

**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.

## POSTCOLONIAL AND GLOBAL SOUTH LITERATURES

Students sitting this Field Examination are *not* responsible for reading everything on the master list that appears below. Instead, the student will work closely with their examining committee to create a bespoke reading list of roughly 75 texts in total. This bespoke reading list will be composed of:

1. *Master list texts.* At least 50 texts from the Master List, adhering to the requirements outlined below (“B. Regional Coverage”).
2. *Student’s choice.* Up to 25 texts chosen by the student in consultation with the examining committee. These texts can come from any source. This portion constitutes the student’s “third” of the exam, per the general departmental requirements.

### Requirements

#### A. Formal Coverage (entire list)

1. At least 30 works of fiction (novels, short story collections, story cycles)
2. At least 15 pieces of secondary criticism (see "Secondary Criticism")
3. At least 10 works of critical theory (minimum 5 full-length books)
4. At least 5 poets in substantial quantity
5. At least 3 works of drama
6. At least 3 works of memoir or life writing

#### Secondary Criticism

Choose 5 primary literary texts that you think will be important to your work. For each text, find at least 3 high-quality journal articles or book chapters and include these as part of your list, for a total of 15 works of secondary criticism. This requirement encourages you to gain an awareness of specific debates, issues, and conversations surrounding primary texts that will be of substantial relevance to your dissertation research. Developing this awareness will also serve you in wider professional contexts such as conferences, where demonstrating conversancy with well-known issues pertaining to your research is a key part of a successful presentation.

#### B. Regional coverage (Master List texts only)

1. At least 25 texts from one of the following postcolonial regions: Africa + diaspora, South Asia + diaspora, or Caribbean + diaspora. This requirement provides you with a regional specialization or “major” that USask English faculty working this area are qualified to supervise.
2. At least 10 texts from “canonical” or broadly known and taught postcolonial or Global South authors outside your regional specialization. This requirement ensures that you are conversant with a cluster of major names in the broad field of postcolonial studies for both teaching and research purposes.

#### C. Historical coverage (entire list)

At least 75% of your entire list should be texts published before 2000. This requirement encourages you to develop a historical understanding of your chosen areas of research.

## Master List

### Fiction

<b>Author</b>	<b>Text(s)</b>	<b>Country</b>
Abani, Chris	<i>Song For Night</i>	Nigeria
Achebe, Chinua	<i>Things Fall Apart</i> or <i>Anthills of the Savannah</i>	Nigeria
Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi	<i>Half of a Yellow Sun</i>	Nigeria
Aidoo, Ama Ata	<i>Our Sister Killjoy</i> or <i>Changes</i>	Ghana
Alexis, Jacques Stephen	<i>General Sun, My Brother</i>	Haiti
Anam, Tahmima	<i>A Golden Age</i>	Bangladesh
Anand, Mulk Raj	<i>Untouchable</i>	India
Armah, Ayi Kwei	<i>The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born</i>	Ghana
Behr, Mark	<i>The Smell of Apples</i>	South Africa
Brand, Dionne	<i>What We All Long For</i>	Trinidad-Canada
Brink, André	<i>A Dry White Season</i>	South Africa
Borges, Jorge Luis	<i>Ficciones</i>	Argentina
Chancy, Myriam J.A.	<i>The Loneliness of Angels</i>	Haiti-US-Canada
Chughtai, Ismat	<i>The Crooked Line</i>	India
Cliff, Michelle	<i>Abeng</i> or <i>No Telephone to Heaven</i>	Jamaica-Britain
Coetzee, J.M.	<i>Disgrace, Foe, or Waiting for the Barbarians</i>	South Africa
Condé, Maryse	<i>Windward Heights</i> or <i>Ségou</i>	Guadeloupe
Conrad, Joseph	<i>Heart of Darkness</i>	Britain
Dangarembga, Tsitsi	<i>Nervous Conditions</i>	Zimbabwe
Dangor, Achmat	<i>Bitter Fruit</i>	South Africa
Danticat, Edwidge	<i>The Farming of Bones</i> or <i>The Dew Breaker</i>	Haiti-US
Deb, Siddhartha	<i>An Outline of the Republic</i>	India
Desai, Anita	<i>Clear Light of Day</i>	India
Desai, Kiran	<i>The Inheritance of Loss</i>	India
Díaz, Junot	<i>The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao</i>	Dom. Rep. / US
Doyle, Roddy	<i>Paula Spencer</i>	Ireland
Duff, Alan	<i>Once Were Warriors</i>	New Zealand
El Saadawi, Nawal	<i>Woman at Point Zero</i>	Egypt
Emecheta, Buchi	<i>The Joys of Motherhood</i>	Nigeria
Emezi, Akwaeke	<i>The Death of Vivek Oji</i> or <i>Freshwater</i>	Nigeria
Forna, Aminatta	<i>The Memory of Love</i>	Sierra Leone

