

**WESTERN UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

**PhD QUALIFYING EXAMINATION READING LIST**

**English 9916 (SF)/ 9936 (PF)**

**AMERICAN LITERATURE**

In order to develop a wide-ranging competency to teach and research in the field of American literature, candidates will prepare a reading list according to the instructions and requirements below. Students are encouraged to use scholarly editions of texts that will provide appropriate introductory and supplementary material (committee members can provide guidance on the kinds of editions that would be appropriate).

**1. Instructions**

**i. Secondary Field Exam**

Students may choose to specialize in three periods: the earlier (American I, contact-1865), the later (American II, 1865-present), or the entire span of the literature. Students who choose American I or American II should a) select roughly 40-45 of the **core** texts from that period and 15-18 texts from the other, and b) supplement with 10-15 additional texts of their choice (these selections may be made from the list if desired; all choices should be made in consultation with their committee). Students who choose to cover the two time periods equally should choose roughly 28 of the **core** texts from each list, plus an additional 10-15 texts, some of which may be chosen from the American Studies theory and criticism source list. Students are expected to educate themselves about each text by reading appropriate introductory material such as the headers of the Norton anthology. However, depending on the student's choices and research focus, examining committee members may request that critical material be included in the list as part of the 10-15 additional texts listed above.

**ii. Primary Field Exam**

Students must choose to specialize in either the earlier (American I) or the later period (American II). They must choose 60-70 texts from the **full** list for that period, plus approximately 20-25 texts from the other period list. Students are expected to reinforce their comprehension of each text by reading appropriate introductory and/or critical material.

Furthermore, students doing the Primary Field exam must choose 10-15 additional sources. These choices should include 5-8 texts from the American Studies theory and criticism source list below. In the exam, students must show an understanding of the key concepts of these texts and the ways in which these works represent paradigm shifts in the context of American literary studies. Students are strongly

encouraged to choose theory and criticism that pertain to the primary texts they have chosen or that comment on their intended area of focus in American literature and culture.

**N.B. For selection purposes, please consider one poet (not a poem) as one “text”.**

<b>Exam</b>	<b>Requirement 1</b>	<b>Requirement 2</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Max # of texts</b>
<b>Secondary, American I</b>	40-45 <b>core</b> texts in American I list	15-18 <b>core</b> texts in American II list	10-15 texts; may include theory and criticism	70-75
<b>Secondary, American II</b>	15-18 <b>core</b> texts in American I list	40-45 <b>core</b> texts in American II list	10-15 texts; may include theory and criticism	70-75
<b>Secondary, entire list</b>	28-30 <b>core</b> texts in American I list	28-30 <b>core</b> texts in American II list	10-15 texts; may include theory and criticism	70-75
<b>Primary, American I</b>	60-70 texts from <b>full</b> American I list, plus introductory/critical material	20 texts from <b>full</b> American II list, plus introductory/critical material	10-15 texts; 5-8 must be from theory and criticism list	100
<b>Primary, American II</b>	60-70 texts from <b>full</b> American II list, plus introductory/critical material	20 texts from <b>full</b> American I list, plus introductory/critical material	10-15 texts; 5-8 must be from theory and criticism list	100

## 2. Exam Structure

- i. The exam consists of **THREE** parts, covering the pre-1865 period, post-1865 period, and general themes. Students are required to answer **ONE** question from each of the three parts.
- ii. Students must not discuss the same text more than once.

## CORE & OPTIONAL TEXTS

The American Literature list covers a time period from the contact era through to the present day. As a result of this expansive range of time, the list is divided into two periods, American Literature I and American Literature II. Particular texts and time periods listed are intended to be suggestive rather than prescriptive: candidates may substitute authors and texts not on the list in consultation with the Examining Committee. The candidate's list must include representative prose, poetry, and drama.

**Core titles are listed in bold and should be given more weight in compiling lists (see instructions above).**

\* Students may, in consultation with their committee, choose a selection from texts marked by an asterisk.

