# Universität Zürich

**Englisches Seminar** 

## **Reading List English Literature**

Version October 2006 (corrected September 2007)

#### 1. The Module

Students who begin their English studies in the winter semester 2006/2007 are required to take the *Pflichtmodul Reading List English Literature* (3KP) if they are enrolled in one of the following *B.A.-Studiengänge*:

- Grosses B.A.-Hauptfach (120 KP) Englische Sprach- und Literaturwissenschaft
- B.A.-Hauptfach (90 KP) Englische Sprach- und Literaturwissenschaft
- Grosses B.A.-Nebenfach (60 KP) Englische Sprach- und Literaturwissenschaft mit Schwerpunkt Literaturwissenschaft

## 2. The Aims of the Reading List

This *Reading List* attempts to do the impossible: to represent the diversity and richness of literature in English. The list includes texts that we find both important and exciting. However, we are fully aware that many equally interesting and relevant texts are missing. Our aim, then, is not to establish a definitive canon. Instead, we want to provide you with a – necessarily partial – framework that allows you to find out which types of texts, periods and movements you find most appealing.

Furthermore, the reading list is to be seen in the context of the B.A. curriculum as a whole. In your first year, the *Textual Analysis* module provides you with basic methodological tools for the analysis of literature. In your second year, the lecture *History of Literature in English* and the two B.A. seminars of your choice will help you refine your ability to analyse texts by placing them in larger thematic, theoretical, and historical contexts. The module *Reading List English Literature*, which you will ideally take in your fifth semester, builds on your previous knowledge. An oral exam based on this *Reading List* will give you the opportunity to display the critical skills and depth of historical understanding you have gained in the course of your studies.

Clearly, the sooner you start reading the texts on the *Reading List*, the more you will enjoy your B.A. studies. We recommend you start in the very first semester so that you read the texts in the light of the new ideas you encounter in your B.A. courses. This, in turn, will make it easier for you to remember and apply the newly learned concepts in the future. In addition to the primary texts listed here, you should also read some secondary literature in order to prepare for the oral exam. In particular, you should read at least one book each on the history of literature in Britain and in America (see, for example, the *Selected Bibliography* from the *Textual Analysis* module).

Many students find it helpful to form *Reading List* groups in which they discuss texts from the list with their peers. Such discussions will not only enrich your reading experience, but will also raise new questions. Why are there so many upper and middle-class, straight, white, Anglo-Saxon, Protestant men on the list? What are the political implications of subsuming diverse 20th-century literatures under the rubric "international"? And how can we justify the absence of popular authors such as J. R. R. Tolkien or Stephen King?

One last point: it goes without saying that the *Reading List* does not aim to replace your own reading; it intends to enrich it.

## 3. Reading Requirements

Your selection of texts for the Pflichtmodul Reading List English Literature must consist of the following:

- **Drama:** at least four plays, two of which must be by Shakespeare.
- Poetry: at least forty poems, twenty from before and twenty after 1789; your selection must contain at least four sonnets, two odes and two longer narrative poems.
- Longer Fiction: at least six novels; two from the eighteenth, two from the nineteenth, and two
  from the twentieth century.
- **Shorter Fiction:** at least two sets from two different periods.
- General Prose: at least two examples; one written before and one after 1789.

The basic textbook is the two-volume version of both *The Norton Anthology of English Literature* and *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*. However, some texts are not included in the anthologies and must be consulted separately.

Please note that instructors may add further specifications and restrictions concerning your selection of texts.

### 4. The Exam

The oral exam will take place towards the end of the semester in which the module has been booked. During the exam, a second instructor will be present as a *Beisitz*.

#### 5. List of Texts

Backgrou	Background Text				
General	The Bible	Genesis"			
Prose	(King James Version)				
Late 15th Century					
Drama		☐ Everyman			
Shorter Fiction	Sir Thomas Malory	☐ Morte Darthur (Norton selection)			

16th Ce	ntury		
Drama	Thomas Kyd	☐ The Spanish Tragedy	
	Christopher Marlowe	☐ Doctor Faustus ☐ The Jew of Malta	☐ Edward II
	William Shakespeare	Romeo and Juliet  Macbeth  King Lear  The Merchant of Venice  Taming of the Shrew  A Midsummer Night's Dream  Much Ado about Nothing  Henry V  Richard II  Richard III	☐ Othello ☐ Julius Caesar ☐ Hamlet ☐ Twelfth Night ☐ As You Like It ☐ Love's Labour's Lost ☐ Measure for Measure ☐ The Tempest ☐ The Winter's Tale
Poetry	William Shakespeare	Sonnets Indicate the number(s) of the sonnet(s	of your choice:
	Sir Philip Sidney	from <i>Astrophil and Stella</i> 1 ("Loving in truth, and fain in 31 ("With how sad steps, O Mo 72 ("Desire, though thou my ol	oon, thou climb'st the skies")
	Edmund Spenser	from Amoretti 34 ("Lyke as a ship that through the ocean 54 ("Of this worlds theatre in which we stay 64 ("Comming to kisse her lyps [such grace 74 ("Most happy letters framed by skilful tra 75 ("One day I wrote her name upon the st	
	Sir Thomas Wyatt	☐ "Whoso List to Hunt" ☐ "They Flee from Me"	
General	Sir Philip Sidney	"The Defence of Poesy" (Norton	selection)

