

## SUGGESTED READING LIST FOR ADMISSION TO THE PhD PROGRAM: LITERARY THEORY

!!!!!! Students are expected to be well versed and knowledgeable in all areas of English literature. The following link is suggested as the theory background only.

### Classical Greek

Plato; *Ion*, *Republic* 3, 4, 10, *Cratylus*

Aristotle; *Poetics*; *On Interpretation*; *Rhetoric*

### Hellenistic

Callimachus, *Aetia*

Longinus, *On the Sublime*

Dionysius of Halicarnassus, *On the Ancient Orators*

### Roman

Cicero, *De oratore*

Quintilian, *Institutio oratoria*

*Rhetorica ad Herennium*

Horace, *Art of Poetry*; *Epistles* 2.1 (“Letter to Augustus”)

Seneca the Younger, *Moral Epistles*

### Late Antiquity/Christian

Paul, 1 Corinthians

Augustine, *On Christian Doctrine*; *The Trinity*

Boethius, *The Consolation of Philosophy*

Macrobius, *Saturnalia*

### Medieval Criticism/Scholasticism

Alcuin, *Rhetoric*

Geoffrey of Vinsauf, *Poetria nova*

Hugh of St. Victor, *Didascalicon*

John of Salisbury, *Metalogicon*

Aquinas, *Summa theologica*

### Late Medieval/Early Modern/Humanism

Dante Alighieri, *The Banquet*; *Letter to Can Grande Scala*

Boccaccio, *Genealogy of the Gentile Gods*

Petrarch, *Letters*

Rabelais, *Pantagruel* 8 (Letter from Gargantua to Pantagruel)

### Early Modern

Ascham, *The Schoolmaster*

Du Bellay, *The Defense and Illustration of the French Language*

Sidney, *Defence of Poesy*

Erasmus, *Ciceronianus*

Castiglione, *The Book of the Courtier*

Bacon, *Advancement of Learning*

### Neoclassical/18th Century

Pope, *An Essay on Criticism*

Johnson, "Preface to Shakespeare"; *The Lives of the Poets*; *Rasselas*

Dryden, *An Essay of Dramatic Poesy*

Kant, "An Answer to the Question: What is Enlightenment?"

Lessing, *Laocoön*

### Aesthetics

Addison, *On the Pleasures of the Imagination*

Hume "Of the Standard of Taste"

Burke, *A Philosophical Inquiry Into the Origin of Our Ideas of the Sublime and Beautiful*

Kant, *Critique of Judgment*

Hegel, *Lectures on Fine Art*

### Romantic Criticism

Wordsworth, *Preface to the Second Edition of "Lyrical Ballads"*

Coleridge, *The Statesman's Manual*, *Biographia Literaria*

Shelley, *Defense of Poetry*

### Victorian Criticism

Arnold, "The Function of Criticism at the Present Time"; "Culture and Anarchy," "The Study of Poetry"

Ruskin, *Modern Painters*

### Marx

Marx, *Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844*; *The German Ideology*; *The Communist Manifesto*; *Grundrisse*; Preface to *A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy*; *Capital*

### Freud

Freud, *The Interpretation of Dreams*; *Civilization and its Discontents*; "Creative Writers and Day-Dreaming"; "Fetishism"; "Beyond the Pleasure Principle"; "The Psychological Apparatus and the Theory of Instincts"

### Phenomenology, Hermeneutics, and Reader-Response Theory

Jauss, "Literary History as a Challenge to Literary History"

Fish, "Interpretive Communities"; "How to Recognize a Poem When You See One"

Iser, *The Act of Reading*

Holland, *The Dynamics of Literary Response*

### Formalism/Structuralism

Saussure, *Course on General Linguistics*

Eichenbaum, *The Theory of the "Formal Method"*

Propp, "Morphology of the Folk-tale"

Jakobson, "Linguistics and Poetics"; "Two Aspects of Language and Two Types of Aphasic Disturbances"

