

University of Saskatchewan  
Department of English  
Ph.D. Field Examination

Ph.D. candidates take this examination to establish that they have sufficient understanding to do advanced research and teaching in a specific field.

Field examinations are conducted twice yearly: in October and May. At least four months before examination, students must inform the Graduate Chair in writing of their intention to sit the examination.

Ph.D. students are to take this examination in May of the second year of the program or October of the third. The examination will be set and marked by three faculty specialists in the area that has been chosen by the candidate.

The following lists comprise the areas in which the Department of English has set readings for Ph.D. candidates: American, Commonwealth/Postcolonial, English-Canadian, Literary Theory, Literature by Women, Medieval, Modern British, Nineteenth-Century British, Renaissance, and Restoration/Eighteenth Century. Each candidate is either to select one of the areas listed here or to propose an examination in an area for which a list is not already set. The set lists themselves are not exhaustive; each is to be taken as two-thirds of the reading to be undertaken for the examination, the final third to be drafted by the candidate in consultation with the supervisor. At least three months before examination, this list will be submitted to the candidate's Examining Committee for approval.

A candidate may choose to be examined in an area for which there is no list. Should this option be chosen, the candidate (in consultation with the supervisor) will propose an area to the Graduate Committee at least six months before the examination is to be taken. If the Graduate Committee accepts the proposal and if three faculty members are willing to serve as examiners, the candidate (in consultation with the supervisor) will prepare a reading list comparable in dimensions to those in areas for which set lists exist. At least three months before the examination is to be taken, this reading list is to be submitted to the Examining Committee for approval.

The candidate may write the examination either on one day (9:00-12:00, 1:30-5:00) or in two three-hour blocks on successive days. No less than a week and no more than two weeks after writing this examination, the candidate will attend an oral examination of no more than two hours' duration. This oral examination will be convened by the Graduate Chair, and conducted by the three faculty examiners who set the written portion. In this oral examination, special attention will be paid to the candidate's own contributions to the reading list, especially as they relate to the candidate's dissertation topic.

The written and oral components of the Ph.D. Field Examination are of equal value, and a composite grade is given. The grade will be given as one of the three following: Pass with Distinction, Pass, and Fail. If a Fail is given, the candidate must take the examination at the next time scheduled. If repetition of the examination is necessary, usually both the written and oral parts are required; the examining committee has discretion to require, however, that only the oral be retaken.

## COMMONWEALTH/POST COLONIAL

All students taking this Field Examination are responsible for the theory section of this list, plus the items on two additional area lists (e.g. theory + West Indian + African). For each area, students should select five poets from among those represented in the anthologies to read more extensively in individual collections. In some cases, poets have been specified; in others, students are free to choose after consulting with their supervisors. They will also be expected to be familiar with critical views and the socio-cultural and historical background for their areas, and so a list of recommended readings is appended to each area list.

### A. Theory

Aijaz Ahmad, *In Theory: Classes, Nations, Literatures*

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*

William Ashcroft, "Intersecting Marginalities: Postcolonialism and Feminism." *Kunapipi* 11.2 (1989): 23-25

-----, Gareth Griffiths, and Helen Tiffin. *The Empire Writes Back*

Aimé Césaire, *Discourse on Colonialism*

Terry Eagleton, Frederic Jameson, and Edward Said, *Nationalism, Colonialism, and Literature*

Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*

Barbara Harlow, *Resistance Literature*

Abdul Jan Mohammed, *Manichean Aesthetics: The Politics of Literature in Colonial Africa*

O. Manoni, *Prospero and Caliban: The Psychology of Colonization* or Albert Memmi, *The Colonizer and the Colonized*

Arun Mukherjee, *Towards an Aesthetic of Opposition: Essays on Literature, Criticism, and Cultural Imperialism* or Edward Said, *Orientalism*

Stephen Slemon and Helen Tiffin, eds. *After Europe: Critical Theory and Post-Colonial Writing*

Gayatri Spivak, "Entering the Third World." *In Other Worlds: Essays in Cultural Politics*. 179-268.

