

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

PHD QUALIFYING EXAMINATION READING LIST

English 9920 (SF)/ 9940 (PF)

WOMEN'S LITERATURE AND GENDER STUDIES

RUBRIC

Candidates writing the **secondary exam** should select **three sub-fields, including gender studies**, on which to focus. From these fields, candidates should select **80 texts**, divided roughly equally among the three fields. (Often several texts are listed per author; you may choose as few or many texts listed per author as you wish to make up your totals.) If the candidate wishes, **they may add up to 5 texts** not represented on this list to their final roster. These additions must be made in consultation with the committee.

Candidates writing the **primary exam** should select **four sub-fields, including gender studies**, on which to focus. From these fields, candidates should select **100 texts**, divided roughly equally among the four fields. (Often several texts are listed per author; you may choose as few or many texts listed per author as you wish to make up your totals.) If the candidate wishes, **they may add up to 10 texts** not represented on this list to their final roster. These additions must be made in consultation with the committee.

Note that in subfields 1-5, texts are listed broadly chronologically, from earliest to latest; in subfield 6, texts are listed alphabetically.

Subfield 1:
Literature by Women pre-1850

Angela of Foligno, *Angela of Foligno's Memorial*, trans. John Cirignano (Boydell and Brewer, 2000)

St. Bridget of Sweden, *Life and Selected Revelations of Birgitta of Sweden*, trans. Albert Ryle Kezel (Ed. Marguerite Tjader Harris, Paulist Press, 1990)

Julian of Norwich, "A Vision Showed to a Devout Women" in *The Writings of Julian of Norwich*, ed. Nicholas Watson and Jacqueline Jenkins (Penn State UP, 2005)

Margery Kempe, *The Book of Margery Kempe*, trans. Anthony Bale (OUP, 2015)

Marguerite Porete, *The Mirror of Simple Souls*, trans. Ellen Babinsky (Paulist Press, 1993)
Ancrene Wisse, trans. Bella Millett (Liverpool UP, 2009)

Woman Defamed and Woman Defended: An Anthology of Medieval Texts (selections of your choice), ed. Alcuin Blamires, with Karen Pratt and C.W. Marx (Oxford University Press, 1992)

Christine de Pizan, *The Book of the City of Ladies*, trans. Earl Jeffrey Richards (Persea Books, 1982, 1998)

Marie de France. *The Lais of Marie de France*, ed. and trans. Claire Waters (Broadview, 2018)

Anne Askew, *The Examinations of Anne Askew*

Jane Anger, *Her Protection for Women*

Olive Schreiner, *The Story of an African Farm; Women and Labor*
Sarah Grand, *The Heavenly Twins*
Mona Caird, *The Wing of Azrael*
Michael Field, *Selected Poetry*
Christabel Pankhurst, *The Great Scourge and How to End It*
Mina Loy, Selected Poems and "Feminist Manifesto" (*The Lost Lunar Baedeker*, Ed. Roger L. Conover, 1997)
Dorothy Richardson, *Pointed Roofs*
Rebecca West, *The Return of the Soldier*
May Sinclair, *The Life and Death of Harriett Freen*
Edith Sitwell, *Façade*
Mary Butts, *Armed with Madness*
Radclyffe Hall, *The Well of Loneliness*
Virginia Woolf, *Orlando; A Room of One's Own*
Vera Brittain, *Testament of Youth*
Djuna Barnes, *Nightwood*
Isak Dinesen, *Out of Africa*
H.D., *Selected Poems*
Edna O'Brien,

Adrienne Rich, selected poems
Audre Lorde, selected poems
Maya Angelou, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*
Maxine Hong Kingston, *The Woman Warrior*
Toni Morrison, *Song of Solomon; Beloved*
Octavia Butler, *Kindred; Parable of the Sower*
Sandra Cisneros, *Woman Hollering Creek; The House on Mango Street*
Dorothy Allison, *Bastard Out of Carolina*
Julia Alvarez, *Yo!*
Barbara Kingsolver, *The Poisonwood Bible; Flight Behavior*

Subfield 4:
Anti-colonial, Global Southern, and Indigenous perspectives
(in addition to those included in subfield 3 and subfield 5)

Zitkala-Sa, *American Indian Stories*
Leslie Marmon Silko, *Ceremony*
Buchi Emecheta, *The Bride Price*
Beth Brant, ed., *A Gathering of Spirit: A Collection of North American Indian Women*
Maria Campbell, *Halfbreed*
Chrystos, *Dream On*
Tsitsi Dangaremba, *Nervous Conditions*
Erna Brobner, *Myal*
Joy Harjo, *She Had Some Horses*
Arundhati Roy, *The God of Small Things*
Edwidge Danticat, *Krik? Krak!; The Farming of Bones*
Olive Senior, *Gardening in the Tropics*
Patricia Grace, *Potiki*

