

Doctoral Reading List Poetry

The student will be expected to discuss genre (for example: elegy, ode), poetic modes (pastoral, Petrarchan love poetry, satire, ars poetica, poetry of place), and forms (the sonnet, the villanelle, etc.), in addition to critical concepts and eras (visionary poetry, Romanticism, Modernism).

Psalms 19, 22, 23, 29, 95, 137 (King James version)

Dante--selections from *La vita nuova*

Petrarch--selections from *Rime sparse*

Old English Poetry: The Wayfarer, The Wanderer, Deor

Chaucer-- General Prologue to *The Canterbury Tales*

Thomas Wyatt--Blame Not My Lute; My Lute Awake; Whoso list to hunt; They flee from me; The long love that in my thought doth harbor

Surrey—Love that doth reign and live within my thought

Spenser—Prothalamion, *The Faerie Queene* Bk. I, Bower of Bliss (from FQ II), Garden of Adonis (FQ III)

Sidney—Ye Goatherd Gods, selections from *Astrophel and Stella*

Shakespeare—selections from the *Sonnets*; The Phoenix and the Turtle

Marlowe—The Passionate Shepherd to his Love

Jonson—To Penshurst, On my First Son, Cary-Morison Ode, Song: To Celia, To Fine Lady Would-Be

Milton—Nativity Ode, L' Allegro, Il Penseroso, Lycidas, *Paradise Lost* (Bks. I, II, IV, VIII, IX), "How soon hath time" (Sonnet 7), "When I consider how my light is spent" (Sonnet 21), "Methought I saw my late espoused saint" (Sonnet 23)

Marvell—The Mower's Song; Upon Appleton House; The Garden; To His Coy Mistress; The Nymph Complaining for the Death of her Fawn; A Dialogue Between the Soul and Body

Herbert--Church Music, Prayer, Love (III), Church Monuments, The Flower, The Pulley, Death, The Collar, Redemption, The Altar

Vaughan—Night, The World, The Retreat

Donne--Holy Sonnets, The Flea, A Valediction Forbidding Mourning, The Canonization, The Sun Rising, the Good Morrow, A Valediction of Weeping, Elegy 19 (To His Mistress Going to Bed), Satire III (Religion), The Bait

Herrick—The Argument of his Book; Corinna's Going a Maying; To Live Merrily, and to Trust to Good Verses; The Vine; Down in Devon; Upon Julia's Clothes

John Dryden--MacFlecknoe, On the Memory of Mr. Oldham

Christopher Smart--"For I will consider my cat Geoffrey" from *Jubilate Agno*

Anne Bradstreet--The Prologue; The Author to her Book; A Letter to Her Husband, Absent upon Publick Employment; As Weary Pilgrim; Contemplations; In memory of my dear grand-child Elizabeth Bradstreet

Edward Taylor--Meditations 1.8, 1.29, 1.32, 1.39, 2.4, 2.56, 2.150; Preface to *God's*

Determinations; Upon a Spider Catching a Fly; Huswifery; Upon Wedlock, and Death of Children
 Swift—Description of the Morning
 Pope—Windsor Forest, The Rape of the Lock, *The Dunciad* (Bk. IV)
 Collins—Ode on the Poetical Character; Ode to Fear
 Anne Finch—A Nocturnal Reverie
 Gray—Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard
 Cowper—The Castaway
 Blake--from Songs of Innocence: Introduction, “The Ecchoing Green,” “The Chimney Sweeper,” and “The Lamb”; from *Songs of Experience*, Introduction, “Earth’s Answer,” “The Garden of Love,” “The Tyger,” and “London”; Night the Ninth (from The Four Zoas)
 Wordsworth, “Tintern Abbey”; “Nutting”; from *The Prelude* (1850 version): Book One, lines 1-30, 301-424; Book Two, lines 233-265; Book Four, lines 256-275; Book Five, lines 1-165; Book Six, lines 592-616; Book Fourteen, lines 1-129; Prospectus to The Excursion, lines 1-71; Composed Upon Westminster Bridge; London, 1802; The Solitary Reaper; Immortality Ode, Resolution and Independence, Elegiac Stanzas
 Coleridge--The Aeolian Harp, This Lime-Tree Bower, My Prison; Frost at Midnight; Dejection: An Ode, The Rime of the Ancient Mariner; Christabel; Kubla Khan
 Byron--Childe Harold’s Pilgrimage, Canto III; Darkness; Sonnet on Chillon
 Shelley--Mont Blanc, Ode to the West Wind, Alastor, Hymn to Intellectual Beauty, Ozymandias, “Lift Not the Painted Veil,” The Triumph of Life
 William Cullen Bryant-- Thanatopsis, The Prairies, Sonnet—To an American Painter Departing for Europe
 Keats--Ode to Psyche, Ode to a Nightingale, Ode on a Grecian Urn, Ode on Melancholy, To Autumn, La Belle Dame Sans Merci, The Fall of Hyperion, The Eve of St. Agnes, This Living Hand
 Emerson—Uriel; Bacchus; The Snow-storm; The Rhodora
 Elizabeth Barrett Browning-- The Cry of the Children; selections from *Sonnets from the Portuguese*
 Edgar Allan Poe-- To Science, To Helen, Romance, Ulalume—A Ballad
 Tennyson—The Kraken; Mariana; In Memoriam; Ulysses; The Lady of Shalott; Tithonus
 Edward Fitzgerald—selections from *The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam*
 Longfellow—Belisarius, The Jewish Cemetery at Newport
 Robert Browning—Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came, My Last Duchess, Andrea del Sarto, Porphyria’s Lover, Fra Lippo Lippi, A Toccata of Galuppi’s, Love Among the Ruins
 Melville--The Portent, Art, Shiloh
 Walt Whitman--Song of Myself, Starting from Paumanok, Crossing Brooklyn Ferry, As I Ebb’d with the Ocean of Life, When I Heard the Learn’d Astronomer, A Noiseless Patient Spider, I Saw in Louisiana a Live-Oak Growing, The Sleepers, A Clear Midnight, Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking, There Was a Child Went Forth, As Adam Early in the Morning, From Pent-Up Aching Rivers, When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloomed

Matthew Arnold—Dover Beach, The Scholar Gypsy, Thyrsis
 George Meredith--selections from *Modern Love*
 Dante Gabriel Rossetti--selections from *The House of Life*; The Blessed Damozel
 Emily Dickinson--I like a look of Agony, Wild Nights—Wild Nights!, I felt a Funeral, in
 my Brain, The Soul selects her own Society—, Much Madness is divinest
 Sense—, This is my letter to the World, This was a Poet—It is That, I died for
 Beauty—but was scarce, I reckon—when I count at all—, They shut me up in
 Prose, I cannot live with You—, I dwell in Possibility, Because I could not stop
 for Death—, Tell all the Truth but tell it slant, “Faith” is a fine invention, “Safe in
 their Alabaster Chambers—, Title divine—is mine!, “Heavenly Father”—take to
 thee, A Word made Flesh is seldom
 Christina Rossetti--Monna Innominata, Paradise, A Better Resurrection, A Birthday, Up
 Hill, At Home, Goblin Market, Song, Remember
 William Morris—The Haystack in the Floods; The Defense of Guinevere
 Charles Algernon Swinburne-- A Forsaken Garden, The Garden of Proserpine, The
 Triumph of Time, Ave Atque Vale
 Gerard Manley Hopkins--God’s Grandeur, The Windhover, Pied Beauty, That Nature is a
 Heraclitean Fire, As Kingfishers Catch Fire, I wake and feel the fell of dark, not
 day, No, worse there is none
 Thomas Hardy--The Darkling Thrush, The Voice, During Wind and Rain, The Ruined
 Maid, I Look into My Glass, Neutral Tones, The Self-Unseeing, Channel Firing,
 In Time of The Breaking of Nations, A New Year’s Eve in War Time
 A.E. Housman—Selections from A Shropshire Lad
 W.B. Yeats—The Song of Wandering Aengus, The Cap and Bells, The Lake Isle
 of Innisfree, September 1913, Easter 1916, The Wild Swans at Coole, The
 Fascination of What’s Difficult, Adam’s Curse, Nineteen Hundred and Nineteen,
 Among School Children, Leda and the Swan, Meru, The Circus Animals’
 Desertion, Cuchulain Comforted
 Robert Frost—Mowing, Mending Wall, Home Burial, After Apple-Picking, The Wood-
 Pile, The Oven Bird, Birches, Out, out—, A Star in a Stone-Boat, The Need of
 Being Versed in Country Things, Once by the Pacific, Two Tramps in Mud Time,
 A Drumlin Woodchuck, Desert Places, The Strong are Saying Nothing, Neither
 Out Far Nor In Deep, Design, The Most of It, Never Again Would Birds’ Song Be
 the Same, The Subverted Flower, Directive
 Gertrude Stein—selections from *Tender Buttons*
 Wallace Stevens—Nomad Exquisite, Sunday Morning, Tea at the Palaz of Hoon, The
 Snow Man, The Emperor of Ice Cream, Poems of Our Climate, Mrs. Alfred
 Uruguay, The Auroras of Autumn, Notes Toward a Supreme Fiction, Final
 Soliloquy of the Interior Paramour
 Mina Loy—Parturition, Songs for Joannes, Sketch of a Man on a Platform, Virgins Plus
 Curtains Minus Dots, Mass Production on 14th Street, Apology of Genius, Der
 Blinde Junge, Chiffon Velours, Hot Cross Bum
 W.C. Williams—Danse Russe; The Red Wheelbarrow; Between Walls; This is Just to
 Say; Spring and All (“By the road to the contagious hospital”); Pictures from
 Brueghel; Asphodel, That Greeny Flower
 Ezra Pound—Hugh Selwyn Mauberly; Cantos I, II and III; In a Station of the

