The student’s individualized reading list will be composed of the items below:

- 39 selected items, four from each category A-I and one from each category J-L.
- 22 of these are required works, and are marked with an asterisk.

All students must include at least one numbered group from the J list (Rhetoric and Composition), one work from the K list (Linguistics), and one work from the L list (Literary Theory) on their individual exam list.

Students who elect to replace the Thematic question with a question in Rhetoric and Composition, Linguistics, or Literary Theory will follow the instructions in the appropriate list (J, K, or L). These students will be responsible for reading only a total of 11 elective items from groups A-I (rather than 14).

The list will be constructed in consultation with a member of the English Graduate Faculty who agrees to serve as chair of the student’s Examination Committee. The Graduate Program Committee must approve each individualized list by the last class day of the semester preceding the semester in which the student intends to take the examination. In normal circumstances, the individualized list may not be altered once approved by the Graduate Program Committee.

A. Pre-1500

1) The Beowulf Poet, *Beowulf*
3) Geoffrey Chaucer, from *The Canterbury Tales*: “General Prologue,” “Knight’s Tale,” “Miller’s Prologue and Tale,” “Wife of Bath’s Prologue and Tale,” “Clerk’s Prologue and Tale,” “Pardoner’s Prologue and Tale,” “Nun’s Priest’s Prologue and Tale,” “Parson’s Prologue”
4) Geoffrey Chaucer, *Troilus and Criseyde*
5) The Gawain Poet, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Pearl*
6) William Langland, *The Vision of Piers Plowman (B-Text)*
7) Julian of Norwich, *A Book of Showings to the Anchoress Julian of Norwich* (“Long Text”)
8) Christine de Pizan, *The Book of the City of Ladies*
9) Marie de France, *The Lais of Marie de France*
10) Margery Kempe, *The Book of Margery Kempe*
12) **Mystery plays**, *The Chester Play of Noah’s Flood & The Wakefield Second Shepherds’ Play*

13) **Morality plays**, *Everyman and Mankind*

13) **Creation Narratives:**
   a) **Biblical book of Genesis**, chapters 1-11
   b) **Old English “Genesis B”**
   d) **Pima Stories of the Creation and of the Flood** in *The Norton American*, 7th ed., Vol. A

**B. 1500-1600**

1) **Sir Thomas More**, *Utopia* (*Norton Anthology of Literature*, 8th ed., vol. 1)

2) a) **Sir Thomas Wyatt**,
   “The long love that in my thought doth harbor,” “Who so list to hunt,”
   “Farewell, Love,” “My galley,” “They flee from me,” “My lute, Awake!” “Mine own John Poins”
   b) **Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey**,

3) **Edmund Spenser**, “October” (from *The Shepheardes Calender*), *Amoretti* 1, 34, 37, 54, 64, 68, 74, 75, 79, “Epithalamion”

*4) **Edmund Spenser**, *The Faerie Queene*: “A Letter of the Authors,” Book I (all), Book III (Cantos 1, 5-6, 9-12)

5) **Sir Philip Sidney**, *The Defense of Poesy*; Selections from *Astrophil and Stella*: Sonnets 1, 7, 9, 20, 29, 45, 106; Second Song, Fourth Song

6) **Mary (Sidney) Herbert, Countess of Pembroke**, “To the Angel Spirit of…Sidney,” Psalms 52 & 139, *The Tragedie of Antonie*

7) a) **Queen Elizabeth I**, “Speech to the Troops at Tilbury” and the “Golden Speech”
   b) **Lady Mary Wroth**, *The Countess of Montgomerie’s Urania, Book I*

8) **Christopher Marlowe**, *Doctor Faustus* and *The Jew of Malta*

*9) **William Shakespeare**, One history play, one tragedy, and one comedy (including romance) of student's selection (chosen in consultation with advisor)

10) **William Shakespeare**, One history play, one tragedy, and one comedy (including romance) of student's selection (chosen in consultation with advisor)

11) **William Shakespeare**, *Sonnets* 1, 2, 18, 20, 64, 65, 66, 73, 116, 127, 129, 130, 135, 144; *Rape of Lucrece*

12) **Colonial Narratives:**
   a) **Selections from “The Wider World”** (Frobisher's *Voyages to the Arctic*; Drake's *Circumnavigation of the Globe*; Amadas and Barlowe's *Voyage to Virginia*; and Hariot's *Report on Virginia*) in *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, 8th ed., Vol. 1
   b) **Sir Walter Raleigh**, selection from “The discovery of the large, rich, and beautiful Empire of Guiana,” in *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, 7th ed., Vol. 1
   c) **Christopher Columbus**, “Letter to Luis de Santangel Regarding the First Voyage,”