17th Ce	ntury		
Drama	Aphra Behn	☐ The Rover	
	William Congreve	☐ The Way of the World	☐ Love for Love
	Ben Jonson	☐ Volpone	☐ The Alchemist
	Thomas Middleton	☐ The Revenger's Tragedy	☐ Women Beware Women
	John Webster	☐ The Duchess of Malfi	
	William Wycherley	☐ The Country Wife	
Poetry	John Donne	"The Canonization" "A Valediction: Forbidding "The Sun Rising"	Mourning"
	John Dryden	☐"Mac Flecknoe"	☐ "In Memory of Mr. Oldham"
	George Herbert	"Easter Wings"	☐ "Man"
	Andrew Marvell	"To His Coy Mistress"	"The Garden"
	John Milton	"Lycidas," "On the Late M  Paradise Lost: Books I & IX	lassacre in Piedmont" (, summaries of the other books
Shorter Fiction	Aphra Behn	☐ Oroonoko	
	John Bunyan	☐ The Pilgrim's Progress (Nor	ton selection)
General Prose	Thomas Hobbes	Leviathan ("Introduction")	
	Cotton Mather	☐ Wonders of the Invisible W	Vorld
	Mary Rowlandson	A Narrative of the Captivity Rowlandson	and Restoration of Mrs. Mary

18th Cen	18th Century			
Drama	John Gay	☐ The Beggar's Opera		
Poetry	Anne Bradstreet	e Bradstreet "Before the Birth of One of Her Children"  "By Night when Others Soundly Slept"  "The Author to Her Book"  "The Flesh and the Spirit"  "Verses upon the Burning of our House, July 18th		
	Thomas Gray	☐ "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"		
	Samuel Johnson	"On the Death of D		
	Alexander Pope	e The Rape of the Lock		
Longer Fiction	Charles Brockden Brown	☐ Wieland	☐ Edgar Huntly	
	Daniel Defoe	☐ Robinson Crusoe	☐ Moll Flanders	
	Henry Fielding	☐ Joseph Andrews	☐ Tom Jones	
	Samuel Richardson	☐ Pamela		
	Laurence Sterne	☐ Tristram Shandy	☐ A Sentimental Journey	
	Jonathan Swift	☐ Gulliver's Travels		
General Prose		☐ Declaration of Independence		
Prose	Thomas Paine	from <i>Common Sense</i> (III: "Thoughts on the Present State of American Affairs")		
	Samuel Johnson	☐ "Preface to <i>A Dictionary of the English Language</i> " (Norton selection)		
	Mary Wollstonecraft	☐ A Vindication of the Rights of Women (Norton selection)		

18th/19t	18th/19th Century: British – The Romantic Period				
Poetry	William Blake	☐ "London" ☐ "The Sick Rose"	☐ "The Lamb" ☐ "The Tyger"		
	George Gordon, Lord Byron	☐ Manfred	☐ Don Juan (Canto I & II)		
	Samuel Taylor Coleridge	☐ "Kubla Khan" ☐ "Frost at Midnight" ☐ "The Rime of the Ancient	Mariner"		
	Felicia Hemans	Casabianca"	"The Homes of England"		
	John Keats	☐ "Ode on a Grecian Urn" ☐ "Ode to a Nightingale"	☐ "The Eve of St. Agnes"		
	Percy Bysshe Shelley	Ode to the West Wind"	☐ "Ozymandias"		
	William Wordsworth	"Mutability" "Lucy Gray" "Lines Composed a Few I	a Cloud" stminster Bridge, September 3, 1802"  w Miles above Tintern Abbey" h of a Poet's Mind: Book I and one of		
Longer Fiction	Jane Austen	☐ Pride and Prejudice ☐ Emma	☐ Sense and Sensibility ☐ Mansfield Park		
	Walter Scott	☐ Waverley	☐ The Bride of Lammermoor		
	Mary Shelley	☐ Frankenstein, or The Mod	dern Prometheus		
General Prose	Percy Bysshe Shelley	☐ "A Defence of Poetry" (N	orton selection)		
	Dorothy Wordsworth	The Grasmere Journals (No Journal (Norton selection)	orton selection), <i>The Alfoxden</i>		
	William Wordsworth	☐ "Preface to <i>Lyrical Ballads</i>	и		