Elizabeth

Elaine Aston, "Feeling the Loss of Feminism," *Feminist Theatre Practice: A Handbook*
Elaine Aston and Geraldine Harris, *A Good Night Out For The Girls*
Kim Solga, *Theatre & Feminism*

Subfield 6:
Gender Theory including Trans perspectives

Michelle Ann Abate, and Kenneth Kidd, eds, Introduction to *Over the Rainbow: Queer Children's and Young Adult Literature*
Sara Ahmed, *The Promise of Happiness*
Gloria Anzaldúa, *Borderlands/La Frontera*
Jean Barman et al, eds. *Indigenous Feminism: Politics, Activism, Culture*
Michele Barrett, *Women's Oppression Today* (second edition)
Lauren Berlant, *The Queen of America Goes To Washington City*
Lauren Berlant and Lee Edelman, *Sex, Or The Unbearable*
Rosi Braidotti, *Metamorphoses*
Steven Bruhm and Nat Hurley, eds., Introduction to *Curioser: On The Queerness of Children*
Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble; Bodies that Matter*; one post-2000 Butler volume
Barbara Christian, "The Race for Theory"
Hélène Cixous and Catherine Clément, *The Newly Born Woman*
Patricia Hill Collins, *Black Feminist Thought* (second edition)
Brittney Cooper, *Eloquent Rage*
Kimberlé Crenshaw, "Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics, and Violence against Women of Color"
Angela Davis, *Women, Race, and Class* (2011 edition)
Qwo-Li Driskill, "Doubleweaving Two-Spirit Critiques: Building Alliances between Native and Queer Studies"
Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*
Lee Edelman, *No Future: Queer Theory and the Death Drive*
Leslie Feinberg, "Transgender Liberation: A Movement Whose Time Has Come"
Michel Foucault, *History of Sexuality* (vol. 1)
Elizabeth Freeman, *Time Binds: Queer Temporality, Queer Histories*
Jane Gallop, *The Daughter's Seduction*
Roxane Gay, *Bad Feminist; It's Not That Bad* (selections)
Elizabeth Grosz, *Volatile Bodies; Time Travels*
Jack Halberstam, *Female Masculinity; The Queer Art of Failure*
Kim Hall, *Feminist Disability Studies* (selections)
Donna Haraway, *Simians, Cyborgs and Women*
Susan Hekman and Stacy Alaimo, eds. *Material Feminisms* (selections)
bell hooks, *Yearning: Race, Gender and Cultural Politics; Outlaw Culture; Feminism is for Everyone*
Luce Irigaray, *This Sex Which Is Not One; Speculum of the Other Woman*
Caren Kaplan, "The Politics of Location as Transnational Feminist Practice"
Julia Kristeva, *Desire in Language; "Approaching Abjection"*
Audre Lorde, *Sister Outsider*
Terry Lovell, *Consuming Fiction*

Kate Millett, *Sexual Politics* (2016 edition)
Trinh T. Minh-ha, *Woman, Native, Other: Writing Postcoloniality and Feminism*
Chandra Mohanty, *Feminism without Borders*
Chandra Mohanty, ed. *Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism* (selections)
Scott Morgensen, "Settler Homonationalism: Theorizing Settler Colonialism within Queer Modernities"
José Muñoz, *Cruising Utopia: The Then and There of Queer Futurity*
Laura Mulvey, "Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema"
Sherry Ortner, "Is Female to Male as Nature Is to Culture?"
Uma Narayan, *Dislocating Cultures*
Jasbir K. Puar, *Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times*
Adrienne Rich, "Compulsory Heterosexuality and Lesbian Existence"
Mark Rifkin, *When Did Indians Become Straight?: Kinship, the History of Sexuality, and Native Sovereignty*
Katrina Roen, "Transgender Theory and Embodiment: The Risk of Racial Marginalization"
Jacqueline Rose and Juliet Mitchell, *Feminine Sexuality*
Gayle Rubin, "The Traffic in Women"
Joanna Russ, *How to Suppress Women's Writing*
Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, *Epistemology of the Closet; Between Men; Touching Feeling*
Dean Spade, "Mutilating Gender"
Hortense Spillers, "Mama's Baby, Papa's Maybe: An American Grammar"
Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, *In Other Worlds*
Kathryn Bond Stockton, *The Queer Child*
Susan Stryker, "Introduction: Trans-, Trans, or Transgender?"; "My Words to Victor Frankenstein Above the Village of Chamounix: Performing Transgender Rage"
Cheryl Suzack et. al., eds. *Indigenous Women and Feminism: Politics, Activism, Culture* (selections)
Lisa Tatonetti, *The Queerness of Native American Literature*
Michael Warner, *Publics and Counterpublics*
Linda Williams, *Hard Core: Power, Pleasure, and the "Frenzy of the Visible"*
Monique Wittig, *The Straight Mind*

Departmental regulations regarding PhD comprehensive exams can be found @ the following site: <https://www.uwo.ca/english/graduate/phd/index.html>