

Reading List in Fiction for M.F.A. and Ph.D. Candidates

For candidates entering the program beginning Fall 1994.

Fiction Majors--Of the following novels twenty (20) should be offered to the graduating student's committee as a basis for the final written examination. These twenty novels shall be selected as follows:

- 1) The thirteen (13) novels listed in the Required Novels section;
- 2) Five (5) novels chosen by the student in consultation with her/his major professor from the Elective Novels List;
- 3) Two (2) additional modern or contemporary novels written by these or other authors, chosen by the student in consultation with his/her major professor.

The student is responsible for the entire Required Short Fiction list.

Fiction Minors (Ph.D. only)--Ph.D. candidates majoring in poetry are required to take a 3-hour examination on the tradition in fiction as their Near Area exam. The examination will be designed to elicit the student's knowledge of the development of both the novel and the short story. In consultation with a member of the writing faculty, students should select eight (8) novels from the Required Novels list, two (2) additional novels from the Elective Novels list, and twenty (20) short stories. Selections should reflect development of the tradition of fiction through time and across national literary boundaries.

I. REQUIRED NOVELS

- Crane, Stephen, *The Red Badge of Courage*
- Ellison, Ralph, *Invisible Man*
- Faulkner, William, *The Sound and the Fury*
- Fielding, Henry, *Tom Jones*
- Fitzgerald, F. Scott, *The Great Gatsby*
- Flaubert, Gustave, *Madame Bovary*
- Hawthorne, Nathaniel, *The Scarlet Letter*
- Joyce, James, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*
- Kafka, Franz, *The Trial*
- Morrison, Toni, *Beloved*
- Toomer, Jean, *Cane*
- Twain, Mark, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
- Woolf, Virginia, *To the Lighthouse*

II. ELECTIVE NOVELS

- Achebe, Chinua, *Things Fall Apart*
- Atwood, Margaret, *The Handmaid's Tale*
- Austen, Jane, *Pride and Prejudice*
- Barth, John, *The Sotweed Factor* **or** *Chimera*
- Barthelme, Donald, *The Dead Father*
- Bellow, Saul, *Herzog* **or** *Seize the Day*
- Bradley, David, *The Chaneyville Incident*
- Burroughs, William, *Naked Lunch*
- Cary, Joyce, *The Horse's Mouth*
- Cather, Willa, *My Antonia*
- Chopin, Kate, *The Awakening*
- Coetzee, J.M., *Life and Times of Michael K.*
- Conrad, Joseph, *Nostromo*
- Dickens, Charles, *Great Expectations*
- Didion, Joan, *Play it as it Lays* **or** *A Book of Common Prayer*
- Dostoyevsky, Fyodor, *Crime and Punishment*
- Eliot, George, *Middlemarch*
- Faulkner, William, *Absalom, Absalom!*
- Ford, Ford Maddox, *The Good Soldier*
- Forster, E.M., *A Passage to India*
- Gaines, Ernest, *A Lesson before Dying*
- Garcia Marquez, Gabriel, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*
- Gordimer, Nadine, *The Late Bourgeois World*
- Grass, Gunter, *The Tin Drum*
- Greene, Graham, *The Heart of the Matter*
- Hardy, Thomas, *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*
- Hawkes, John, *Blood Oranges*
- Heller, Joseph, *Catch 22*
- Hemingway, Ernest, *The Sun Also Rises*
- Hurston, Zora Neale, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
- Ishiguro, Kazuo, *The Remains Of The Day*
- James, Henry, *The Ambassadors*
- Johnson, Charles, *Oxherding Tale* **or** *Middle Passage*
- Joyce, James, *Ulysses*
- Kennedy, William, *Ironweed*
- Kesey, Ken, *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*
- Kundera, Milan, *The Unbearable Lightness Of Being*
- Lawrence, D.H., *Sons And Lovers*

