

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, Cultural Studies, 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.

Cultural Studies

- Adorno, Theodor and Max Horkheimer, "The Culture Industry: Enlightenment as Mass Deception"
- Agamben, Giorgio. *The Signature of the World* 2009
- Ahmed, Sara. *The Cultural Politics of Emotion*
- Althusser, Louis. "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses" in *Lenin and Philosophy*
- Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*
- Appadurai, Arjun. "Disjuncture and Difference in the Global Cultural Economy"
- Arendt, Hannah. "The Crisis in Culture" 1968
- Barthes, Roland. *Elements of Semiology* (1967)
- Barthes, Roland. *Mythologies* 1957
- Baudrillard, Jean. *Simulacra and Simulation*. 1981
- Benjamin, Walter. *Illuminations*
- Berger, John. *Ways of Seeing*
- Bhabha, Homi. *Location of Culture* 1991.
- Bignall, Jonathan. *Postmodern Media Culture*. 2007.
- Bordo, Susan. *Unbearable Weight: Feminism, Western Culture, and the Body* 1984
- Bourdieu, Pierre. *Distinction*. 1984
- Bourdieu, Pierre. *The Field of Cultural Production: Essays on Art and Literature*, edited and introduced by Randal Johnson. 1993.
- Brannigan, John. *New Historicism and Cultural Materialism*. (1998)
- Butler, Judith. *Bodies that Matter; "Imitation and Gender Insubordination" in Inside/Out: Lesbian Theories, Gay Theories* (edited by Diana Fuss) (1991)
- Cawelti, John.. *Adventure, Mystery, and Romance: Formula Stories as Art and Popular Culture*
- De Beauvoir, Simone. *The Second Sex* (1949)
- De Certeau, Michel. *The Practice of Everyday Life*
- Debord, Guy. *The Society of the Spectacle* 1995
- Deleuze, Gilles and Félix Guattari, *A Thousand Plateaus* 1987 (Introduction, Chapter 6 and Chapter 12)
- Derrida, Jacques. "Signature, Event, Context," 1977; *Archive Fever: A Freudian Impression*, 1996.
- De Saussure, Ferdinand. *Course on General Linguistics* (1959)
- Eagleton, Terry. *Ideology: An Introduction*. 2007.
- Easthope, Anthony *Literary into Cultural Studies* (1991)
- Fiske, John and John Hartley. *Reading Television*
- Foucault, Michel. **two of:** *Discipline and Punish, The Archaeology of Knowledge, The History of Sexuality*
- Freud, Sigmund. *The Interpretation of Dreams*
- Geertz, Clifford. "Deep Play: Notes on the Balinese Cockfight."
- Gilroy, Paul. *Ain't No Black in the Union Jack or Against Race*
- Gramsci, Antonio. "Hegemony, Intellectuals and the State" from *Prison Notebooks* (1971)
- Guillory, John. *Cultural Capital*, 1993.
- Hall, Stuart. "The Emergence of Cultural Studies and the Crisis of the Humanities"; "Encoding/Decoding"; "Notes on Deconstructing 'The Popular'"

Haraway, Donna. "A Cyborg Manifesto: Science, Technology, and Socialist-Feminism in the Late Twentieth Century." 1991.

Hardt, Michael and Antonio Negri. *Empire*

Harvey, David. *The Condition of Postmodernity: An Enquiry Into the Origins of Cultural Change*. 1989.

Hebdige, Dick. *Subculture: The Meaning of Style*

Irigaray, Luce. *The Sex Which Is Not One*

Jameson, Fredric. "Postmodernism and Consumer Society" **and** "Postmodernism, Or The Cultural Logical of Late Capitalism" **and** "On Cultural Studies," *Social Text* 34 (1993)

Kracauer, Siegfried (1960). *Theory of Film: The Redemption of Physical Reality*

Kristeva, Julia. *Powers of Horror: An Essay on Abjection*, 1982

Lacan, Jacques. "The Mirror Stage"

Levine, Lawrence. *Highbrow/Lowbrow: The Emergence of Cultural Hierarchy in America*

Lévi-Strauss, Claude. "The Structural Study of Myth."

Marx, Karl and Friedrich Engels. *The Communist Manifesto*

Marx, Karl and Friedrich Engels. *The German Ideology*

McLuhan, Marshall. *Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man*. (1964)

McRobbie, Angela. *Feminism and Youth Culture*, 2nd edition. 2002.

Mirzoeff, Nicholas. "What Is Visual Culture?" *The Visual Culture Reader* 2nd ed. 2011.

Mullen, Harryette. "Optic White: Blackness and the Production of Whiteness"

Mulvey, Laura. "Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema" *Screen* 16.3 Autumn 1975

Radway, Janice. "Interpretive Communities and Variable Literacies: The Functions of Romance Reading."

Ronell, Avital. *The Telephone Book: Technology, Schizophrenia, Electric Speech*

Rubin, Gayle. "Thinking Sex: Notes for a Radical Theory of the Politics of Sexuality"

Said, Edward. *Orientalism* (1979) **and** *Culture and Imperialism* (1993)

Sedgwick, Eve Kosofsky. "Nationalisms and Sexualities" in *Tendencies*

Skeggs, Beverley. *Formations of Gender and Class*

Sontag, Susan. **two of:** *Against Interpretation; Regarding the Pain of Others; On Photography; Illness as Metaphor*

Spivak, Gayatri Chakravorty. "Can the Subaltern Speak?"

Stam, Robert. *Film Theory: an Introduction*

Sterne, Jonathan. *The Audible Past: Cultural Origins of Sound Reproduction*. 2003.

Williams, Raymond. *Culture and Society, 1780-1950* (1960)

anthologies and histories

Use the texts in this list as a basis for organizing your thinking about the history and identity of cultural studies as a discipline (major periods, events, issues), and the major currents of cultural studies criticism and theory. Comparing recent editions of some of the texts with their prior editions might also be illuminating. In other words, familiarize yourself with the various versions of the canon of cultural studies criticism.

Cain, William E. (ed.). *Reconceptualizing American Literary/Cultural Studies Cultural Studies* (the journal)

During, Simon. *Cultural Studies: A Critical Introduction*

Grossberg, Lawrence, Cary Nelson, and Paula Treichler, eds. *Cultural Studies*

Hartley, John. *A Short History of Cultural Studies*
Johnson, Richard. *The Practice of Cultural Studies*
Lee, Richard E. *Life and Times of Cultural Studies*
Lewis, Jeff. *Cultural Studies: The Basics*
Milner, A and Browitt, J. 2002. *Contemporary Cultural Theory* (most recent ed.)
Mookerjea, Szeman, and Faurcho, eds. *Canadian Cultural Studies: A Reader*. 2009
Pickering, Michael. *Research Methods for Cultural Studies*
Turner, Graeme. *British Cultural Studies: An Introduction*