### American Literature I: origins-1865

#### PROSE – 16th-17th Centuries

**Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca** *The Relaccion* (1542)

Samuel de Champlain *Voyages of Samuel de Champlain* (1604-1618)

Thomas Hariot *A Briefe and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia* (1588)

**John Smith** *General Historie of Virginia, New England, and the Summer Isles* (1624)\*

**Thomas Morton** *New English Canaan* (1637)\*

**William Bradford** *Of Plymouth Plantation* (1647)

**John Winthrop** Read:

“A Model of Christian Charity” (1629-30)

*Journal of John Winthrop*

Student may choose these additional texts:

“A Defence of an Order of Court” (1637)

“The Examination of Mrs. Anne Hutchinson” (1637)

Anne Hutchinson “Transcript of the Trial of Anne Hutchinson,” (1637) in Thomas Hutchinson, *History of the Colony and Province of Massachusetts*

**Roger Williams** “The Bloody Tenent of Persecution” (1644)

*A Key into the Language of America* (1643)\*

**John Cotton** “Sixteene Questions of Necessary and Serious Consequence” (1635)

“A Treatise of the Covenant of Grace” (1659)

Thomas Shepard *Autobiography* (1646)

Michael Wigglesworth Excerpt of *Day of Doom* (1662)

Edward Taylor *Preparatory Meditations* (1670s)

**Mary Rowlandson** *The Sovereignty and Goodness of God* (1682)

**Cotton Mather** *Wonders of the Invisible World* (1692)

Frances Hill (ed) *The Salem Witch Trials Reader*

**Native American  
Oral Literature**

(selection in 5-vol. *Norton Anthology of American  
Literature*)

**PROSE – 18th Century**

Sarah Kemble Knight	Excerpt from “The Private Journal of a Journey from Boston to New York” (1704)
William Byrd	Norton excerpt from <i>The Secret Diary</i> (1710) Norton excerpt from <i>History of the Dividing Line</i> (1728)
<b>Jonathan Edwards</b>	“Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God” (1741) “Divine and Supernatural Light” (1734) “Personal Narrative” (1765)
Pontiac	“Speech at Detroit” (1763)
<b>John Woolman</b>	“Some Considerations on the Keeping of Negroes” (1762) <i>Journal</i> (1774)*
Thomas Paine	<i>Common Sense</i> (1776)
<b>Benjamin Franklin</b>	<i>The Way to Wealth</i> (1758) or <i>Autobiography</i> (1793)
<b>J. Hector Crèvecoeur</b>	<i>Letters from an American Farmer</i> (1782)
<b>Thomas Jefferson</b>	<i>Notes on the State of Virginia</i> (1787) “Declaration of Independence” (1776)
Madison, Jay, Hamilton	<i>The Federalist</i> (1788) (choose excerpt of 4-8 papers)
Susannah Rowson	<i>Charlotte Temple</i> (1791)
<b>Olaudah Equiano</b>	<i>The Interesting Life of Olaudah Equiano</i> (1789)
<b>Samson Occom</b>	<i>A Short Narrative of My Life</i> (1768)
William Bartram	Selections from <i>Travels</i> (1791)
Judith Sargent Murray	“On the Equality of the Sexes” (1790) or excerpts from <i>The Gleaner</i> (1798)
<b>Hannah Foster</b>	<i>The Coquette</i> (1797)
<b>Charles Brockden Brown</b>	<i>Wieland</i> (1798)
William Hill Brown	<i>The Power of Sympathy</i> (1798)
Political documents	Articles of Confederation (1777), Bill of Rights (1789), Alien and Sedition Acts (1798)

