative of My Life*

Adam Smith, *Theory of Moral Sentiments*, Part I, Section I, chapters 1-4 and Section II, chapters 1-2; Part 4 chapter 1

Jonathan Swift, *A Tale of a Tub*, *Gulliver's Travels*, *A Modest Proposal*, "A Letter to the Whole People of Ireland", *The Drapier's Letters*, No. 1

Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*

Recommended Secondary Sources

Students are encouraged to secondary reading in preparation for the exam and should be familiar with major historical events and literary historical shifts. Suggested materials include: introductions to current scholarly editions of the texts (Penguin, Oxford World's Classics, Broadview editions, Norton editions); Blackwell Companions and Cambridge Companions of the period, its genres, and specific authors; the Cambridge Literature in Context series also includes many eighteenth-century authors: Burney, Defoe, Goldsmith, Johnson, Swift, Richardson, Wollstonecraft. The Oxford Handbook series (British Poetry 1660-1800 and select authors) is also recommended for broad overviews and contexts.

A list of other resources can be made in conjunction with the examination committee. These might include: Eve Sedgwick's *Between Men*, Leah Orr's *Novel Ventures*, Wendy Anne Lee's *Failures of Feeling* and others.

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