Ngugi wa Thiong'o, *Decolonizing the Mind: The Politics of Language in African Literature*

### B. Africa

#### Fiction

Peter Abrahams, *A Wreath for Udomo*

Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart* or *Anthills of the Savannah*

Ama Ata Aidoo, *Our Sister Killjoy* or *Changes: A Love Story*

Zaynab Alkali, *The Stillborn*

Ayi Kwei Armah, *The Beautiful Ones are not yet Born*

André Brink, *A Dry White Season*  
Shimmer Chinodya, *A Harvest of Thorns* or Chenjari Hove, *Bones*  
J.M. Coetzee, *Waiting for the Barbarians* or *Foe*  
Tsitsi Dangarembga, *Nervous Conditions*  
Buchi Emecheta, *The Joys of Motherhood*  
Nuruddin Farah, *From a Crooked Rib*  
Nadine Gordimer, *July's People* or *A Sport of Nature*  
Bessie Head, *A Question of Power*  
Alex La Guma, *A Walk in the Night*  
Kojó Lang, *Major Gentl and the Achimota Wars*  
Meja Mwangi, *A Carcase for Hounds*  
Gabriel Okara, *The Voice*  
Ben Okri, *The Famished Road*  
Olive Schreiner, *The Story of an African Farm*  
Amos Tutuola, *The Palm-Wine Drinkard*  
Ngugi wa Thiong'o, *A Grain of Wheat* or *Matigari*

### **Poetry**

Students are expected to be knowledgeable about the contents of the following anthologies, and to select at least five poets from among the anthologized to read more extensively in individual collections.

Adewale Maja-Pearce, ed., *The Heinemann Book of African Poetry in English*  
Isidore Okpewho, ed., *The Heritage of African Poetry*  
Wole Soyinka, ed., *Poems of Black Africa*

### **Drama**

Ama Ata Aidoo, *Anowa*  
J.P. Clark-Bekederemo, *Ozidi*  
Athol Fugard, *Master Harold and the Boys*  
Wole Soyinka, *Six Plays*  
Ngugi wa Thiong'o, *I Will Marry when I Want*

### **Non-fiction**

Peter Abrahams, *Tell Freedom*  
Antholy Appiah, *In my Father's House*  
Buchi Emecheta, *Head above Water*  
Frantz Fanon, *Black Skin, White Masks*  
Jomo Kenyatta, *Facing Mount Kenya*  
Es'kia [formerly Ezechiel] Mphahlele, *Down Second Avenue*  
Wole Soyinka, *Myth, Literature and the African World*  
Ngugi wa Thiong'o, *Homecoming: Essays on African and Caribbean Literature, Culture and Politics*

## Recommended

Onwuchekwa Jemie Chinweizu and Ihechukwu Madubuike, *Towards the Decolonization of African Literature*

Simon Gikandi, *Readings the African Novel*

Abiola Irele, *The African Experience in Literature and Ideology*

J. Ki-Zerbo *et al.*, eds. *General History of Africa*. 8 vols. (especially vols. 6-8)

Emmanuel Ngara, *Ideology and Form in African Poetry*

Flora Veit-Wild, *Teachers, Preachers, Non-Believers: A Social History of Zimbabwean Literature*

Chantal Zabus, *African Palimpsest: Indigenization of Language in the West African Europhone Novel*

## C. Australia and New Zealand

### Fiction

(Australia)

Thea Astley, *A Kindness Cup*

Marcus Clarke, *For the Term of his Natural Life*

Miles Franklin, *My Brilliant Career*

Joseph Furphy, *Such is Life*

Helen Garner, *The Children's Bach*

Laurie Rengasdan, ed., *The Australian Short Story*

Elizabeth Jolly, *Mr. Scobie's Riddle*

Henry Lawson, *The Essential Henry Lawson*

Thomas Kenneally, *The Chant of Jimmy Blacksmith*

C.J. Koch, *The Year of Living Dangerously*

David Malouf, *An Imaginary Life*

Sally Morgan, *My Place* (non-fiction)

Mudrooroo Naragin [formerly Colin Johnson], *Dr. Wooreddy's Prescription for Enduring the Ending of the World*

Hal Porter, *The Tilted Cross*

Katherine Susannah Prichard, *Coonardoo*

Henry Handel Richardson, *The Getting of Wisdom*

Christina Stead, *The Man who Loved Children*

Patrick White, *Voss* **and** *A Fringe of Leaves*

(New Zealand)

Dan Davin, *For the Rest of our Lives*

Janet Frame, *Owls do Cry* **and** *A State of Siege*

Maurice Gee, *Plumb*

Patricia Grace, *Selected Stories*

Keri Hulme, *The Bone People*

Witi Ihimaera, *Tangi*  
Jane Mander, *The Story of a New Zealand River*  
Katherine Mansfield, *The Garden Party*  
Marion McLeod and Bill Manhire, eds., *Some other Country: New Zealand's Best Short Stories*  
Frank Sargeson, *The Stories of Frank Sargeson* (selections)  
Sylvia Ashton Warner, *Spinster*

## Poetry

Students are expected to be knowledgeable about the contents of the following anthologies, and to select at least three poets from each country from among the anthologized to read more extensively in individual collections.