**PROSE AND DRAMA – 1800-1864**

<b>Tecumseh</b>	“Speech to the Osages” (1811)
Washington Irving	“Rip van Winkle” (1819) “Legend of Sleepy Hollow” (1820)
<b>James Fenimore Cooper</b>	<i>Last of the Mohicans</i> (1826)
Catherine Sedgwick	<i>Hope Leslie</i> (1827)
<b>David Walker</b>	<i>Appeal</i> (1829)
William Cullen Bryant	“Thanatopsis” (1817) “The Prairies” (1832) “The Death of Lincoln” (1865)
William Apess	“An Indian’s Looking Glass for the White Man” (1833)
<b>Ralph Waldo Emerson</b>	Read: <i>Nature</i> (1836)

Choose at least 3 of:

“The American Scholar” (1837)

“Divinity School Address” (1838)

“Self-Reliance” (1841)

“The Poet” (1844)

**Margaret Fuller**

**Edgar Allan Poe**

*Women in the Nineteenth Century* (1845)

At least 4 of: “Berenice” (1835)

*The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym of Nantucket* (1838)

“Fall of the House of Usher” (1839)

“The Man of the Crowd” (1840)

“Murders in the Rue Morgue” (1841)

“The Tell-Tale Heart” (1843)

“The Purloined Letter” (1844)

“Murders in the Rue Morgue” (1841)

**Frederick Douglass**

*Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* (1845)

“What to the Slave is the 4<sup>th</sup> of July?” (1852)

Dion Boucicault

“The Octoroon” (1859)

William Wells Brown

*Narrative of William Wells Brown* (1847)

*Clotel, Or, the President’s Daughter* (1853)

**Henry David Thoreau**

*Walden* (1854)

**Nathaniel Hawthorne**

(At least 1 novel and 1 short story from:)

“My Kinsman, Major Molineux” (1832)

“Young Goodman Brown” (1835)

“Rappaccini’s Daughter” (1844)

*The Scarlet Letter* (1850)

*The House of the Seven Gables* (1851)

*The Blithedale Romance* (1852)

**Harriet Beecher Stowe**

*Uncle Tom’s Cabin* (1852)

Sojourner Truth “Speech to the Women’s Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio, 1851”

**Herman Melville**

*Moby-Dick* (1851)

(At least 2 of)

*Typee* (1846)

*Pierre, or, the Ambiguities* (1852)

“Bartleby, the Scrivener” (1853)

“Benito Cereno” (1855)

“The Paradise of Bachelors and the Tartarus of Maids” (1855)

*Billy Budd* [1891] (1926)

**Harriet Jacobs**

*Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (1861)

Harriet Wilson

*Our Nig* (1859)

Martin Delany

*Blake, or the Huts of America* (1859)

Rebecca Harding Davis

*Life in the Iron Mills* (1861)

Abraham Lincoln

“Gettysburg Address” (1863)

### **POETRY--1600-1865**

**Native American poetry**

see poetry selections in “Native American Oral Literature” in

<b>Anne Bradstreet</b>	5-volume Norton Anthology <i>The Tenth Muse</i> (1650) “The Author to Her Book” (1678) “Some Lines Written on the Burning of My House”(1666) “To My Dear and Loving Husband” (1678)
Edward Taylor	“Upon a Spider Catching a Fly”
<b>Phillis Wheatley</b>	<i>Poems Occasional and Moral</i> (1773) Philip Freneau poems including “The Rising Glory of America” (1786 version); “The Indian Burying Ground” (1788)
Lydia Sigourney	“The Sutte” (1827), “Indian Names” (1834)
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow	“Evangeline” (1847) “Paul Revere’s Ride” (1860)
<b>Edgar Allan Poe</b>	“The Raven” (1845)
<b>Walt Whitman</b>	Norton selection of <i>Leaves of Grass</i> (1855) <i>Democratic Vistas</i> (1871)*
<b>Emily Dickinson</b>	<i>Poems of Emily Dickinson</i> ([1858-1890]) *