- Lewis, Sinclair, *Babbitt*
- Lowry, Malcom, *Under The Volcano*
- McCarthy, Cormac, *All The Pretty Horses*
- McCullers, Carson, *The Heart Is A Lonely Hunter*
- Mann, Thomas, *The Magic Mountain*
- Maxwell, William, *So Long, See You Tomorrow*
- Melville, Herman, *Moby-Dick*
- Nabokov, Vladimir, *Pale Fire or Lolita*
- Naipaul, V.S., *A Bend In The River*
- O'connor, Flannery, *Wise Blood*
- Orwell, George, *1984*
- Percy, Walker, *The Moviegoer or The Second Coming*
- Proulx, Annie, *The Shipping News*
- Proust, Marcel, *Swann's Way*
- Rhys, Jean, *Wide Sargasso Sea*
- Richardson, Samuel, *Pamela*
- Robinson, Marilynne, *Housekeeping*
- Salinger, J.D., *The Catcher In The Rye*
- Shelly, Mary, *Frankenstein*
- Steinbeck, John, *The Grapes Of Wrath*
- Sterne, Laurence, *Tristram Shandy*
- Styron, William, *The Confessions Of Nat Turner*
- Thackeray, William Makepeace, *Vanity Fair*
- Tolstoy, Leo, *Anna Karenina*
- Turgenev, Ivan, *Fathers And Sons*
- Updike, John, *Rabbit Run*
- Walker, Alice, *The Color Purple*
- Warren, Robert Penn, *All The King's Men*
- Waugh, Evelyn, *Vile Bodies*
- Welty, Eudora, *The Optimist's Daughter*
- West, Nathaniel, *The Day Of The Locust*
- Wharton, Edith, *The Age Of Innocence*
- Wright, Richard, *Native Son*
- Zola, Emile, *Earth*

III. Required Short Fiction

Baldwin, James, "Sonny's Blues"
 Bambara, Toni Cade,

- "My Man Bovanne,"
- "Gorilla, My Love" in Gorilla, My Love.
- Barth, John, "Life Story"
- Barthleme, Donald,
 - "Views of My Father Weeping,"
 - "The Emerald"
- Beattie, Ann,
 - "The Burning House,"
 - "Vintage Thunderbird"
- Bell, Madison Smartt, "Naked Ladies"
- Betts, Doris, "Still Life With Fruit"
- Borges, Jorge Luis,
 - "Everything and Nothing,"
 - "Borges and I,"
 - "The Aleph"
- Capote, Truman,
 - "A Christmas Memory,"
 - "Dazzle"
- Carver, Raymond,
 - "What We Talk About When We Talk About Love,"
 - "Cathedral,"
 - "Fat,"
 - "Neighbors,"
 - "Errand"
- Cheever, John,
 - "Metamorphoses,"
 - "Goodbye, My Brother,"
 - "The Chaste Clarissa"
- Chekhov, Anton,
 - "The Lady With the Dog,"
 - "Ninotchka: A Love Story,"
 - "The Darling,"
 - "Gusev,"
 - "The Man In a Case,"
 - "Gooseberries,"
 - "About Love,"
 - "The Horse Stealers,"
 - "The Bishop"
- Colette, "The Hidden Woman"
- Conrad, Joseph,
 - "Heart of Darkness,"
 - "The Secret Sharer"
- Coover, Robert, "The Babysitter"

Crane, Stephen, "The Open Boat"
de Maupassant, Guy, "The Necklace"
Dinesen, Isak, "Sorrow Acre"
Dubus, Andre,
 "Killings,"
 "The Winter Father," in Finding a Girl In America.
Faulkner, William,
 "A Rose for Emily,"
 "Red Leaves,"
 "Barn Burning,"
 "That Evening Sun,"
 "Spotted Horses"
Fitzgerald, F. Scott, "Babylon Revisited"
Flaubert, Gustave, "A Simple Heart"
Ford, Richard, "Rock Springs"
Freeman, Mary E. Wilkins, "A New England Nun"
Gaitskill, Mary, "Something Nice," in Bad Behavior
Garcia Marquez, Gabriel,
 "The Handsomest Drowned Man in the World,"
 "A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings,"
 "Blacaman the Good, Vendor of Miracles"
Gass, William H., "In the Heart of the Heart of the Country"
Gordon, Caroline, "The Captive"
Hannah, Barry,
 "Testimony of Pilot,"
 "Water Liars," in Airships;
 "Ride, Fly, Penetrate, Loiter"
Hemingway, Ernest,
 "The Snows of Kilimanjaro,"
 "The Killers"
James, Henry, "The Beast in the Jungle"
Johnson, Charles, "The Sorcerer's Apprentice," in The Sorcerer's Apprentice
Joyce, James, Dubliners, all stories
Kafka, Franz, "A Hunger Artist"
Lawrence, D.H., "The Horse Dealer's Daughter"
McPherson, James A.,
 "Elbow Room,"
 "The Story of a Dead Man,"
 "Why I Like Country Music"
Mansfield, Katherine, "The Garden Party"
Mason, Bobbie Ann, "Shiloh"
Melville, Herman, "Bartleby the Scrivener"
Mishima, Yukio, "Patriotism"
Munro, Alice,

