

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

Ph.D. students are required to take this examination to establish that they have sufficient understanding to conduct advanced research, teaching, and supervision in their identified field. The following lists comprise the areas in which the Department of English has set readings for Ph.D. students: American, Cultural Studies, English-Canadian, Indigenous Literature, Literary Theory, Literature by Women, Medieval, Modern and Contemporary British and Irish, Nineteenth-Century British, Postcolonial and Global South Literatures, Renaissance, Restoration/Eighteenth Century.

By **31 May of the first year of the doctorate**, the student must inform the Graduate Chair in writing of their intention to complete the Field Examination. This notification will include:

1. the student's choice of a departmental Fields Reading List (see above) representing two-thirds of the readings for the Field Examination;
2. the Candidate's List of readings constituting the final one-third of the readings, drafted in consultation with the Supervisor; and
3. the names of three faculty members comprising the Field Examining Committee who are to be consulted in the development of the Candidate's List of readings and who will set and evaluate the written and the oral components of the examination.

A meeting of the student with the Field Examining Committee will be convened by the Supervisor in May of the first year of the doctorate to facilitate this process. By **31 January of the second year of their doctorate**, all Ph.D.s are expected to complete the Field Examination.

Note: 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 twelve 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 Ph.D. student (in consultation with the Supervisor and the Examining Committee) will prepare a reading list comparable in dimensions to those in areas for which set lists exist. At least six months before the examination is to be taken, this reading list is to be submitted to the Field Examining Committee for approval.

The candidate may write the examination either on one day (9:00-12:00, 1:30-4:30) or in two three-hour blocks on successive days. No aids are permitted in writing the examination. 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 (or designate) and be conducted by the three faculty examiners who set the written portion. In this oral examination, special attention may be paid to the candidate's own contributions to the reading list, especially as they relate to the candidate's dissertation topic, but all readings and written responses may be addressed.

The written component of the Field Examination must receive a pass before the oral component can be taken. Following the oral, an overall grade is assigned: Pass with Distinction, Pass, or Fail. If a Fail is assigned, the student may repeat the examination within three months of the initial examination. If repetition of the examination is necessary, it is usual that both the written and oral parts are required; the Field Examining Committee has discretion to require, however, that only the oral be retaken.

LITERARY THEORY

This list is in three parts. The first and second parts given here specify works which all students specializing in theory must know. The third part will be determined by the needs and interests of particular students, in light of the fact that the past three decades have seen a remarkable increase in the number and complexity of works of literary theory, and no student ought to be made responsible for all of this material.

Set Texts

Plato, *Ion, Republic, Cratylus, Phaedrus*

Aristotle, *The Poetics*

Longinus, *On the Sublime*

Sir Philip Sidney, *An Apology for Poetry*

Selections from the work of Dryden, Addison, Johnson, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Shelley, Arnold, Woolf, T.S. Eliot, Richards, Leavis, Brooks Warren, Wimsatt, available in anthologies such as those edited by Hazard Adams or Walter Jackson Bate

George Eliot, *Selected Essays...*, ed. Byatt and Warren (1990)

Ferdinand de Saussure, *Course in General Linguistics*, trans. Bally and Sechehaye (1966)

Sigmund Freud, "The Interpretation of Dreams," *Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis*, trans. Strachey (1963)

William Empson, *Seven Types of Ambiguity* (1930)

F.R. Leavis, *The Great Tradition* (1948)

Georg Lukacs, *The Historical Novel* (1962)

Walter Benjamin, *Illuminations* (1968)

Eric Auerbach, *Mimesis: The Representation of Reality in Western Literature* (1953)

Simone de Beauvoir, selections from *The Second Sex* (1949)

Jean Paul Sartre, *What is Literature?* (1950)

Harold Innis, *The Strategy of Culture* (1952)

Northrop Frye, *Anatomy of Criticism* (1957)

Lee Lemon and Reis, eds., *Russian Formalist Criticism: Four Essays* (1965)

