

**WESTERN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

PHD QUALIFYING EXAMINATION READING LIST

English 9912 (SF)/ 9932 (PF)

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.

1. Instructions

i. Secondary Field Exam

The list is divided into two sections, which should be regarded differently for the purposes of the examination:

“Core Texts” refers to primary authors and all students will be expected to have a thorough command of this material.

“Optional Texts”, by contrast, refers to a range of secondary authors and titles intended to guide students’ wider reading but not to be taken either as rigidly prescriptive or as exclusive. The primary objective of this reading is to gain 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. Students should therefore use the secondary list as a basis for exploring the literature, thought, and culture of the period. 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 several of these 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).

A programme of study for the examination will necessarily be selective. For guidance, students are encouraged to consult critical views of the period, such as the Cambridge and Blackwell Companions, faculty members specializing in the field, and reputable anthologies, such as those listed below under Recommended Secondary Sources.

ii. Primary Field Exam

Same as above. In addition, students should note that the expectations for writing the Primary Field exam involve a greater number of optional texts to be worked out with the examination committee.

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 Spenser and / or Milton, of both poetry and prose, and of both sixteenth- and seventeenth-century literature.

CORE TEXTS

Bacon, Francis. *Essays; selections from The Advancement of Learning and Novum Organum.*

Browne, Thomas. *Religio Medici.*

Cavendish, Margaret. *The Blazing World; selections from the poetry and prose.*

Donne, John. *The poetry; selections from Devotions and Sermons.*

Erasmus, Desiderius. *The Praise of Folly; The Education of a Christian Prince.*

Herbert, George. *The Temple.*

Herrick, Robert. Selections from the poetry.

Howard, Henry, Earl of Surrey. Selections from the poetry.

Jonson, Ben. The poetry and selections from *Timber.*

Lanyer, Aemilia. *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum.*

Marlowe, Christopher. *Hero and Leander*, “The Passionate Shepherd,” selections from Ovid’s *Elegies*

Marvell, Andrew. The poetry.

Milton, John. The poetry in English; *Areopagitica; On Education; The Reason of Church Government; The Ready and Easy Way; De Doctrina Christiana*, Bk. I, chaps. 1-4, 27. *Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce.*

More, Thomas. *Utopia.*

Philips, Katherine. Selections from the poetry.

Shakespeare, William. The non-dramatic poetry.

Sidney, Philip. *Astrophel and Stella; An Apology for Poetry; New Arcadia*, Bk. I, chaps. 1-14.

Spenser, Edmund. *The Faerie Queene; Two Cantos of Mutabilitie; The Shepherdes Calendar; Epithalamion; Foure Hymnes; Prothalamion; A View of the Present State of Ireland.*

Wroth, Lady Mary. *Pamphilia to Amphilanthus; Urania* Book I.

Wyatt, Thomas. The poetry.

OPTIONAL TEXTS

Anger, Jane. *Protection for Women*.
Ascham, Roger. *The Schoolmaster*.
Askew, Anne. *The Examinations*.
Barnfield, Richard. *The Affectionate Shepherd; Cynthia*.
Bible, The (Geneva and / or King James' versions).
Burton, Robert. *Anatomy of Melancholy*.
Campion, Thomas. Selected poems.
Carew, Thomas. Selected poems.
Castiglione, Baldassare, *The Courtier* (tr. Thomas Hoby).
Chapman, George. Selected poems.
Crashaw, Richard. Selected poems.
Daniel, Samuel. *Delia; The Complaint of Rosamond*.
Davies, John. Selected poems.
Deloney, Thomas. *Jack of Newbury; Thomas of Reading*.
Drayton, Michael. *Idea; "To the Virginia Voyage"*; selections from *Poly-Olbion*.
Elizabeth I, Queen. Selected poems.
Elyot, Thomas. *The Book Called the Governor*.
Fletcher, Giles, *Christ's victory and triumph*.
Fletcher, Phineas. Selected poems.
Foxe, John. From *Acts and Monuments*.
Gascoigne, George. Selected poems; *The Adventures of Master F.J.*
Greene, Robert. *Pandosto: The Triumph of Time*.
Greville, Fulke. *Caelica*.
Hakluyt, Richard. *Voyages*.
Halkett, Anne. *The Memoirs of Anne, Lady Halkett*.
Herbert, Mary (Sidney), Countess of Pembroke. *The Psalmes*.
Hobbes, Thomas. *Leviathan*.
Holinshed, Raphael. Selections from *Chronicles*.
Hooker, Richard. Selections from *Ecclesiastical Polity*.
Hutchinson, Lucy. *Order and Disorder; Memoirs of the Life of Colonel Hutchinson*.
Latimer, Hugh. From *Sermons*.
Lock, Anne. Selected poems.
Lodge, Thomas. *Rosalind*.
Lyly, John. *Euphues: The Anatomy of Wit*.
Lovelace, Richard. Selected poems.
Machiavelli. *The Prince*.
Marston, John. *The Scourge of Villainy*.
Mirror for Magistrates.
Montaigne, Michel Equem de, *Essais* (tr. John Florio).
Nashe, Thomas. *The Unfortunate Traveller*.
Osborne, Dorothy. *Letters of Dorothy Osborne to William Temple*.
Ovid, *Metamorphoses* (tr. Arthur Golding).
Puttenham, George. *The Art of English Poesie*.
Raleigh, Walter. Selections from poetry and prose.

Skelton, John. Selected poems.
 Speght, Rachel. *Muzzle for Melastomus; Mortality's Memorandum*.
 Suckling, John. Selected poems.
 Swetnam, Joseph. *The Arraignment of Lewd, Idle, Forward and Unconstant Women*.
 Traherne, Thomas. Selected poems.
 Vaughan, Henry. Selected poems.
 Vives, Juan Luis. *The Instruction of a Christian Woman*.
 Waller, Edmund. Selected poems.
 Walton, Izaak. *Lives; The Complete Angler*.
 Whitney, Isabella. Selected poems.
 Wilson, Thomas. *The Art of Rhetoric*.

Recommended Secondary Sources

Student should note the bibliographies of the anthologies and companions listed below, and consult with the examining committee members for recommended readings.

- Abrams, M.H., et al., eds. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*. 9th ed. New York: Norton, 2012. Vol. I.
- Baker, Herschel, ed. *The Later Renaissance in England: Nondramatic Verse and Prose 1600-1660*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1975.
- Braden, Gordon, ed. *Sixteenth-century poetry: an annotated anthology*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2005.
- Corns, Thomas N., ed. *The Cambridge Companion to English Poetry, Donne to Marvell*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1993.
- Kermode, Frank, and John Hollander, eds. *The Oxford Anthology of English Literature*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1973. Vol. I.
- Kinney, Arthur F., ed. *The Cambridge Companion to English Literature, 1500-1600*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2000.
- Lamson, Roy, and Hallett Smith. *The Golden Hind: An Anthology of Elizabethan Prose and Poetry*. Rev. Ed. New York: Norton, 1956.
- 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.
- Rollins, H. E., and H. Baker, eds. *The Renaissance in England*. Boston: Heath, 1954.

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 comprehensive exams can be found @ the following site: <http://www.uwo.ca/english/graduate/phd.html>