## American Literature II: 1865-contemporary

### PROSE – 1865-1899

Julia C. Collins	<i>The Curse of Caste; or The Slave Bride</i> (1865)
Joel Chandler Harris	“The Wonderful Tar Baby Story” (1881) “Mr. Rabbit Grossly Deceives Mr. Fox” (1881)
Sarah Winnemucca	<i>Life Among the Piutes</i> (1883)
María Ruiz de Burton	<i>The Squatter and the Don</i> (1885)
<b>Mark Twain</b>	<i>Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> (1885) <i>Pudd’nhead Wilson</i> (1894)
William Dean Howells	<i>Hazard of New Fortunes</i> (1889)
José Martí	“Our America” (1891)
Frances Harper	<i>Iola Leroy</i> (1892)
<b>Charlotte Perkins Gilman</b>	“The Yellow Wallpaper” (1892) or <i>Herland</i> (1915)
<b>Henry James</b>	“The Turn of the Screw” (1898) “The Beast in the Jungle” (1903) And at least 2 novels from the following list: <i>Daisy Miller: A Study</i> (1878) <i>Washington Square</i> (1880) <i>The Portrait of a Lady</i> (1881) <i>The Bostonians</i> (1886) <i>What Maisie Knew</i> (1897) <i>The Wings of the Dove</i> (1902)
Stephen Crane	<i>Maggie</i> (1893) <i>The Red Badge of Courage</i> (1895)
Sarah Orne Jewett	<i>The Country of the Pointed Firs</i> (1896)
Frank Norris	<i>McTeague: A Story of San Francisco</i> (1899)

**Kate Chopin**

*The Awakening* (1899)

**PROSE – 1900-1950**

**Zitkala-Ša**

*Impressions from an Indian Childhood* (1900) and

*The School Days of an Indian Girl* (1900)

*Sister Carrie* (1900) or *An American Tragedy* (1925)

**Theodore Dreiser**

*Up from Slavery* (1901)

Booker T. Washington

*The Marrow of Tradition* (1901)

Charles Chesnutt

*Indian Boyhood* (1902)

Charles A. Eastman

*The Souls of Black Folk* (1903)

**W.E.B. Du Bois**

*The House of Mirth* (1905) or *The Age of Innocence* (1920)

**Edith Wharton**

*Geronimo's Story of His Life* (1906)

Geronimo

*The Education of Henry Adams* (1906)

Henry Adams

Jack London

1 novel or 5-6 short stories, including "To Build a Fire" (1908)

**Gertrude Stein**

1 of "Melanctha" (1909); *Tender Buttons* (1914)

*The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas* (1933)

Sui Sin Far (Edith Eaton)

"Mrs. Spring Fragrance" (1912)

James Weldon Johnson

*The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man* (1912)

Willa Cather

*My Antonia* (1918) or *O Pioneers!* (1913)

Sinclair Lewis

*Main Street* (1920) or *Babbitt* (1922)

John Dos Passos

*Manhattan Transfer* (1925)

**F. Scott Fitzgerald**

*The Great Gatsby* (1925) or *Tender Is the Night* (1934)

**Ernest Hemingway**

*In Our Time* (1925) and at least 1 other novel or 5-6 short stories

Nella Larsen

*Quicksand* (1928) or *Passing* (1929)

**William Faulkner**

At least 2 of: *The Sound and the Fury* (1929)

*As I Lay Dying* (1930)

*Absalom, Absalom!* (1936)

*Light in August* (1932)

"Barn Burning" (1939)

*Go Down, Moses* (1942)

*Black Elk Speaks* (1932)

Black Elk

*Miss Lonelyhearts* (1933) or *The Day of the Locust* (1939)

Nathanael West

*Call It Sleep* (1934)

Henry Roth

*The Sun Also Rises* (1926)

D'arcy McNickle

*Their Eyes Were Watching God* (1937)

**Zora Neale Hurston**

*Of Mice and Men* (1937) or *The Grapes of Wrath* (1939)

