

**WESTERN UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

**PhD QUALIFYING EXAMINATION READING LIST**

**English 9914 (SF)/ 9934 (PF)**

**NINETEENTH CENTURY**

In order to develop a wide-ranging competency to teach and research in the field of Nineteenth-century British literature, candidates will prepare a reading list according to the instructions and requirements below.

**1. Instructions**

**i. Secondary Field Exam**

Students are responsible for all the titles on the CORE reading list.

**ii. Primary Field Exam**

Students may opt to write their Primary Field exam on the nineteenth century as a whole, or they may choose to concentrate **either** on the Romantic **or** the Victorian period.

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thirds, while supplementing their list with  
specialist lists. (**SEE SPECIALIST LISTS**)

FREE questions, one designed to test specific  
to designed as more wide-ranging and

## CORE TEXTS

Where this list requires students to read selections from a work, unless otherwise specified the selections from *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, 10th ed., vol. E are intended. For shorter works not included in *Norton*, students' attention is drawn to the following standard anthologies:

Armstrong, Isobel, and Joseph Bristow, eds. *Nineteenth-Century Women Poets*. (Oxford, 1996)

Keats: *Endymion*, book 1; “La Belle Dame Sans Merci”; *Isabella*; *The Eve of St. Agnes*; *Lamia*; *Hyperion*; *The Fall of Hyperion*; the Odes; Sonnets (a selection)

Selections from THREE of the following:

Barbauld, Burns, Clare, Crabbe, Hemans, Hunt, Landor, Landon, Moore, Rogers, Scott, Smith, Southey

**FICTION**

Radcliffe: One of *Mysteries of Udolpho*; *The Italian*

Godwin: One of *Caleb Williams*; *Fleetwood*

Austen: One novel

Scott: One novel

M. Shelley: One of *Frankenstein*; *Mathilda*; *Valperga*; *The Last Man*

ONE of Wollstonecraft, *The Wrongs of Woman* or *Hays*, *Memoirs of Emma Courtney*

ONE of Lewis, *The Monk*; Maturin, *Melmoth the Wanderer*; Hogg, *Confessions of a Justified Sinner*; Peacock, *Nightmare Abbey*

Godwin: *Enquiry Concerning Political Justice* (1793) {Selections to be drawn from the

C. Bronte: *Jane Eyre* or *Villette*  
E. Bronte: *Wuthering Heights*  
Conrad: *Heart of Darkness*  
Dickens: *Bleak House* and one other novel  
Eliot: *Middlemarch*  
Gaskell: *Mary Barton* or *North and South* or *Wives and Daughters*  
Hardy: *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* or *Jude the Obscure*  
Stevenson:

D. G. Rossetti: “Hand and Soul”

Ruskin: *Modern Painters* (selections) “The Nature of Gothic”

Wilde: “The Critic as Artist”; “The Decay of Lying”

TWO of the following four groups: selections from Stephen Greenblatt et al, *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, Vol. E, 10<sup>th</sup> ed., on “Evolution”; “Industrialism”; “The Woman Question”; or “Empire and National Identity.