

**WESTERN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

PhD QUALIFYING EXAMINATION READING LIST

English 9917 (SF)/ 9937 (PF)

CANADIAN LITERATURE

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

1. Instructions

i. Secondary Field Exam

Students are responsible for all the titles listed under CORE TEXTS.

Students who have elected Canadian literature as their Secondary Field must be broadly conversant with historical and critical issues in the field through readings from a selection of the texts listed under **Recommended Secondary Sources** below.

ii. Primary Field Exam

Students **must** be conversant with the major texts and developments in Canadian literary criticism, scholarship, and theory from the colonial period to the present (see **Recommended Secondary Sources** below).

Students are expected to expand upon the **CORE** reading list by adding 40 to 50 items. These additional items should each consist of a volume or a substantial selection (50pp. or more) from an anthology, chosen from two of the four periods. In making these additions, candidates may consider their particular research interests. They are also encouraged to include francophone-Canadian texts either in translation or, by special arrangement, the original. Those adding a substantial number of francophone-Canadian texts should consult with an appropriate faculty member in the Department of French.

2. Exam Structure

- i. Students are required to answer **THREE** questions in all. All questions are of equal value.
- ii. Students must not write extensively on the same text twice.

CORE TEXTS

Colonial (1670 - 1867)

Bentley, D.M.R., ed. *Early Long Poems on Canada* and Canadian Poetry Press Editions of Early Canadian Long Poems (six long poems from the period, including *Abram's Plains*, *The Rising Village*, and *The Huron Chief*)

Brooke, Frances. *The History of Emily Montague* (selections in D.M.R. Bentley, ed. *Early Writing in Canada* (<http://www.canadianpoetry.ca>))

Haliburton, Thomas Chandler. Selections in *Early Writing in Canada*

Howison, John. *Sketches of Upper Canada*

Jameson, Anna. "Summer Rambles" in *Winter Studies and Summer Rambles in Canada*

Kirby, William. *The Golden Dog*

Moodie, Susanna. *Roughing It in the Bush*

Richardson, John. *Wacousta*

Trail, Catharine Parr. *The Backwoods of Canada*

Warkentin, Germaine, ed. *Canadian Exploration Literature* (selections, including Kelsey, Henry, Hearne, Thompson, Mackenzie, Palliser)

Confederation (1867-1920)

Bentley, D.M.R., ed. *Early Long Poems on Canada* or Canadian Poetry Press Editions of Early Canadian Long Poems (*Malcolm's Katie*, *The Story of an Affinity*)

_____, ed. *Early Writing in Canada* (selections of Carman, Lampman, Roberts, Duncan Campbell Scott) (<http://www.canadianpoetry.ca>)

Campbell, William Wilfred, *Lake Lyrics and Other Poems* ("Vapor and Blue," "The Winter Lakes," "Lake Huron (October)," "Indian Summer")

Duncan, Sara Jeannette. *The Imperialist*

Gordon, Charles (Ralph Connor). *The Man From Glengarry* or *Glengarry School Days*

Johnson, E. Pauline. Selections in *Tekahionwake: Collected Poems and Selected Prose*, ed Carole Gerson

Leacock, Stephen. *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town* or *Arcadian Adventures with the Idle Rich*

Montgomery, Lucy Maude. *Anne of Gables* or *Emily of New Moon*

Roberts, Charles G. D. *The Last Barrier and Other Stories*. Ed Alec Lucas (selections, including "Do Seek Their Meat from God," "The Young Ravens that Call upon Him")

Scott, Duncan Campbell. *In the Village of Viger* (selections, including "The Little Milliner," "Paul Farlotte")

Modern (1920-1970)

Buckler, Ernest. *The Mountain and the Valley*

Callaghan, Morley. A novel or volume of short stories

Carr, Emily. *Klee Wyck*

Davies, Robertson. A novel

Grove, F.P. A novel

Klein, A.M. *The Second Scroll*

Laurence, Margaret. A novel

MacLennan, Hugh. A novel

O'Hagan, Howard. *Tay John*

Ostenso, Margaret. *Wild Geese*
 Richler, Mordecai. *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* or *St. Urbain's Horseman*
 Ross, Sinclair. *As For Me and My House*
 Watson, Sheila. *The Double Hook*
 Wilson, Ethel. *Hetty Dorval* or *Swamp Angel*
 Wilson, Milton, ed. *Poets Between the Wars* (Pratt, Smith,* Scott, Klein) *See selections in *Early Writing in Canada*
 Wilson, Milton, ed. *Poetry of Mid-Century* (Avison, Birney, Layton, Livesay, Page, Souster) or selections from later anthologies or volumes of selected/collected poems)

