FIELD V: BRITISH LITERATURE FROM 1660-1800

REVISED: DECEMBER 2018

EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 2020

STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS

Graduate students taking the field exam in English Literature 1660-1800 must be conversant on all primary and secondary texts on the reading list. Their responses to questions should demonstrate an ability to answer complex questions directly, thoughtfully, and concisely. Their responses should make connections among multiple primary texts and incorporate relevant criticism in a manner that indicates familiarity with influential critical perspectives. In addition, their answers should incorporate clear theses, structured arguments, and accurate prose. Students should demonstrate an awareness of the historical, cultural, and bibliographic contexts in which English literary works were composed, disseminated, and received in this period. Graduate students must receive a passing score on all questions in order to pass this exam.
READING LIST

PRIMARY WORKS:

** Indicates items included complete in the Broadview Anthology of British Literature, vol. 3: The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century (2nd ed., 2012); * indicates excerpts.

FICTION
Margaret Cavendish. *The Blazing World*
Aphra Behn. *Oroonoko* 
Daniel Defoe. *Robinson Crusoe*
---. *Moll Flanders*
Samuel Richardson. *Pamela*
---. *Clarissa* (abridged, as in Broadview)
Eliza Heywood. *Love in Excess*
Henry Fielding. *Joseph Andrews*
---. *Tom Jones*
Samuel Johnson. *Rasselas*
Laurence Sterne. *Tristram Shandy*
---. *Sentimental Journey*
Horace Walpole. *The Castle of Otranto*
Tobias Smollett. *The Expedition of Humphrey Clinker*
Oliver Goldsmith. *The Vicar of Wakefield*
Fanny Burney. *Evelina*
William Beckford. *Vathek*
Ann Radcliffe. *The Italian*
Matthew Lewis. *The Monk*

DRAMA
John Dryden. *All for Love*
George Etherege. *The Man of Mode*
Aphra Behn. *The Rover*
William Wycherley. *The Country Wife*
William Congreve. *The Way of the World*
John Gay. *The Beggar’s Opera*
Oliver Goldsmith. *She Stoops to Conquer*
Richard Brinsley Sheridan. *The School for Scandal*

VERSE and NONFICTION PROSE
*The Age of Authors: An Anthology of Eighteenth-Century Print Culture*, ed. Paul Keen (Broadview, 2013)
Samuel Butler, *Hudibras*
John Bunyan. *Pilgrim’s Progress*
John Dryden. *Absalom and Achitophel***

---. *An Essay of Dramatic Poesy*

---. *Macflecknoe***

---. Preface to *Fables, Ancient and Modern*

---. *Religio Laici*

John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester. Selected poems.**

Jonathan Swift. *Gulliver’s Travels***

---. “A Modest Proposal”**

---. *A Tale of a Tub*

---. Selected poems**

---. “Verses on the Death of Doctor Swift”**


---. “Epistle to Bathurst”

---. “Epistle to Burlington”**

---. “Epistle to Cobham”

---. “Epistle to a Lady”**

---. *An Essay on Criticism*

---. *The Rape of the Lock***

Mary Wortley Montague. Selected letters**

James Thomson. “Winter”**

Samuel Johnson. Essays selected from *The Rambler* and *The Idler***

---. From *Lives of the Poets*: Dryden, Milton*, Pope*, Savage

---. Preface to *The Works of Shakespeare* *

---. “The Vanity of Human Wishes”**

David Hume. *Essays* (selected, as in Oxford World’s Classics)

---. *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding OR Concerning the Principles of Morals*

Thomas Gray. “Elegy in a Country Churchyard,” and other verse**

Edmund Burke. *Enquiry into ... the Sublime and the Beautiful* (selections)**

Oliver Goldsmith. “The Deserted Village”**

William Cowper. Selected poems**

Edward Gibbon. *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* (abridged, as in Penguin)

Mary Wollstonecraft. *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*

SECONDARY/CRITICAL WORKS:

Anthology:


Secondary sources and criticism:


Marshall, Ashley. *The Practice of Satire in England 1658-1770*


Companions and Introductions:


Biographies of Major Figures:


General Studies:


Nisbet, H. B., and Claude Rawson, eds. *The Cambridge History of Literary Criticism,* vol. 4:


