

Department of English Graduate Studies Ph.D. Period Candidacy Examination

20th-Century Reading List

The Twentieth-Century period lists should consist of between fifty and sixty works by between twenty and thirty authors, at least fifteen of whom should be chosen from the list below. A "work" consists of a novel or a collection of poetry, drama or fictional or non-fictional prose by a given author or a substantial selection of thematically linked poetry or prose. Each student will develop the list in consultation with his or her advisor; it must then be approved by the examining committee (two other members of the department with expertise in the area) and the Graduate Chair or designate (if the Graduate Chair is a member of the examining committee). The committee and Graduate Chair are responsible for ensuring that the list includes some balance in genre, a chronological range across the period, and some work by theorists. The list may, with the committee's approval, focus on a particular national literature. This list should be drawn up and approved by or as soon as possible after the end of course work in the April of the student's first year in the doctoral program, and the exams should be written in mid November of the following academic term.

Core List of 20th-Century Writers

1. Margaret Atwood
2. Roland Barthes
3. Samuel Beckett
4. Joseph Conrad
5. T.S. Eliot
6. William Faulkner
7. Robert Frost
8. Ernest Hemingway
9. James Joyce
10. D.H. Lawrence
11. Arthur Miller
12. Toni Morrison
13. Alice Munro
14. Michael Ondaatje
15. Harold Pinter
16. Ezra Pound
17. Wallace Stevens
18. W.C. Williams
19. Virginia Woolf
20. W.B. Yeats