**MA Comp-Exam Reading List Spring 2015**

***Medieval***

Old English Literature:

Bede’s *Ecclesiastical History of the English People*: “Account of the Poet Cædmon”

(w/ “Cædmon’s Hymn”)

“The Dream of the Rood”

Middle English Literature:

Langland: *Piers Plowman* (Passus 18)

Julian of Norwich: *A Book of Showings* (*Revelations of Divine Love*)Long Text Chapters 1-11, 25-28, 50-63, 83-86 (Modernized version by Elizabeth and A. C. Spearing in the Penguin edition recommended.)

Margery Kempe: *The Book of Margery Kempe,* from Chapters 1, 2, 11, 18, 28, 52, 76 (Norton

Anthology selections)

*The Second Shepherds’ Play*

*Everyman*

***Renaissance and Seventeenth Century***

The Sonnet Tradition

* Sir Philip Sidney: *Astrophil and Stella*, 1 (“Loving in truth, and fain in verse my love to show”), 5 (“It is most true that eyes are formed to serve”), 6 (“Some lovers speak, when they their muses entertain”), 45 (“Stella oft sees the very face of woe”), 52 (“A strife is grown between Virtue and Love”), 53 (“In martial sports I had my cunning tried”), 71 (“Who will in fairest book of Nature know”), 74 (“I never drank of Aganippe well”), 81 (“O kiss, which dost those ruddy gems impart”), 108 (“When Sorrow (using mine own fire’s might)”)
* Edmund Spenser: *Amoretti*, 1 (“Happy ye leaves when as those lilly hands”), 34 (“Lyke as a ship that through the Ocean wyde”), 37 (“What guile is this, that those her golden tresses”), 67 (“Lyke as a huntsman after weary chace”), 68 (“Most glorious Lord of lyfe, that on this day”), 75 (“One day I wrote her name upon the strand”), 79 (“Men call you fayre, and you doe credit it”)

Edmund Spenser: *Shepheards Calendar* (January, April and October eclogues); *The* *Faerie Queene*, Book 1, cantos 1-5, 10-12; *Epithalamion*

Christopher Marlowe: *Hero and Leander*

William Shakespeare: Twelfth Night, The Tempest

Thomas Middleton and Thomas Dekker: *The Roaring Girl*

John Webster: The Duchess of Malfi

The Metaphysical Lyric

* Andrew Marvell: “To His Coy Mistress,” “The Coronet,” “The Garden”

The Cavalier or Early Neoclassical Mode

* Andrew Marvell: “An Horatian Ode”

***Restoration and Eighteenth Century***

John Dryden: “Mac Flecknoe,” “Absalom and Achitophel”

Alexander Pope: *The Rape of the Lock*

Jonathan Swift: *Gulliver’s Travels,* “Verses on the Death of Dr. Swift,” “A Modest Proposal”

Samuel Johnson: *Rasselas,* “The Vanity of Human Wishes”

James Boswell: *Life of Johnson* (Hibbert’s Abridged Edition)

***Nineteenth-Century British***

William Blake: *Songs of Innocence and Experience*

William Wordsworth: “Tintern Abbey,” “Ode: Intimations of Immortality,” “Resolution and Independence,” “Elegiac Stanzas,” *Michael, The Prelude* I-II (1805 edition), Preface to the Second Edition of *Lyrical Ballads*

S.T. Coleridge: *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*, *Christabel*, “Kubla Khan,” “Frost at Midnight,” “This Lime-Tree Bower My Prison,” “Dejection: An Ode”

Lord Byron: *Childe Harold’s Pilgrimage*, selections printed in the Norton anthology (8th edition); *Don Juan*, selections printed in the Norton anthology (8th edition); *Manfred*

P.B. Shelley: “Ode to the West Wind,” “The Cloud,” “Hymn to Intellectual Beauty,” “To a Sky- Lark,” *Adonais*, “Mont Blanc”

Lord Tennyson: “The Lady of Shalott,” “The Lotos-Eaters,” “Ulysses,” “Tithonus,” “Locksley Hall,” *In Memoriam*

Robert Browning: “My Last Duchess,” “Andrea del Sarto,” “Fra Lippo Lippi,” “The Bishop Orders His Tomb,” “Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came,” “Abt Vogler”

Matthew Arnold: “Memorial Verses,” “The Scholar Gypsy,” “Dover Beach,” “Stanzas from the Grande Chartreuse”

G.M. Hopkins: “God’s Grandeur,” “The Windhover,” “Pied Beauty,” “Spring and Fall,” “Carrion Comfort,” “No Worst, There Is None,” “I Wake and Feel the Fell of Dark, Not Day,” “Thou Art Indeed Just, Lord”

# *Twentieth-Century British/Postcolonial*

W. B. Yeats: “The Stolen Child,” “The Lake Isle of Innisfree,” “Adam’s Curse,” “September 1913,” “The Wild Swans at Coole,” “Easter 1916,” “The Second Coming,” “Sailing to Byzantium,” “Leda and the Swan,” “Among School Children,” “Lapis Lazuli,” “The Circus Animals’ Desertion,” “Under Ben Bulben”

Seamus Heaney: “Digging,” “Punishment,” “The Strand at Lough Beg,” “Station Island”

Derek Walcott: “A Far Cry from Africa,” “Laventille,” “Ruins of a Great House,”

“North and South,” “The Fortunate Traveller”

Wole Soyinka: *Death and the King’s Horseman*

Joseph Conrad: *Heart of Darkness*

E. M. Forster: *A Passage to India*

Salman Rushdie: *The Satanic Verses*

J. M. Coetzee: *Disgrace*

***American Literature Prior to 1860***

Jonathan Edwards: “Personal Narrative,” “A Divine and Supernatural Light,” “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”

Ralph Waldo Emerson: “The American Scholar,” “The Divinity School Address,” *Nature*

Harriet Jacobs: *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*

Herman Melville: *Moby-Dick*

***American Literature 1860 to Present***

Emily Dickinson: “I never lost as much but twice—”; “Success is counted sweetest”; “I’m‘wife’—I’ve finished that—”; “Some keep the Sabbath going to Church”;

“I’m Nobody! Who are you?”; “Wild Nights—Wild Nights!”; “I like a look of Agony”;

“I felt a Funeral, in my Brain”; “A Bird came down the walk—”; “After great pain, a formal feeling comes ”; “I dwell in Possibility—”; “I heard a Fly buzz—when I died—”;

“Much Madness is divinest Sense—”; “What Soft—Cherubic Creatures—”; “’Nature’

is what We see—”; “Publication—is the Auction”; “Tell all the Truth but tell it slant”; “What mystery pervades a well!”;“Apparently with no surprise”; “Of God we ask one favor, that we may be forgiven—”

Mary E. Wilkins Freeman: “A New England Nun,” “The Revolt of Mother”

W. E. B. Dubois: *The Souls of Black Folk*: “Of Our Spiritual Strivings” and “Of Mr. Booker T. Washington and Others”

Wallace Stevens: “Peter Quince at the Clavier,” “Sunday Morning,” “Anecdote of the Jar,”

            “The Snow Man,” “A High-Toned Old Christian Woman,” “The Emperor of Ice Cream,”

            “The Idea of Order at Key West,” “Of Modern Poetry”

Ernest Hemingway: *The Sun Also Rises*

Arthur Miller: *Death of a Salesman*

Adrienne Rich: “Aunt Jennifer’s Tiger’s,” “Diving into the Wreck,” “Snapshots of a Daughter-in- Law,” “Seven Skins”

Louise Erdrich: *Love Medicine*

Gish Jen: “Who’s Irish?”