John Steinbeck

At least 3 stories from *Collected Stories* [1965] or the novella *Pale Horse, Pale Rider* (1939)

Katherine Anne Porter

*The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter* (1940)

Carson McCullers

*Native Son* (1940)

**Richard Wright**

"A Worn Path" (1941), "Petrified Man" (1941)

Eudora Welty

*Cane* (1943)

**Jean Toomer**

**POETRY – 1865-1950**

Please use the selections included in the 5-volume *Norton Anthology of American Literature* as a starting point and choose substitutions as necessary. Students are recommended to choose 3-5 poems per poet.

Paul Laurence Dunbar  
**H. D. (Hilda Doolittle)**  
Amy Lowell  
**Gertrude Stein**  
**T. S. Eliot**  
Mina Loy  
**Robert Frost**  
**Wallace Stevens**  
**William Carlos Williams**  
**Ezra Pound**  
**Marianne Moore**  
**e.e. cummings**  
Edna St. Vincent Millay  
Hart Crane  
**Langston Hughes**  
Carl Sandburg  
Countee Cullen  
Muriel Rukeyser  
**Claude McKay**

**PROSE – 1950-present**

J. D. Salinger	<i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> (1951) or <i>Nine Stories</i> (1953)
<b>Ralph Ellison</b>	<i>Invisible Man</i> (1952)
<b>James Baldwin</b>	<i>Go Tell It On The Mountain</i> (1953)
	<i>If Beale Street Could Talk</i> (1974)
Vladimir Nabokov	<i>Lolita</i> (1955) or <i>Pale Fire</i> (1962)
<b>Jack Kerouac</b>	<i>On the Road</i> (1957)
William S. Burroughs	<i>Naked Lunch</i> (1959)
John Updike	“A&P” (1961); “Separating” (1974)
Saul Bellow	<i>Herzog</i> (1964)
Malcolm X and Alex Haley	<i>Autobiography of Malcolm X</i> (1965)
<b>Flannery O’Connor</b>	<i>Everything That Rises Must Converge</i> (1965)
Thomas Pynchon	<i>The Crying of Lot 49</i> (1965) or <i>Gravity’s Rainbow</i> (1973)
N. Scott Momaday	<i>House Made of Dawn</i> (1968)
Ursula K. Le Guin	<i>The Left Hand of Darkness</i> (1969)
Ishmael Reed	<i>Mumbo Jumbo</i> (1972) or <i>Flight to Canada</i> (1976)
<b>Maxine Hong Kingston</b>	<i>The Woman Warrior</i> (1976)
<b>Leslie Marmon Silko</b>	<i>Ceremony</i> (1977)
Octavia Butler	<i>Kindred</i> (1979) or <i>Parable of the Sower</i> (1993)
Art Spiegelman	<i>Maus</i> (1980-1991)
Louise Erdrich	<i>Love Medicine</i> (1984) or <i>Tracks</i> (1987)



<b>Don DeLillo</b>	<i>White Noise</i> (1985) or <i>Underworld</i> (1997) or <i>Mao II</i> (1992)
<b>Alice Walker</b>	<i>The Color Purple</i> (1985) or 2-3 short stories
<b>Toni Morrison</b>	<i>The Bluest Eye</i> (1970) or <i>Beloved</i> (1987)
Sandra Cisneros	<i>The House on Mango Street</i> (1984) or <i>Woman Hollering Creek</i> (1991)
Sherman Alexie	<i>The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven</i> (1993) or <i>Reservation Blues</i> (1995)
Philip Roth	<i>The Human Stain</i> (2000)
<b>Alison Bechdel</b>	<i>Fun Home</i> (2006)
Junot Diaz	<i>The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao</i> (2007)
Colson Whitehead	<i>The Underground Railroad</i> (2016)

### **POETRY – 1950-present**

Please use the selections included in the Norton Anthology of Postmodern American Poetry, 2nd ed. as a starting point and choose substitutions as necessary.