García Márquez, Gabriel	<i>One Hundred Years of Solitude</i>	Colombia
Ghosh, Amitav	<i>The Shadow Lines</i> or <i>The Hungry Tide</i>	India
Gordimer, Nadine	<i>July's People</i>	South Africa
Grace, Patricia	<i>Mutuwhenua: The Moon Sleeps</i>	New Zealand
Gyasi, Yaa	<i>Homegoing</i>	Ghana
Hamid, Mohsin	<i>The Reluctant Fundamentalist</i> or <i>Exit West</i>	Pakistan
Head, Bessie	<i>A Question of Power</i>	Botswana
Hedayat, Sadegh	<i>The Blind Owl</i>	Iran
Hong Kingston, Maxine	<i>The Woman Warrior</i>	China-US
Hopkinson, Nalo	<i>Brown Girl in the Ring</i> or <i>Midnight Robber</i>	Trinidad-Canada
Hulme, Keri	<i>The Bone People</i>	New Zealand
Ihimaera, Witi	<i>The Whale Rider</i>	New Zealand
James, Marlon	<i>A Brief History of Seven Killings</i>	Jamaica-US
Kane, Chekh Hamidou	<i>Ambiguous Adventure</i>	Senegal
Kincaid, Jamaica	<i>Annie John</i> or <i>Lucy</i>	Antigua
Krog, Antjie	<i>Country of My Skull</i>	South Africa
Kourouma, Ahmadou	<i>The Suns of Independence</i>	Cote d'Ivoire
Lahiri, Jhumpa	<i>Interpreter of Maladies</i>	India
Lessing, Doris	<i>The Grass Is Singing</i>	South Africa
Lamming, George	<i>In The Castle of My Skin</i>	Barbados
Mahasweta Devi	<i>Imaginary Maps</i>	India
Mahfouz, Naguib	<i>Midaq Alley</i>	Egypt
Manto, Saadat Hasan	<i>Bombay Stories</i>	India
Mda, Zakes	<i>Ways of Dying</i> or <i>Heart of Redness</i>	South Africa
Mootoo, Shani	<i>Cereus Blooms At Night</i>	Trinidad-Canada
Naipaul, V.S.	<i>A House for Mr. Biswas</i>	Trinidad
Narayan, R.K.	<i>Malgudi Days</i>	India
Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o	<i>Matigari</i> or <i>A Grain of Wheat</i>	Kenya
Nunez, Elizabeth	<i>Prospero's Daughter</i>	Trinidad-US
Nurrudin, Farrah	<i>Maps</i>	Somalia
Obejas, Achy	<i>We Came All The Way From Cuba So You Could Dress Like This?</i>	Cuba-US
Okorafor, Nnedi	<i>Akata Witch</i> or <i>Who Fears Death?</i>	Nigeria
Okri, Ben	<i>The Famished Road</i>	Nigeria
Ondaatje, Michael	<i>Anil's Ghost</i>	Sri Lanka-Canada

Phillips, Caryl	<i>The Nature of Blood</i>	St. Kitts-Britain
Rao, Raja	<i>Kanthapura</i>	India
Rhys, Jean	<i>Wide Sargasso Sea</i>	Dominica
Roumain, Jacques	<i>Masters of the Dew</i>	Haiti
Roy, Arundhati	<i>The God of Small Things</i>	India
Rushdie, Salman	<i>Midnight's Children</i> or <i>The Satanic Verses</i>	Pakistan
Salih, Tayeb	<i>Season of Migration to the North</i>	Sudan
Saro-wiwa, Ken	<i>Sozaboy: A Novel in Rotten English</i>	Nigeria
Satrapi, Marjane	<i>Persepolis 1 &amp; 2</i>	Iran
Selvadurai, Shyam	<i>Funny Boy</i>	Sri Lanka-Canada
Selvon, Sam	<i>The Lonely Londoners</i>	Trinidad-Britain
Sembene, Ousmane	<i>God's Bits of Wood</i>	Senegal
Serote, Mongane	<i>To Every Birth Its Blood</i>	South Africa
Sidhwa, Bapsi	<i>Cracking India</i>	Pakistan
Singh, Khushwant	<i>Train to Pakistan</i>	India
Tagore, Rabindranath	<i>Tagore Reader</i>	India
Vargas Lhosa, Mario	<i>The Time of the Hero</i>	Peru
Vladislavic, Ivan	<i>The Restless Supermarket</i>	South Africa
Vuong, Ocean	<i>On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous</i>	Vietnam-US
Wicomb, Zoe	<i>You Can't Get Lost In Cape Town</i>	South Africa

### Critical Theory

<b>Author</b>	<b>Text(s)</b>	<b>Country</b>
Ahmad, Aijaz	<i>In Theory</i>	India
Ambedkar, B.R.	<i>The Annihilation of Caste</i>	India
Anderson, Benedict	<i>Imagined Communities</i>	Ireland-US
Ashcroft, Griffiths, and Tiffin	<i>The Empire Writes Back</i>	Australia
Anzaldua, Gloria	<i>Borderlands: La Frontera</i>	Mexico-Chicana
Bhabha, Homi K.	<i>The Location of Culture</i>	India
Butalia, Urvashi	<i>The Other Side of Silence</i>	India
Césaire, Aimé	<i>Discourse on Colonialism</i>	Martinique
Chakrabarty, Dipesh	<i>Provincializing Europe</i>	India
Das, Veena	<i>Life and Words</i>	India
Fanon, Frantz	<i>Black Skin, White Masks</i> or <i>The Wretched of the Earth</i>	Martinique
Gandhi, Leela	<i>Postcolonial Theory: A Critical Introduction</i>	India