Contemporary

Atwood, Margaret. A novel or volume of prose fiction
 Bowering George. *Caprice* or *Burning Water*
 Brand, Dionne. A novel or volume of poetry
 Campbell, Maria, and Linda Griffiths *The Book of Jessica: A Theatrical Transformation*
 Clarke, Austin. A novel or volume of stories
 Cohen, Leonard. *Beautiful Losers*
 Crummey, Michael. *River Thieves*
 Chariandy, David. A novel
 Culleton, Beatrice. *In Search of April Raintree*
 Donoghue, Emma. *Room*
 Edugyan, Esi. A novel
 Findley, Timothy. A novel
 Hage, Rawi. A novel
 Hodgins, Jack. A novel or volume of stories
 King, Thomas. A novel or volume of stories
 Kogawa, Joy. *Obasan*
 Kroetsch, Robert. A novel
 Marlatt, Daphne. A novel or volume of stories
 McLeod, Alistair. A volume of stories.
 Mistry, Rohinton. A novel or volume of stories
 Moore, Lisa. A novel or volume of short stories
 Munro, Alice. A volume of stories
 Ondaatje, Michael. A novel
 Robinson, Eden. *Monkey Beach*
 Scott, Gail. A novel or volume of stories
 Shields, Carol. A novel or volume of stories
 Simpson, Leanne Betasamosake. *Decolonial Love: Stories and Songs*.
 Thien, Madeleine. A novel or volume of stories.
 Thomas, Audrey. A novel or volume of stories
 Thúy, Kim. A novel
 Urquhart, Jane. A novel
 Vanderhaeghe, Guy. A novel

Drama

Anthony, Trey. *'da Kink in My Hair*
 Herbert, John. *Fortune and Men's Eyes*.
 MacDonald, Anne Marie. A play
 Mojica, Monique. *Princess Pocahontas and the Blue Spots*
 Reaney, James. A play
 Ryga, George. A play
 Salutin, Rick. A play
 Sears, d'Janet. *Harlem Duet*
 Pollock, Sharon. A play
 Highway, Tomson. A play
 Walker, George. A play

Poetry: Required Readings

Selections from Atwood, Brand, Cohen, Kroetsch, MacEwen, Marlatt, Newlove, nichol, Nowlan, Ondaatje, Purdy, Wallace, Webb
 Plus five more from Abel, Acorn, bissett, Borson, Bringhurst, Carson, Clarke, Crozier, Dewdney, Di Michele, Jones, Lane, Lee, Lowther, Mandel, McCaffery, McKay, Mouré, Nourbese Philip, Wah, Zieroth, Zwicky, including at least two of Armstrong, Dumont, Halfe, Keeshig-Tobias, Moses, Robinson, Scofield, in Moses and Goldie, eds. listed below.

Selections from these poets can be found in the following anthologies:

Bowering, George, ed. *The Contemporary Canadian Poem Anthology*
 David, Jack and Robert Lecker, eds. *Canadian Poetry Volume 2*
 Geddes, Gary, ed. *15 Canadian Poets Times 3*
 Lee, Dennis, ed. *The New Canadian Poets, 1970-85*
 Moses, Daniel David, and Terry Goldie, eds. *An Anthology of Canadian Native Literature in English*, 2nd Edition
 Moss, Laura, and Cynthia Sugars. *Canadian Literature in English: Texts and Contexts*, vol. 2
 Ondaatje, Michael, ed. *The Long Poem Anthology* and Thesen, Sharon, ed. *The New Long Poem Anthology* (eight authors) Note: Harry Robinson's "Captive in an English Circus," in Moses and Goldie, eds. *An Anthology of Canadian Native Literature in English* may be substituted for one of these long poems.

RECOMMENDED SECONDARY SOURCES

The following list will be helpful in building a demonstrable awareness of the historical and critical issues in the field, as will standard reference resources such as *Literary History of Canada*, ed. Carl F. Klinck and *Oxford Companion to Canadian Literature*, ed. Cynthia Sugars.

Bentley, D.M.R. *The Gay]Grey Moose: Essays on the Ecologies and Mythologies of Canadian Poetry, 1690-1990*
 Clarke, George Elliott, *Odysseys Home: Mapping African Canadian Literature*
 Coleman, Daniel. *White Civility: The Literary Project of English Canada*
 Daymond, Douglas, and Leslie Monkman, eds. *Towards a Canadian Literature*

- Davey, Frank. *Post-National Arguments: The Politics of the Anglophone-Canadian Novel Since 1967*
- Dudek, Louis, and Michael Gnarowski, eds. *The Making of Modern Poetry in Canada*
- Frye, Northrop. *The Bush Garden*
- Hebel, A, D. Pennee and J.R. Struthers, eds. *New Contexts of Canadian Criticism*
- Hutcheon, Linda. *The Canadian Postmodern*
- Kamboureli, Smaro. *On the Edge of Genre: The Contemporary Canadian Long Poem*
- _____, and Roy Miki eds. *Trans.Can. Lit: Resituating the Study of Canadian Literature*
- Kroetsch, Robert. *The Lovely Treachery of Words*
- Macfarlane, Heather, and Armand Garnet Ruffo, eds. *Introduction to Indigenous Literary Criticism in Canada*
- Mandel, Eli, ed. *Contexts of Canadian Criticism*
- McGregor, Hannah, et al, eds. *Refuse: CanLit in Ruins*
- Silvera, Makeda, ed. *The Other Woman: Women of Colour in Contemporary Canadian Literature*
- Soper, Ella, and Nicholas Bradley, eds. *Greening the Canadian Maple: Canadian Ecocriticism in Context*
- Sugars, Cynthia, ed. *Unhomely States: Theorizing English-Canadian Postcolonialism*
- Verduyn, Cristl, ed. *Literary Pluralities*

Departmental regulations regarding PhD comprehensive exams can be found @ the following site: <https://www.uwo.ca/english/graduate/phd/index.html>.