Charles Olson  
 Robert Duncan  
**Elizabeth Bishop**  
 Theodore Roethke  
 Robert Lowell  
**Gwendolyn Brooks**  
**Audre Lorde**  
**Allen Ginsberg**  
 John Ashbery  
 Frank O'Hara  
 Amiri Baraka  
**Adrienne Rich**  
**Sylvia Plath**  
 John Cage  
 Charles Bernstein  
 Lyn Hejinian  
 Susan Howe  
 Denise Levertov  
 Maya Angelou  
 Rita Dove  
 Claudia Rankine  
 Juliana Spahr  
 Diane Di Prima  
 Sherman Alexie

### **DRAMA – 1900-PRESENT**

Susan Glaspell	<i>Trifles</i> (1916)
Thornton Wilder	<i>Our Town</i> (1938)
Lillian Hellman	<i>The Little Foxes</i> (1939)
<b>Arthur Miller</b>	<i>Death of a Salesman</i> (1949) or <i>The Crucible</i> (1953)

<b>Tennessee Williams</b>	<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> (1947) and <i>Cat on a Hot Tin Roof</i> (1955)
Eugene O'Neill	<i>Long Day's Journey Into Night</i> (1956)
Lorraine Hansberry	<i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> (1959)
<b>Edward Albee</b>	<i>Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?</i> (1963)
Sam Shepard	<i>Buried Child</i> (1978)
David Mamet	<i>Glengarry Glen Ross</i> (1984)
<b>August Wilson</b>	<i>Fences</i> (1985)
<b>David Henry Hwang</b>	<i>M. Butterfly</i> (1988)
<b>Tony Kushner</b>	<i>Angels in America</i> (1991)
Lin-Manuel Miranda	<i>Hamilton</i> (2015)

### **American Studies theory and literary criticism**

A reminder: Students taking the secondary field exam may select texts from this list if they wish. Students taking the primary field exam must choose some titles from this list, and are encouraged to make selections that discuss their chosen primary texts. They may, in consultation with their committee, choose to be examined on 1-2 chapters of each monograph rather than the entire monograph, but they must be able to explain the trajectory and cultural importance of the work's argument.

- Anzaldúa, Gloria. *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza*.
- Benn Michaels, Walter. *The Gold Standard and the Logic of Naturalism*.
- Bercovitch, Sacvan. *The American Jeremiad*.
- Berlant, Lauren. *Cruel Optimism*.
- Blackhawk, Ned. *Violence Over the Land: Indians and Empires in the Early American West*.
- Brodhead, Richard. *Cultures of Letters: Scenes of Reading and Writing in Nineteenth-Century America*.
- Brown, Gillian. *Domestic Individualism: Imagining Self in Nineteenth-Century America*.
- Brown, Dee. *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*.
- Buell, Lawrence. *The Environmental Imagination: Thoreau, Nature Writing, and the Formation of American Culture*
- Burgett, Bruce, and Glenn Hendler, eds. *Keywords for American Cultural Studies*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition.
- Carby, Hazel. *Reconstructing Womanhood: The Emergence of the Afro-American Woman Novelist*.
- Crenshaw, Kimberlé, Neil Gotanda, Gary Peller, and Kendall Thomas, eds. *Critical Race Theory: The Key Writings That Formed the Movement*.
- Davidson, Cathy N., and Jessamyn Hatcher, eds. *No More Separate Spheres!: A Next Wave American Studies Reader*.
- Davidson, Cathy N. *Revolution and the Word: The Rise of the Novel in America*.
- Denning, Michael. *The Cultural Front: The Laboring of American Culture in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century*.
- Fiedler, Leslie. *Love and Death in the American Novel*.
- Fishkin, Shelley Fisher. *Was Huck Black? Mark Twain and African American Voices*
- Gates, Henry Louis. *The Signifying Monkey: A Theory of African-American Literary Criticism*
- Genovese, Eugene D. *From Revolution to Rebellion: Afro-American Slave Revolts in the Making of the Modern World*.