C. 1600-1700


3) a) Ben Jonson, *Volpone, The Masque of Blackness*, “To Penshurst,” “To…Cary and … Morison,” “To the Memory of…Shakespeare”

b) Aemilia Lanyer, “The Description of Cooke-ham”

4) John Webster, *The Duchess of Malfi*

Elizabeth Cary, *The Tragedy of Mariam, the Fair Queen of Jewry*


[Comus], “Lycidas,” “How Soon Hath Time,” “When I Consider How My Light is Spent,” “Methought I Saw My Late Espoused Saint,” *Samson Agonistes, Areopagitica*

*7) John Milton, *Paradise Lost*


10) John Dryden, “Absalom and Achithophel,” “MacFlecknoe,” “To the Memory of Mr. Oldham, “A Song for St. Cecilia’s Day,” *An Essay of Dramatic Poesy*


b) Mary Rowlandson, *A Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson* (including “Preface to the Reader”)

12) a) Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko, The Rover*

b) Margaret Cavendish, *Blazing World*
D. 1700-1800

1) **Daniel Defoe**, *Robinson Crusoe*; Defoe, *Farther Adventures of Robinson Crusoe*

2) **Samuel Richardson**, *Pamela; Or, Virtue Rewarded*

3) a) **Maria Edgeworth**, *Castle Rackrent*, “Letters for Literary Ladies”
   b) **Charles Brockden Brown**, *Wieland; or The Transformation*

4) **Jonathan Swift**, *Gulliver’s Travels*


6) **Henry Fielding**, *Tom Jones*

   “Pope,” “Gray,” *Rasselas*
   b) **Mary Wortley Montagu**, *Turkish Embassy Letters*

8) a) **Sir Richard Steele**, *The Conscious Lovers*
   b) **Richard Sheridan**, *The Rivals*

9) a) **William Blake**, “All Religions are One,” “There is No Natural Religion” [A & B]; from
   *Songs of Innocence*: “Introduction,” “The Lamb,” “The Little Black Boy,” “The Chimney Sweeper,” “Holy Thursday”; from
   b) **Robert Burns**, “The Cotter’s Saturday Night,” “To a Mouse,” “Holy Willie’s Prayer,” “Epistle to John Lapraik”

10) a) **Olaudah Equiano**, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African, Written by Himself*
    b) **Phillis Wheatley**, “On the Death of... George Whitefield,” “On Being Brought from Africa to America,” “To the University of Cambridge, in New England,” “To S.M., a Young African Painter,” Letter to Rev. Samson Occom (Feb. 11, 1774)
    c) **Jupiter Hammon**, “An Address to Miss Phillis Wheatly [sic]”

    b) **Thomas Jefferson**, *Notes on the State of Virginia*: Queries 6 (“Animals”), 8, 11, 14, 17-19

12) a) **Samson Occom**, “A Short Narrative of My Life,” “A Sermon [on Romans 6.23]”
    b) **Cherokee Memorial**: “Memorial of the Cherokee Citizens, November 5, 1829” *Norton Anthology of American Literature*, 8th ed., vol. A

E. 1800-Circa 1850


*3) Herman Melville, Moby-Dick; or The Whale

4) a) Henry David Thoreau, Walden and “Civil Disobedience”
    b) Ralph Waldo Emerson, “The American Scholar,” “Divinity School Address”
*5) a) Frederick Douglass, Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave
    b) Harriet Jacobs, Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl
    c) Sojourner Truth, “Speech to the Women’s Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio, 1851”

6) Harriet Beecher Stowe, Uncle Tom’s Cabin


8) Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, Frankenstein; or The Modern Prometheus

    b) George Gordon, Lord Byron, Don Juan, canto 1

    b) Percy Bysshe Shelley, “The Defense of Poetry,” “Mont Blanc”

11) Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice

12) Charlotte Brontë, Jane Eyre: An Autobiography

F. Circa 1850-1915


2) Henry James, The Ambassadors, “The Beast in the Jungle,” “Turn of the Screw”
3) **Mark Twain**, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
4) **Theodore Dreiser**, *Sister Carrie*
5) **Charles Dickens**, *Bleak House*
6) **George Eliot**, *Middlemarch*
7) a) **Alfred, Lord Tennyson**, “Ulysses,” “Tithonus,” “The Lady of Shalott”
   b) **Robert Browning**, “My Last Duchess,” “Fra Lippo Lippi,” “Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came,” “The Bishop Orders His Tomb at Saint Praxed’s Church,” “Andrea Del Sarto,” “Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister”
8) a) **Joseph Conrad**, *Heart of Darkness*
    b) **Kate Chopin**, *The Awakening*
9) **María Amparo Ruiz de Burton**, *The Squatter and The Don*
10) a) **Oscar Wilde**, *The Importance of Being Earnest*
    b) **George Bernard Shaw**, *Pygmalion*
11) **Harriet Wilson**, *Our Nig: Sketches from the Life of a Free Black*
12) **Charles Chesnutt**, *The Marrow of Tradition*
13) **Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins**, *Life among the Piutes: Their Wrongs and Claims*

**G. 1915-1945**

1) **Willa Cather**, *My Ántonia*
2) **William Faulkner**, *The Sound and the Fury*
4) a) **Ernest Hemingway**, “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place,” “Hills Like White Elephants” “The Short, Happy Life of Frances Macomber,” *The Sun Also Rises*
5) b) **James Joyce**, *Ulysses*
6) **Virginia Woolf**, *To the Lighthouse*
    b) **Muriel Rukeyser**, *Book of the Dead*
9) **Zitkala-Sa**, *American Indian Stories*
10) **Zora Neale Hurston**, “Sweat,” *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
    b) **Claude McKay**, “If We Must Die,” “America,” “The White House”
    c) **Alain Locke**, “The New Negro”
12) **Henry Roth**, *Call It Sleep*
13) **Américo Paredes**, *George Washington Gómez*
14) **Richard Wright**, *Native Son*
H. 1945-1968

1) **Doris Lessing**, *The Golden Notebook*
2) **José Antonio Villareal**, *Pocho*
3) **Samuel Beckett**, *Waiting for Godot*
4) a) **Gwendolyn Brooks**, “Gay Chaps at the Bar,” “Medgar Evers,” “We Real Cool,” “Blackstone Rangers,” “The Boy Died in My Alley,” “To Those of My Sisters Who Kept Their Naturals.”
b) **Allen Ginsberg**, “Howl: For Carl Solomon,” “Supermarket in California,” “America,”
c) **Frank O’Hara**, “The Day Lady Died,” “How To Get There,” “Ave Maria,” “Why I Am Not a Painter”
5) **Tennessee Williams**, *A Streetcar Named Desire, The Glass Menagerie*
6) **Arthur Miller**, *Death of a Salesman, The Crucible*
7) **Ralph Ellison**, *Invisible Man*
b) **Theodore Roethke**, “The Waking,” “I Knew a Woman,” “In a Dark Time,” “Root Cellar,” “My Papa’s Waltz”
9) **Chinua Achebe**, *Things Fall Apart*
10) **Jean Rhys**, *Wide Sargasso Sea*
11) **Truman Capote**, *In Cold Blood*
12) **Flannery O’Connor**, “A Good Man is Hard to Find,” “Good Country People,” “Everything That Rises Must Converge,” “The Artificial N*****”
13) **James Baldwin**, *Go Tell it on the Mountain; Notes of a Native Son*
14) **N. Scott Momaday**, *House Made of Dawn*
15) **Lorraine Hansberry**, *A Raisin in the Sun*

I. 1969-present

*1) **Toni Morrison**, *Song of Solomon*
2) **Salman Rushdie**, *Midnight’s Children*
3) **Maxine Hong Kingston**, *Woman Warrior*
4) a) **Gloria Anzaldúa**, *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza*, 2nd ed., Introduction and Ch. 1-7
   b) **Lorna Dee Cervantes**, from *Emplumada*, “Uncle’s First Rabbit,” “Cannery Town in August,” “Beneath the Shadow of the Freeway,” “For Virginia Chavez,” “Poem for the Young Man...,”

5) **Leslie Marmon Silko**, *Ceremony*


   b) **Lucille Clifton**, “I Am Accused of Tending to the Past,” “at the cemetary, walnut grove plantation, south carolina, 1989,” “Reply,” “poem to my uterus,” “to my last period,” “brothers”