- "The Moons of Jupiter,"
- "Miles City, Montana,"
- "Chaddeleys and Flemings: 1. Connection and 2. The Stone in the Field"
- O'Brien, Edna, "My Mother's Mother," in A Fanatic Heart
- O'Brien, Tim, "The Things They Carried"
- O'Connor, Flannery,
- "Parker's Back,"
- "The Artificial Nigger,"
- "Good Country People,"
- "Revelation"
- O'Connor, Frank, "Guests of the Nation"
- Oates, Joyce Carol,
- "How I Contemplated the World from the Detroit House of Correction and Began My Life Over Again,"
- "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?"
- Olsen, Tillie,
- "Tell Me a Riddle,"
- "I Stand Here Ironing"
- Ozick, Cynthia, "The Shawl"
- Paley, Grace,
- "Enormous Changes at the Last Minute,"
- "Wants,"
- "A Conversation with My Father"
- Porter, Katherine Anne,
- "Old Mortality,"
- "Noon Wine,"
- "The Grave"
- Purdy, James,
- "Color of Darkness,"
- "Eventide," in Color of Darkness
- Salinger, J.D., "A Perfect Day for Bananafish"
- Salter, James,
- "Twenty Minutes,"
- "Dusk,"
- "American Express," in Dusk
- Schwartz, Delmore, "In Dreams Begin Responsibilities"
- Singer, Issak Bashevis, "Gimpel, the Fool"
- Stafford, Jean, "In the Zoo"
- Tanizaki, "Bridge of Dreams, in Seven Japanese Tales
- Taylor, Peter,
- "The Old Forest,"
- "Dean of Men"
- Welty, Eudora,

- "Powerhouse,"
- "A Still Moment,"
- "The Wide Net,"
- "Petrified Man"

Wideman, John Edgar,

- "Fever,"
 - "Doc's Story," in Fever
- Williams, Joy, "The Blue Men"

Wolff, Tobias,

- "In the Garden of the North American Martyrs,"
- "Hunters in the Snow,"
- "The Liar," The Barracks Thief (novella)

IV. RECOMMENDED CRITICISM AND THEORY

- Auerbach, Erich, "Odysseus Scar" in *Mimesis*
- Bellamy, Joe David, *The New Fiction*
- Bloom, Harold, *The Anxiety of Influence*
- Booth, Wayne, *The Rhetoric of Fiction*
- Brooks, Cleanth and Robert Penn Warren, Appendix to the Second Edition of *Understanding Fiction*
- Dillard, Annie, *Living by Fiction*
- Frye, Northrup, *Anatomy of Criticism*
- Gardner, John, *The Art of Fiction, On Moral Fiction, On Becoming a Novelist*
- Gass, William H., *Fiction and the Figures of Life*
- Gilbert, Sandra and Susan Gubar, *No Man's Land, The Place of the Woman Writer in the Twentieth Century* Vol. 1: The War of the Words
- Heilbrun, Carolyn, *Writing a Woman's Life*
- Howe, Irving, Ed., Introduction to *Literary Modernism* ("The Idea of the Modern")
- James, Henry, "The Art of Fiction"
- Kenner, Hugh, *A Homemade World, The Counterfeiters*
- McCauley, Robie, *Technique in Fiction*
- O'Connor, Flannery, *Mystery and Manners*
- Olsen, Tillie, *Silences*
- Porter, Katherine Anne, "Noon Wine, The Sources," in *The Collected Essays and Occasional Writings of Katherine Anne Porter*
- Pratt, Annis, *Archetypal Patterns in Women's Fiction*
- Richter, David H., ed., *Falling into Theory, Conflicting Views on Reading Literature*
- Scholes, Robert, *Fabulation and Metafiction*
- Schorer, Mark, "Technique as Discovery"
- Stevick, Philip, ed., Introduction to *Anti-Story*

- and *The Theory of the Novel*
- Tanner, Tony, *City of Words, American Fiction 1950-1970*
- Todorov, Tzvetan, *The Fantastic, A Structural Approach to a Literary Genre*
- Welty, Eudora, *The Eye of the Story*