19th Cen	19th Century: British – The Victorian Period			
Drama	George Bernard Shaw	☐ Mrs. Warren's Profession ☐ Pygmalion		
	Oscar Wilde	☐ The Importance of Being Earnest		
Poetry	Matthew Arnold	☐ "Dover Beach"		
	Elizabeth Barrett Browning	☐ Aurora Leigh (Norton selection) ☐ from Sonnets from the Portuguese: 22 ("When our souls stand up erect and strong")		
	Robert Browning	"Fra Lippo Lippi" "My Last Duchess" "The Bishop Orders His Tomb at Saint Praxed's Church" "Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came"		
	Gerald Manley Hopkins	"God's Grandeur" Thou Art Indeed Just, Lord" "Spring and Fall"		
	Christina Rossetti	Goblin Market"		
	Alfred, Lord Tennyson	☐ "The Lady of Shalott" ☐ "Mariana"		
Longer Fiction	Charlotte Brontë	☐ Jane Eyre		
riction	Emily Brontë	☐ Wuthering Heights		
	Wilkie Collins	☐ The Woman in White		
	Charles Dickens	Great Expectations		
	Arthur Conan Doyle	☐ The Hound of the Baskervilles		
	George Eliot	☐ Middlemarch ☐ The Mill on the Floss		
	Elizabeth Gaskell	☐ North and South		
	Thomas Hardy	☐ Tess of the d'Urbervilles ☐ Jude the Obscure		
	Robert Louis Stevenson	☐ The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde		
	Bram Stoker	☐ Dracula		
	W. M. Thackeray	☐ Vanity Fair		
	Oscar Wilde	☐ The Picture of Dorian Gray		
General	Matthew Arnold	Culture and Anarchy (Norton selection)		
Prose	Thomas Carlyle	Sartor Resartus (Norton selection), Past and Present (Norton selection)		

19th Cei	ntury: American			
Poetry	Emily Dickinson	☐ 67 ("Success is counted sweetest") ☐ 280 ("I felt a Funeral, in my Brain") ☐ 465 (I heard a Fly buzz – when I died –")		
	Walt Whitman	from <i>Leaves of Grass:</i> "Song of Myself" (1-5) "Crossing Brooklyn Ferry" "Scented Herbage of My Breast"		
Shorter	Charlotte Perkins Gilman	☐ "The Yellow Wallpaper," "The Giant Wistaria," "Through This"		
Fiction	Nathaniel Hawthorne	☐ "The Birthmark," "Rappaccini's Daughter," "Young Goodman Brown"		
	Washington Irving	☐ "Rip van Winkle," "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"		
	Henry James	☐ The Turn of the Screw ☐ The Aspern Papers		
Herman Melville    "Bartleby, the Scrivener"   Benito Cereno   Billy Budd, Sailor    Choose three of the following (equals one set):		Benito Čereno		
		$\hfill \Box$ Choose three of the following and indicate your selection here (equals one set):		
		"Ligeia" "The Fall of the House of Usher" "William Wilson" "The Pit and the Pendulum" "The Black Cat" "The Man of the Crowd" "The Oval Portrait" "The Purloined Letter"		
Longer Fiction	James Fenimore Cooper	☐ The Last of the Mohicans		
riction	Stephen Crane	☐ The Red Badge of Courage		
	Nathaniel Hawthorne	☐ The Scarlet Letter		
	Herman Melville	☐ Moby Dick		
	Harriet Beecher Stowe	☐ Uncle Tom's Cabin		
	Mark Twain	☐ Adventures of Huckleberry Finn		
General	Frederick Douglass	☐ "What, to the Slave, Is the Fourth of July?"		
Prose	Ralph Waldo Emerson	☐ "Nature" ☐ "Self-Reliance," "Experience"		
	Margaret Fuller	The Great Lawsuit"		
	Henry David Thoreau	"On the Duty of Civil Disobedience"  Walden (Norton selection)		

20th Century: UK & Ireland	
Drama         Samuel Beckett         ☐ Endgame         ☐ Waiting for Godot	
Caryl Churchill	
John Osborne	
Harold Pinter	
Tom Stoppard Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead	
Poetry W. H. Auden ☐ "Musée des Beaux Arts"  T. S. Eliot ☐ "The Waste Land"	
"The Waste Land "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"	
William Butler Yeats "The Wild Swans at Coole"	
"Sailing to Byzantium" " "Leda and the Swan"	
The manning of the ma	
Shorter Joseph Conrad Heart of Darkness Fiction &	
Shorter James Joyce	
Selection	
Longer J. G. Ballard Empire of the Sun Crash	
Pat Barker Regeneration	
Julian Barnes	
Malcolm Bradbury	
Anthony Burgess	
A. S. Byatt Possession	
Angela Carter	
E. M. Forster  A Passage to India  Howards End	
John Fowles	
Graham Greene The Power and the Glory	
Christopher Isherwood Goodbye to Berlin	
Hanif Kureishi	
D. H. Lawrence Sons and Lovers Women in Love	
lan McEwan	
George Orwell 1984	
Colm Tóibín	
Rebecca West The Return of the Soldier	
Virginia Woolf ☐ Mrs. Dalloway ☐ Orlando ☐ To the Lighthouse	