7) a) **David Henry Hwang**, *M. Butterfly*

   b) **Tony Kushner**, *Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches*

8) **Tomás Rivera**, *And the Earth Did Not Devour Him*

9) a) **Joy Harjo**, *She Had Some Horses*

   b) **Michael Ondaatje**, *Collected Works of Billy the Kid*

10) **J. M. Coetzee**, *Disgrace*

11) a) **Harold Pinter**, *The Homecoming*

    b) **Tom Stoppard**, *Rosenkrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*

12) **Margaret Atwood**, *Alias Grace*

13) **Philip Roth**, *American Pastoral: A Novel*

14) **Vladimir Nabokov**, *Pale Fire*

*15) a) **August Wilson**, *Fences*

   b) **Suzan-Lori Parks**, *Topdog/Underdog*

16) **Audre Lorde**, *Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches; Zami: A New Spelling of My Name; “Coal,” “Sisters in Arms,” “Outlines,” “Call”*

17) **Junot Diaz**, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao; “How to date a browngirl, blackgirl, whitegirl, or halfie” and “Aurora” from Drown*

18) **Sherman Alexie**, *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*

19) **Mohsin Hamid**, *The Reluctant Fundamentalist.*

20) **Cormac McCarthy**, *Blood Meridian.*

21) **Jhumpa Lahiri**, *In Other Words.*

22) **Natalie Diaz**, *Postcolonial Love*

### ADDITIONAL LISTS

As explained on the first page of this document, all students must include at least one numbered group from the J list (Rhetoric and Composition), one work from the K list (Linguistics), and one work from the L list (Literary Theory) on their individual exam list.
Students who elect to replace the Thematic question with a question in Rhetoric and Composition, Linguistics, or Literary Theory will follow the instructions in the appropriate list (J, K, or L). These students will remove two non-asterisked items from the A-I list, and will therefore be responsible for reading only a total of 10 selected items from groups A-I (rather than 12).

J. RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION

Students choosing to respond to a Rhetoric and Composition question in lieu of the Thematic (see instructions at beginning of Additional Lists) are responsible for one numbered grouping from Rhetoric (1-4), one from Composition (5-8), and one from Sites (9-12). These three numbered groups may include the single non-asterisked selection chosen under the general directions on the first page of this document. However, students preferring to construct a personalized reading list may replace the grouping from Sites with four published articles/book chapters, to be negotiated with and then approved by the MA exam chair and the MA GAR.

SELECTION 1: RHETORIC


SELECTION 2: RHETORIC


SELECTION 3: RHETORIC


**SELECTION 4: RHETORIC**


**SELECTION 5: COMPOSITION**


**SELECTION 6: COMPOSITION**


**SELECTION 7: COMPOSITION**


SELECTION 8: COMPOSITION

SELECTION 9: SITES; Cross-Cultural

SELECTION 10: SITES; Social Movement Rhetorics

SELECTION 11: SITES; Rhetorical Agency in Science, Technical, and Medical (STM)
SELECTION 12: SITES; Visual Rhetoric


K. LINGUISTICS (HISTORICAL AND SOCIOLINGUISTICS)

Students choosing to respond to a Linguistics question in lieu of the Thematic (see instructions at beginning of Additional Lists) will choose four works from those listed below. If the work is an anthology, students should, in consultation with their advisor, choose a substantial number of articles or chapters according to their own interests.

HISTORICAL LINGUISTICS


SOCIOLINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGE VARIATION & CHANGE


LANGUAGES IN CONTACT


**RACIOLINGUISTICS AND AFRICAN AMERICAN LANGUAGE**

**SPANISH, LATINX, CHICANX, AND BORDERLANDS LINGUISTICS**
Potowski, Kim and Javier Muñoz-Basols (eds.). *The Routledge Handbook of Spanish as a Heritage Language*. Routledge, 2018

**GENDERLECTS**

**DISCOURSE ANALYSIS, CORPUS LINGUISTICS, LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF LITERATURE**
LITERARY THEORY

If the student chooses to respond to a Literary Theory question in lieu of the Thematic question (see instructions at beginning of Additional Lists), s/he will choose two from the following three texts:

- Parker, Robert Dale. *How to Interpret Literature.*
- Sandoval, Chela. *Methodology of the Oppressed.*

In addition, the student will develop a list of five essays to read, of the general type found in a theory journal or the *Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism.* The list should be developed in consultation with the MA exam advisor, and it must be approved by signature of the MA exam advisor and the MA GAR.