

**WESTERN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

PhD QUALIFYING EXAMINATION READING LIST

English 9911 (SF)/ 9931 (PF)

DRAMA TO THE RESTORATION

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

1. Instructions

- i. Secondary Field Exam**
Students are responsible for all of the titles on the CORE reading list.
- ii. Primary Field Exam**
In addition to the CORE reading list, students are required to add ONE-THIRD as many plays extant in the period.

2. Exam Structure

- i. Students are required to answer THREE questions in all. All questions are of equal value.
- ii. Students must not discuss the same play more than once.
- iii. In the course of the examination as a whole, students should discuss a play or plays from early in the period and late in the period.
- iv. Students may answer ONE of the questions on Shakespeare only, by drawing examples from three or more of his plays.
- v. In each answer (apart from an answer on Shakespeare, should you take up this option) discuss plays by no fewer than THREE dramatists. Shakespeare may be one of the dramatists discussed in each of your answers.
- vi. Students' answers should demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of both Shakespearean and non-Shakespearean drama, and an ability to deal with diverse topics and critical interests.

CORE TEXTS

NON-SHAKESPEAREAN

Second Shepherd's Play (Wakefield)

Noah (Wakefield)

Abraham and Isaac (Brome)

Mankind

Everyman

Heywood, *The Four PP*

Udall, *Ralph Roister Doister*

Stevenson, *Gammer Gurton's Needle*

Sackville and Norton, *The Tragedy of Gorboduc*

Preston, *Cambises*

Peele, *The Old Wives' Tale*

Lyly, *Endimion*

Kyd, *The Spanish Tragedy*

Greene, *Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay*

Marlowe, *Tamburlaine*, Parts I and II; *The Jew of Malta*; *Doctor Faustus*; *Edward II*

Chapman, *Bussy D'Ambois*

Dekker, *The Shoemaker's Holiday*

Heywood, *A Woman Killed with Kindness*

Marston, *The Malcontent*

Jonson, *Every Man in his Humour*; *Volpone*; *Epicoene*; *The Alchemist*; *Bartholomew Fair*; *Sejanus*; *The Masque of Queens*

Tourneur, *The Revenger's Tragedy*

Beaumont, *The Knight of the Burning Pestle*

Beaumont & Fletcher, *Philaster*, *The Maid's Tragedy*

Middleton, *The Changeling*; *A Chaste Maid in Cheapside*; *A Game at Chess*; *A Trick to Catch the Old One*

Massinger, *A New Way to Pay Old Debts*

Ford, *'Tis Pity She's a Whore*

Webster, *Duchess of Malfi*; *The White Devil*

Shirley, *The Cardinal*

Milton, *A Masque Presented at Ludlow*

Cary, Elizabeth. *The Tragedy of Mariam, the Fair Queen of Jewry* (1613)

SHAKESPEARE

Richard II

Richard III

Henry IV, Parts 1 & 2

Henry V

Comedy of Errors

Love's Labour's Lost

A Midsummer Night's Dream

The Merchant of Venice

Much Ado About Nothing

As You Like It
Twelfth Night
Measure for Measure
All's Well That Ends Well
Romeo and Juliet
Julius Caesar
Hamlet
Troilus and Cressida
Othello
King Lear
Macbeth
Antony and Cleopatra
Coriolanus
Cymbeline
The Winter's Tale
The Tempest

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 drama was written, but students are not required to quote or directly refer to secondary reading.

Adamson, Sylvia, Lynette Hunter, Lynne Magnusson, Ann Thompson, and Katie Wales, eds. *Reading Shakespeare's Dramatic Language: A Guide*. London: Arden Shakespeare, 2001.

Astington, John H. *Actors and Acting in Shakespeare's Time: The Art of Stage Playing*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Berry, Herbert, William Ingram, and Glynne Wickham, eds. *English Professional Theatre, 1530–1660*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000.

Evans, Robert C. *Culture and Society in Shakespeare's Day*. New York: Chelsea House, 2012.

Callaghan, Dympna. *Who Was William Shakespeare? An Introduction to the Life and Works*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2013.

Cox, John D. and David Scott Kastan, eds. *A New History of Early English Drama*. New York: Columbia UP, 1997.

Harris, John Wesley. *Medieval theatre in context: an introduction*. New York: Routledge, 1992.

Hunter, G.K. *The English Drama, 1585-1642*. Oxford: Clarendon, 1997.

Keenan, Siobhan. *Acting Companies and Their Plays in Shakespeare's London*. London: Bloomsbury Arden Shakespeare, 2014.

Manley, Lawrence. *Literature and Culture in Early Modern London*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995.

Manley, Lawrence, ed. *London in the Age of Shakespeare: An Anthology*. University Park: Penn State University Press, 1986.

McLuskie, Kathleen. *Renaissance Dramatists*. Atlantic Heights, NJ: Humanities Press International, 1989.

Wilson, Frank Percy. *The English Drama, 1485-1585*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1969.

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