20th Ce	ntury: American	
Drama	Edward Albee	☐ Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?
	Lillian Hellman	☐ The Children's Hour ☐ Toys in the Attic
	Tony Kushner	☐ Angels in America (Part I & II)
	Arthur Miller	☐ Death of a Salesman ☐ The Crucible
	Eugene O'Neill	☐ A Long Day's Journey into Night
	Tennessee Williams	☐ A Streetcar Named Desire
		☐ Cat on a Hot Tin Roof
Poetry	Elizabeth Bishop	☐ "At the Fishhouses" ☐ "The Armadillo"
	Countee Cullen	☐ "Yet Do I Marvel"
	E. E. Cummings	"I(a" (a.k.a. the Falling Leaf poem)
	Lawrence Ferlinghetti	☐ "Dog"
	Allen Ginsberg	☐ "Howl"
	Ezra Pound	☐ "L'Art"
	Adrienne Rich	☐ "Diving into the Wreck" ☐ "Orion" ☐ "Song"
	Anne Sexton	Double Image"
	Wallace Stevens	"Of Mere Being" "The Idea of Order at Key West" "Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Plackbird"
	William Carlos Williams	☐ "Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird" ☐ "The Red Wheelbarrow" ☐ "This Is Just to Say"
Shorter Fiction	Saul Bellow	☐ Seize the Day
		Choose three of the following and indicate your selection here (equals one set):
	John Barth	"Lost in the Funhouse"
	Tim O'Brien	"How to Tell a True War Story"
	Raymond Carver	"Cathedral"
	Flannery O'Connor	"The Life You Save May Be Your Own"
		"Good Country People"
	Ernest Hemingway	"The Snows of Kilimanjaro" "The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber"
	Katherine Anne Porter	"Pale Horse, Pale Rider" "Old Mortality"
	Annie Proulx	"Brokeback Mountain"
	Gertrude Stein	"The Good Anna" (from <i>Three Lives</i> )
	John Updike	"A & P"

20th Cen	tury: American (continued)		
onger	Paul Auster	☐ The New York Trilogy	
iction	James Baldwin	Go Tell It on the Mountain	1
	Willa Cather	☐ My Ántonia	O Pioneers!
	Don DeLillo	☐ White Noise	
	Bret Easton Ellis	☐ American Psycho	
	Ralph Ellison	☐ Invisible Man	
	Jeffrey Eugenides	☐ The Virgin Suicides	
	William Faulkner	☐ As I Lay Dying ☐ Absalom, Absalom!	☐ Light in August☐ Sound and the Fury
	F. Scott Fitzgerald	☐ The Great Gatsby	
	Ernest Hemingway	☐ The Sun Also Rises (a.k.a	Fiesta)
	Zora Neal Hurston	☐ Their Eyes Were Watching	God
	Henry James	☐ The Wings of the Dove	☐ The Golden Bowl
	Maxine Hong Kingston	China Men	☐ Tripmaster Monkey
	N. Scott Momaday	☐ House Made of Dawn	
	Toni Morrison	☐ Sula	☐ Beloved
	Vladimir Nabokov	☐ Pale Fire	
	Sylvia Plath	☐ The Bell Jar	
	Thomas Pynchon	☐ The Crying of Lot 49	
	Philip Roth	American Pastoral	☐ The Human Stain
	John Steinbeck	☐ The Grapes of Wrath	
	Edith Wharton	☐ The House of Mirth	

20th Ce	20th Century: International					
Poetry	Wole Soyinka (Nigeria)	"Telephone Conversation"				
	Derek Walcott (Saint Lucia)	☐ "A Far Cry from Africa"				
Longer Fiction	Chinua Achebe (Nigeria)	☐ Things Fall Apart				
	Margaret Atwood (Canada)	☐ The Handmaid's Tale				
	J. M. Coetzee (South Africa)	☐ Waiting for the Barbarians	☐ Foe			
	Fred D'Aguiar (Guyana)	Feeding the Ghosts				
	Janet Frame (New Zealand)	☐ An Angel at My Table				
	Wilson Harris (Guyana)	Palace of the Peacock				
	David Malouf (Australia)	Remembering Babylon				
	Alice Munro (Canada)	Lives of Girls and Women				
	Jean Rhys (Dominica)	☐ Wide Sargasso Sea				
	Salman Rushdie (India-UK)	☐ Midnight's Children	☐ Shame			