Bakhtin, *The Dialogic Imagination*

Barthes, *Elements of Semiology*

Lévi-Strauss, *Tristes Tropiques*; "The Structural Study of Myth"

#### Deconstruction and Post-structuralism

Nietzsche, "On Truth and Lies in an Extra-moral Sense"

Derrida, "Semiology and Grammatology"; "Differance"; "Letter to a Japanese Friend"; "Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences"

Johnson, *The Critical Difference*

de Man, "Resistance to Theory"; *Rhetoric of Romanticism*

White, "The Historical Text as Literary Artifact"

Barthes, "The Death of the Author"; "From Work to Text"; *S/Z*

Foucault, "What is an Author?"

#### New Criticism

Auerbach, *Mimesis*

Frye, *Anatomy of Criticism*

Eliot, "Tradition and the Individual Talent"; "Hamlet and His Problems"

Brooks, *The Well Wrought Urn*

Wimsatt and Beardsley, "The Intentional Fallacy"; "The Affective Fallacy"

Richards, *Practical Criticism*

#### Marxist Criticism

Lukacs, *Theory of the Novel*

Jameson, *Marxism and Forms*

Williams, *The Country and the City*

Eagleton, *Marxism and Literary Criticism*

#### Psychoanalytic Criticism

Lacan, "The Mirror Stage"; "The Agency of the Letter in the Unconscious or Reason since Freud"

Bloom, *Anxiety of Influence*

Kristeva, *Desire in Language*

#### Feminist Criticism

Woolf, *A Room of One's Own*

Cixous, "The Laugh of the Medusa"

de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*

Irigaray, *Speculum of the Other Woman*; "The Power of Discourse and the Subordination of the Feminine"

Gilbert and Gubar, *The Madwoman in the Attic*

#### Queer Theory

Rubin, "Traffic in Women"

Sedgwick, "Queer and Now"; *Epistemology of the Closet*

Butler, *Gender Trouble*; *Bodies that Matter*

Foucault, *History of Sexuality*

#### African-American Criticism

Du Bois, *Criteria of Negro Art*

Gates, "The Blackness of Blackness: A Critique on the Sign and the Signifying Monkey"

Morrison, "Black Matters"  
Baker, *Blues, Ideology, and Afro-American Literature*

#### Race, Ethnicity, Migration

hooks, *Feminist Theory*  
Anzaldúa, *Borderlands/La Frontera*  
Lowe, *Immigrant Acts*  
Chow, *Ethics after Idealism*  
Parker, *The Invention of Native American Literature*

#### Postcolonial Studies

Said, *Orientalism ; Culture and Imperialism*  
Bhaba, "Signs Taken for Wonders"  
Spivak, "Can The Subaltern Speak?"; "Imperialism and Sexual Difference"  
Fanon, *Black Skin, White Masks*; "On National Culture"  
Achebe, "An Image of Africa"  
Deleuze and Guattari, "What is a Minor Literature?"

#### Frankfurt School/Cultural Criticism

Horkheimer and Adorno, "The Culture Industry as Mass Deception"  
Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction"; "The Task of the Translator"; "Theses on the Philosophy of History"  
Habermas, *The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere*  
Bourdieu, *The Field of Cultural Production*  
Hebdige, *Subculture: The Meaning of Style*

#### New Historicism

Greenblatt, "Towards a Poetics of Culture"; *Renaissance Self-Fashioning*  
White, *Metahistory*  
Foucault, *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*

#### Postmodernism Criticism

Althusser, "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses"  
Haraway, "A Cyborg Manifesto"  
Lyotard, *The Postmodern Condition*  
Baudrillard, *Simulacra and Simulations*  
Jameson, "Nostalgia for the Present"  
Deleuze and Guattari, *A Thousand Plateaus*  
Žižek, *The Sublime Object of Ideology*