(Australia)

Susan Hampton and Kate Llewellyn, eds., *The Penguin Book of Australian Women Poets*  
Harry Heseltine, ed., *The Penguin Book of Australian Verse*  
Douglas Stewart and Nancy Keesing, ed., *Australian Bush Ballads*

(New Zealand)

Ian Wedde and Harvey McQueen, eds., *The Penguin Book of New Zealand Verse*  
Lydia Wevers, ed., *Yellow Pencils: Contemporary Poetry by New Zealand Women*

## Recommended

Geoffrey Bolton, *The Oxford History of Australia*  
Leon Cantrell, ed., *Bards, Bohemians, and Bookmen: Essays in Australian Literature*  
Wystan Curnow, ed., *Essays on New Zealand Literature*  
Ken Goodwin, *A History of Australian Literature*  
Laurie Hergenhan, ed., *New Literary History of Australia*  
Robert Hughes, *The Fatal Shore*  
W.H. Oliver, ed., *The Oxford History of New Zealand*  
Kay Schaffer, *Women and the Bush: Forces of Desire in the Australian Cultural Tradition*  
Terry Sturm, ed., *The Oxford History of New Zealand Literature in English*  
G.A. Wilkes and J.C. Reid, *The Literatures of Australia and New Zealand*

D. India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka

## Fiction

Ahmed Ali, *Twilight in Delhi*  
Mulk Raj Anand, *Untouchable* or *Coolie*  
Bhabani Bhattacharya, *So Many Hungers* or *He Who Rides a Tiger*

Saros Cowasjee and Shiv K. Kumar, eds., *Modern Indian Short Stories*  
Anita Desai, *Fire on the Mountain or Clear Light of Day*  
G.V. Desani, *All about Hatterr*  
Zulfikar Ghose, *A Different World*  
Yasmine Gooneratne, *A Change of Skies*  
Romesh Gunsekera, *Monkfish Moon*  
Praver Jhabvala, *The Householder OR Heat and Dust*  
Karmala Markandaya, *Nectar in a Sieve or Some Inner Fury*  
Manohar Malgonkar, *A Bend in the Ganges*  
Rohinton Mistry, *Tales from Firozsha Baag or Such a Long Journey*  
R.K. Narayan, *The Guide, The Financial Expert, The Sweet-Vendor, or Talkative Man*  
Raja Rao, *Kanthapura*  
Salman Rushdie, *Midnight's Children and Shame or The Satanic Verses*  
Nayantara Sahgal, *Storm in Chandigarh or A Situation in New Delhi*  
Vikram Seth, *A Suitable Boy*  
Bapsi Sidhwa, *The Crow Eaters*  
Kushwant Singh, *Train to Pakistan*  
Sara Suleri, *Meatless Days*

### **Poetry**

Kaiser Haq, ed., *Contemporary Indian Poetry*  
Yunus Said, *Introd, Pieces of Eight: Eight Poets from Pakistan*  
Rajiva Wijesinha, ed., *An Anthology of Contemporary Sri Lankan Poetry in English*

### **Non-fiction**

Nirad Chaudhuri, *The Autobiography of an Unknown Indian or The Continent of Circe*  
Ranjit Guha and Gayatri Spivak, eds. *Selected Subaltern Studies*  
A. Hashmi, *Pakistani Literature: The Contemporary English Writers*  
Feroza Jussawalla, *Family Quarrels: Towards a Criticism of Indian Writing in English*  
V.S. Naipaul, *India: A Wounded Civilization*  
Romesh C. Dutt, trans., *The Ramayana* and *The Mahharata*  
Sara Suleri, *The Rhetoric of English India*

### **Various genres**

Rabindranath Tagore, *A Tagore Reader*; students should read widely in the fiction, non-fiction (including letters), poetry, and drama in this text