Metro; The Return; first *Pisan Canto*
 D.H. Lawrence—Song of a Man Who Has Come Through; Baby Tortoise;
 Tortoise Shout; St. Mark; St. Matthew; St. Luke; St. John; Snake
 Marianne Moore--Marriage, Poetry, A Grave, Silence, In Distrust of Merits, The Fish,
 England, The Steeple Jack, New York, Virginia Britannia, The Arctic Ox, Combat
 Cultural
 T.S. Eliot-- Preludes, Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock, Gerontion, Ash Wednesday, The
 Waste Land, Little Gidding (from *Four Quartets*)
 Wilfred Owen—Anthem for Doomed Youth
 e.e. cummings-- r-p-o-p-h-e-s-a-g-r; Among/ these/ red pieces of/ day; stinging/
 gold swarms/ upon the spires; O sweet spontaneous/ earth
 Louise Bogan—Women, Roman Fountain
 Hart Crane-- Repose of Rivers, At Melville's Tomb, Voyages, *The Bridge* (entire book)
 Yvor Winters—On Teaching the Young; Sir Gawaine and the Green Knight
 Allen Tate—Ode to the Confederate Dead
 Basil Bunting—selections from *Briggflatts*
 Sterling Brown—Memphis Blues, Slim in Atlanta
 Langston Hughes—The Negro Speaks of Rivers, Dream Variations, Theme for English B
 Countee Cullen—Incident, Heritage
 Louis Zukofsky—A (Section 12)
 Robert Penn Warren—Evening Hawk
 W.H. Auden-- From the very first coming down, This lunar beauty, Lay your sleeping
 head, Doom is dark and deeper than any sea-dingle, Now from my window-sill I
 watch the night, Look, stranger, at this island now; Musée des Beaux Arts; In
 Memory of W.B. Yeats; September 1, 1939
 Theodore Roethke— My Papa's Waltz, Elegy for Jane
 Elizabeth Bishop--The Map, The Man-Moth, Sleeping on the Ceiling, Roosters, Over
 2,000 Illustrations and a Complete Concordance, The Bight, At the Fishhouses,
 Geography III (entire book)
 Robert Hayden—Those Winter Sundays, The Ballad of Nat Turner
 May Swenson—Question, Big-Hipped Nature
 John Berryman—selections from *The Dream Songs*
 Randall Jarrell—The Woman at the Washington Zoo; Night, Death and the Devil; The
 Death of the Ball Turret Gunner
 Gwendolyn Brooks—selections from A Street in Bronzeville
 Robert Lowell--*Life Studies* (entire book); For the Union Dead
 Richard Wilbur—A Baroque Wall-Fountain in the Villa Sciarra; Love Calls Us to the
 Things of this World; Mind; Advice to a Prophet
 Philip Larkin—Church Going, High Windows, This Be the Verse
 Anthony Hecht—A Hill; The Deodand
 A.R. Ammons—So I Said I am Ezra, He Held Radical Light, Gravelly Run, Corsons
 Inlet, The City Limits, The Arc Inside and Out
 Allen Ginsberg—Howl, A Supermarket in California, Sunflower Sutra, America
 James Merrill—The Broken Home, Self-Portrait in Tyvek™ Windbreaker, A
 Downward Look

John Hollander--Kinneret
Frank O'Hara—To the Harbormaster, A Step Away from Them, The Day Lady Died
John Ashbery—The Instruction Manual, Soonest Mended, Self-Portrait in a Convex
Mirror
W.S. Merwin—*The Lice* (entire book)
James Wright—At the Executed Murderer's Grave; Autumn Begins in Martins Ferry,
Ohio; Lying in a Hammock at William Duffy's Farm in Pine Island, Minnesota
Anne Sexton—Her Kind; With Mercy for the Greedy
Adrienne Rich—Snapshots of a Daughter-in-Law; Diving into the Wreck
Sylvia Plath—The Colossus, The Moon and the Yew-Tree, Tulips, Daddy, Lady Lazarus,
Edge

Essays on Poetry

Sidney, An Apology for Poetry
Pope, An Essay on Criticism
Johnson, from *The Life of Cowley* (on metaphysical poetry)
Wordsworth, Preface to the Second Edition of *Lyrical Ballads*
Coleridge, from *Shakespearean Criticism*, "Mechanic and Organic Form"; from
Biographia Literaria, Chapter XIII: The Imagination; On Poesy or Art, from *The*
Statesman's Manual (symbol vs. allegory)
Shelley, A Defense of Poetry
Keats, Selected Letters
Emerson, The Poet
Yeats, The Symbolism of Poetry
Frost, The Figure a Poem Makes
Stevens, Imagination as Value
Hart Crane, General Aims and Theories
T.S. Eliot, Tradition and the Individual Talent, The Metaphysical Poets
Ezra Pound, How to Read
Robert Penn Warren, Pure and Impure Poetry
Harold Bloom, The Internalization of Quest Romance
Geoffrey Hartman, Romanticism and Anti-Self-Consciousness
Helen Vendler, The Function of Criticism
Marjorie Perloff, *The Poetics of Indeterminacy* (first chapter)

Rev. April 2008