Mikhail Bakhtin, *The Dialogic Imagination* (1981)

Roland Barthes, *Elements of Semiology* (1967)

Stephen Heath *et al.*, eds., *Signs of the Times: Introductory Readings in Textual Semiotics* (1971)

Kaja Silverman, *The Subject of Semiotics* (1983)

Umberto Eco, *The Open Work* (1989)

Louis Athusser, *Lenin and Philosophy* (1972)

E.P. Thompson, *The Poverty of Theory* (1978)

Michel Foucault, *The Archaeology of Knowledge* (1972) **and** *Power/Knowledge* (1980)

Paul Ricoeur, *The Rule of Metaphor: Multidisciplinary Studies of the Creation of Meaning in Language* (1978)

Richard Palmer, *Hermeneutics* (1969)

Jane Tompkins, ed., *Reader-Response Criticism* (1980)

Paul De Man, *Blindness and Insight*, 2nd ed. (1982) **and** *The Resistance to Theory* (1986)

Jacques Derrida, *Of Grammatology* (1979), *Dissemination* (1981), **and** *Given Time I: Counterfeit Money* (1992)

Barbara Johnson, *The Critical Difference* (1980)

Frederic Jameson, *The Political Unconscious* (1981)

Elizabeth Wright, ed., *Psychoanalytic Literary Criticism* (1984)

Malcolm Bowie, *Psychoanalysis and the Future of Theory* (1993)

Hal Foster, ed., *The Anti-Aesthetic: Essays on Postmodern Culture* (1983)

Linda Hutcheon, *A Poetics of Postmodernism: History, Theory, Fiction* (1988)

John Fekete, ed., *Life after Postmodernism: Essays on Value and Culture* (1988)

Terry Eagleton, *Literary Theory: An Introduction* (1983)

Robert Von Hallberg, ed., *Canons* (1984)

Robert Lecker, ed., *Canadian Canons: Essays in Literary Value* (1992)

Elaine Showalter, ed., *The New Feminist Criticism* (1985)

Toril Moi, *Sexual/Textual Poetics*

Hélène Cixous and Catherine Clement, *The Newly Born Woman* (1986)

W.J.T. Mitchell, ed., *The Politics of Interpretation* (1993)

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

Henry Louis Gates, ed., "Race," *Writing, and Difference* (1986)

Rosemary Hennessy, *Materialist Feminism and the Politics of Discourse* (1988)

Diana Fuss, *Essentially Speaking: Feminism, Nature and Difference* (1989)

Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity* (1990)

Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, *The Epistemology of the Closet* (1990)

Jonathan Dollimore, *Sexual Dissidence* (1991)

Steven Connor and Douglas Kellner, eds., *Theory and Cultural Value* (1992)

Ralph Cohen, ed., *The Future of Literary Theory* (1989)

Anthony Easthope, *Literary into Cultural Studies* (1991)

Greenblatt and Gunn, eds., *Redrawing the Boundaries* (1992)

Historical and Disciplinary

Chris Baldick, *The Social Mission of English Criticism 1848-1932* (1983)

Seyla Benhabib, *Critique, Norm, Utopia: A Study of the Foundations of Critical Theory* (1986)

Paul Bove, *Intellectuals in Power: A Genealogy of Critical Humanism* (1986)

Peter Dixon, *Rhetoric* (1971)

Gerald Graff, *Professing Literature: An Institutional History* (1987)

Peter Uwe Hohendahl, *The Institution of Criticism* (1982)

Frank Lentricchia, *After the New Criticism* (1980)

Francis Mulhern, *The Moment of Scrutiny* (1979)

Gayatri Spivak, *Outside in the Teaching Machine* (1993)

Gauri Viswanathan, *Masks of Conquest: Literary Study and British Rule in India* (1989)

Samuel Weber, *Institution and Interpretation* (1987)

René Wellek, *A History of Modern Criticism 1750-1950*, 5 vols. (1955-87)