Gikandi, Simon	<i>Reading the African Novel</i>	Kenya-US
Gilroy, Paul	<i>The Black Atlantic</i>	Guyana-Britain
Glissant, Edouard	<i>Poetics of Relation</i> or <i>Caribbean Discourse</i>	Martinique
James, C.L.R.	<i>The Black Jacobins</i>	Trinidad-Haiti
Hall, Stuart	<i>Thinking the Diaspora</i>	Jamaica-Britain
Lorde, Audre	<i>Sister Outsider</i>	Caribbean-US
Mbembe, Achille	<i>On The Postcolony</i> or <i>Necropolitics</i>	Cameroon
McClintock, Anne	<i>Imperial Leather</i>	South Africa
Memmi, Albert	<i>The Colonizer and The Colonized</i>	Tunisia
Ndebele, Njabula	<i>Rediscovery of the Ordinary</i>	South Africa
Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o	<i>Decolonising the Mind</i>	Kenya
Porter, Bernard	<i>The Lion's Share</i>	Britain
Said, Edward	<i>Orientalism</i> or <i>Culture and Imperialism</i>	Palestine-US
Smith, Linda Tuhiwai Te Rina	<i>Decolonising Methodologies</i>	New Zealand
Spivak, Gayatri Chakravorty	<i>A Critique of Postcolonial Reason</i>	India
Taylor, Diana	<i>The Archive and the Repertoire</i>	Latin America

### Poetry

<b>Author</b>	<b>Text(s)</b>	<b>Country</b>
Anyidoho, Kofi	<i>Elegy for the Revolution</i>	Ghana
Bennett, Louise	<i>Jamaica Labrish</i>	Jamaica-Canada
Brand, Dionne	<i>Land to Light On</i> or <i>No Language Is Neutral</i>	Trinidad-Canada
Brathwaite, Kamau	<i>The Arrivants</i> or <i>Black + Blues</i>	Barbados
Brutus, Dennis	<i>Stubborn Hope</i>	South Africa
Das, Kamala	<i>The Old Playhouse and Other Poems</i>	India
Faiz, Faiz Ahmad	Translated Poems	Pakistan
Goodison, Lorna	<i>I Am Becoming My Mother</i>	Jamaica-US
Heaney, Seamus	<i>North</i>	Ireland
Kwesi Johnson, Linton	<i>Mi Revalueshanary Fren</i>	Jamaica-Britain
McKay, Claude	<i>Harlem Shadows</i>	Jamaica-US
Murray, Les	<i>Learning Human</i>	Australia
NourbeSe, M. Philip	<i>Zong!</i>	Tobago-Canada

Okigbo, Christopher	<i>Labyrinths with Paths of Thunder</i>	Nigeria
Osundare, Niyi	<i>The Eye of the Earth</i>	Nigeria
p'Bitek, Okot	<i>Song of Lawino/ Song of Ocol</i>	Uganda
Rankine, Claudia	<i>Citizen: An American Lyric</i>	Jamaica-US
Roumain, Jacques	<i>Ebony Wood</i>	Haiti
Vuong, Ocean	<i>Night Sky with Exit Wounds or Time Is A Mother</i>	Vietnam-US
Walcott, Derek	<i>Omeros or The Fortunate Traveller</i>	St. Lucia-Trinidad

### Drama

<b>Author</b>	<b>Text(s)</b>	<b>Country</b>
Aidoo, Ama Ata	<i>Anowa</i>	Ghana
Césaire, Aimé	<i>A Tempest</i>	Martinique
Friel, Brian	<i>Translations</i>	Ireland
Fugard, Athol	<i>Master Harold and the Boys</i>	South Africa
Soyinka, Wole	<i>Death and the King's Horseman</i>	Nigeria
Walcott, Derek	<i>Dream on Monkey Mountain or Pantomine</i>	Trinidad-St. Lucia

### Memoir / Life Writing

<b>Author</b>	<b>Text(s)</b>	<b>Country</b>
Coetzee, J.M.	<i>Boyhood, Youth, or Summertime</i>	South Africa
Danticat, Edwidge	<i>Brother, I'm Dying or Create Dangerously</i>	Haiti-US
James, C.L.R.	<i>Beyond a Boundary</i>	Trinidad
Lamming, George	<i>The Pleasures of Exile</i>	Barbados
Naipaul, V.S.	<i>An Area of Darkness</i>	Trinidad-Britain
Roy, Arundhati	<i>Mother Mary Comes To Me</i>	India
Suleri, Sara	<i>Meatless Days</i>	Pakistan