### **Recommended**

Robert J. Baumgardner, "The Indigenization of English in Pakistan." *English Today* 6:1 (21 January 1990): 59-69  
Sudhir Chandra, *The Oppressive Present: Literature and Social Consciousness in Colonial India*

V.K. Golak, *English in India: Its Present and Future*  
K.R.S. Iyengar, *India Writing in English*  
Braj Kachru, *The Indigenization of English: The English Language in India*  
Asha Kaushik, *Politics, Aesthetics, and Culture: A Study of the Indo-Anglian Political Novel*  
David Kerr and R.K. Dhwan, *Australian and Indian Literature: Studies in Mutual Response*  
Chirantan Kulthretha, ed., *Contemporary Indian English Verse: An Evaluation*  
Ivor Lewis, *Sahibs, Nabobs and Boxwallahs: A Dictionary of the Words of Anglo-India*  
Sujit Mukherjee, *Forster and Further: The Tradition of Anglo-Indian Fiction*  
C.D. Narasimhaiah, *Indian Critical Scene: Controversial Essays*  
Emmanuel Nelson, ed., *Reworlding: The Literature of the Indian Diaspora*  
Sulochana R. Raghava, *Sociology of Indian Literature*  
Paula Richman, ed., *Many Ramayanas: The Diversity of a Narrative Tradition in South Asia*

#### E. West Indian

#### **Fiction**

Michael Anthony, *The Year in San Fernando*  
Erna Brodber, *Myal*  
Austin Clarke, *Among Thistles and Thorns*  
H.G. de Lisser, *The White Witch of Rosehall*  
Zee Edgell, *Beka Lamb*  
Wilson Harris, *Palace of the Peacock*  
John Hearne, *Land of the Living*  
Merle Hodge, *Crick Crack, Monkey*  
Jamaica Kincaid, *Annie John*  
George Lamming, *In the Castle of my Skin*  
Earl Lovelace, *The Dragon Can't Dance*  
Roger Mais, *The Hills Were Joyful Together or Brother Man*  
Edgar Mittelholzer, *Corentyne Thunder*  
V.S. Naipaul, *A House for Mr. Biswas and The Mimic Men or In a Free State*  
Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea*  
Andrew Salkey, *Escape to an Autumn Pavement*  
Samuel Selvon, *The Lonely Londoners*  
Olive Senior, *"Summer Lightning" and Other Stories*  
Phyllis Shand Allfrey, *The Orchid House*

#### **Poetry**

Choose three of the following.

Louise Bennett, *Selected Poems*  
Dionne Brand, *No Language is Neutral*

Lorna Goodison, *Selected Poems*  
Marlene Nourbese Philip, *She Tries her Tongue, her Silence Softly Breaks*  
Olive Senior, *Gardening in the Tropics*

Also read the following.

Paula Burnett, ed., *The Penguin Book of Caribbean Verse*  
Edward Kamau Brathwaite, *The Arrivants*  
Derek Walcott, *Collected Poems 1948-1984* (selections)

### **Various genres**

Michelle Cliff, *The Land of Look Behind*  
Pamela Mordecai and Betty Wilson, eds., *Her True-True Name: An Anthology of Caribbean Women's Writing*  
Marlene Nourbese Philip, *Looking for Livingstone*

### **Drama**

Errol Hill, *Moon on a Rainbow Shawl or Man Better Man*  
Derek Walcott, *Dream on Monkey Mountain and Other Plays*, including "What the Twilight Says: An Overture"

### **Non-fiction**

C.L.R. James, *Black Jacobins*  
George Lamming, *The Pleasures of Exile*  
V.S. Naipaul, *The Middle Passage*

### **Recommended**

Edward Baugh, ed., *Critics on Caribbean Literature*  
Edward Kamau Brathwaite, *History of the Voice: The Development of Nation Language in Anglophone Caribbean Poetry*  
Lloyd Brown, *West Indian Poetry*  
J. Edward Chamberlin, *Come Back to me my Language: Poetry and the West Indies*  
Peter Hulme, *Colonial Encounters: Europe and the Native Caribbean, 1492-1797*  
Louis James, *The Islands In Between: Essays on West Indian Literature*  
Mark McWatt, ed., *West Indian Literature and its Social Context*  
Evelyn O'Callaghan, *Woman Version: Theoretical Approaches to West Indian Fiction by Women*  
Kenneth Ramchand, *The West Indian Novel and its Background and An Introduction to the Study of West Indian Literature*