- Giles, Paul. *Transatlantic Insurrections: British Culture and the Formation of American Literature, 1730-1860*.
- Gilroy, Paul. *The Black Atlantic: Modernity and Double Consciousness*.
- Haraway, Donna. "A Cyborg Manifesto: Science, Technology, and Socialist-Feminism in the Late Twentieth Century." *Socialist Review* 80 (1985): 65-108.
- Harris, Cheryl. "Whiteness as Property." *Harvard Law Review* 106 (1993): 1707-91.
- Hartman, Saidiya. *Scenes of Subjection: Terror, Slavery, and Self-Making in Nineteenth-Century America*.
- Horsman, Reginald. *Race and Manifest Destiny: The Origins of American Racial Anglo-Saxonism*.
- Hutcheon, Linda. *The Politics of Postmodernism*.
- Kaplan, Amy. *The Anarchy of Empire in the Making of U.S. Culture*.
- Kaplan, Amy, and Donald E. Pease, eds. *Cultures of United States Imperialism*.
- Kerber, Linda K. "The Republican Mother: Women and the Enlightenment—An American Perspective." *American Quarterly* 28 (1976): 187-205.
- Kulick, Bruce. "Myth and Symbol in American Studies." *American Quarterly* 24 (1972): 435-50.
- Leitch, Vincent B. *American Literary Criticism Since the 1930s*.
- Lepore, Jill. *The Name of War: King Philip's War and the Origins of American Identity*.
- Lewis, R. W. B. *The American Adam: Innocence, Tradition, and Tragedy in the Nineteenth Century*.
- Lott, Eric. *Love and Theft: Blackface Minstrelsy and the American Working Class*.
- Marx, Leo. *The Machine in the Garden: Technology and the Pastoral Ideal in America*.
- McGill, Meredith L. *American Literature and the Culture of Reprinting*.
- Merrell, James H. "Second Thoughts on Colonial Historians and American Indians," *WMQ* 69 (July 2012): 451-512
- Merish, Lori. *Sentimental Materialism: Gender, Commodity Culture, and Nineteenth-Century American Literature*.
- Miller, Perry. *Errand into the Wilderness*.
- Morrison, Toni. *Playing in the Dark: Whiteness in the Literary Imagination*.
- Omi, Michael and Howard Winant. "On the Theoretical Status of the Concept of Race." *Asian American Studies: A Reader*. Eds. Jean Yu-Wu Shen and Min Song. Rutgers UP, 2000. 199-208.
- Puar, Jasbir K. *Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times*.
- Radway, Janice. "What's in a Name?" *The Futures of American Studies*. Eds. Donald Pease and Robyn Wiegman. Duke UP, 2002. 45-75.
- Richter, Daniel. *Facing East from Indian Country: A Native History of Early America*.
- Romero, Lora. *Home Fronts: Domesticity and Its Critics in the Antebellum United States*.
- Saldívar, José David. *Border Matters: Remapping American Cultural Studies*.
- Sayre, Gordon. *The Indian Chief as Tragic Hero: Native Resistance and the Literatures of America, from Moctezuma to Tecumseh*.
- Shanley, Kathryn W. "The Indians America Loves to Love and Read: American Indian Identity and Cultural Appropriation." *American Indian Quarterly* 21.4 (1997): 675-702.
- Slotkin, Richard. *Gunfighter Nation: The Myth of the Frontier in Twentieth-Century America*.
- Spillers, Hortense. "Mama's Baby, Papa's Maybe: An American Grammar Book." *Diacritics* Vol. 17, No. 2, (Summer, 1987), pp. 65-81
- Turner, Frederick Jackson. *The Frontier in American History*.

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