

## Major Field Exam in World Literature: Option A

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Exam Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Once approved by the supervisor, the candidate's list will be submitted to the Graduate Study Committee at least two months before the written examination. The list should be presented as an annotated version of this main list, indicating how the student has met the requirements outlined, and what changes or substitutions have been made.

Most texts can be found in *The Norton Anthology of World Literature*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition.

### Section A: Critical Theory

*This sublist is mandatory, although students may replace 20% of the titles with works of their own choosing.*

1. Auerbach, Erich. *Mimesis: The Representation of Reality in Western Literature*
2. Anzaldúa, Gloria. from *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza* (Selections)
3. Apter, Emily. *Against World Literature : On the Politics of Untranslatability*.
4. Bhabha, Homi K. *The Location of Culture*.
5. Bakhtin, Mikhail. *The Dialogic Imagination: Four Essays*
6. Casanova, Pascale. *The World Republic of Letters*.
7. Chadwick, Allen. *Trans-Indigenous: Methodologies for Global Native Literary Studies*.
8. Cheah, Pheng and Bruce Robbins, eds. *Cosmopolitics: Thinking and Feeling Beyond the Nation*.
9. Damrosch, David. *What is World Literature?*
10. ---. ed. *World Literature in Theory*
11. D'haen, Theo, David Damrosch and Djelal Kadir, eds. *The Routledge Companion to World Literature* (Selections)
12. Dimock, Wai Chee. *Through Other Continents: American Literature across Deep Time*.
13. Felski, Rita and Susan Stanford Friedman, eds. *Comparison: Theories, Approaches, Uses*.
14. Goeman, Mishuana. *Mark my Words: Native Women Mapping our Nations*.
15. Hayot, Eric. *On Literary Worlds*.
16. Moretti, Franco. *Distant Reading*.
17. Mufti, Aamir R. *Forget English! Orientalism and World Literature*.
18. Robbins, Bruce and Paulo Lemos Horta, eds. *Cosmopolitanisms*. (Selections)
19. Said, Edward. *Orientalism*.
20. Spivak, Gayatri. *In Other Worlds: Essays in Cultural Politics*. (Selections)
21. ---. *Death of a Discipline*.
22. Walkowitz, Rebecca L. *Born Translated: The Contemporary Novel in an Age of World Literature*.

## Section B: World Literature: Foundational Texts by Genre, before 1800

*This sublist is mandatory, although students may replace 20% of the titles with works of their own choosing.*

❖ *Students can navigate this sublist in several ways*

— *choose 2 of the 5 genre sections below, as indicated (e.g. Epic and Drama, or Poetry and Early Novels and narratives, etc.)*

— *choose 2 regions, two genres, in 1 time period (e.g.: Ancient European and Asian Epic and Drama)*

— *choose 2 regions, 1 genre, in 2 time periods (e.g. Ancient and Early Modern Poetry in Europe and Asia)*

— *or another equivalent selection preferred by the candidate and approved by the Graduate Study Committee*

### I. Epic

#### Choose 3

##### 1. Ancient Mesopotamia

- *The Epic of Gilgamesh* (ca. 1900–250 B. C. E.)

##### 2. Ancient Greece

- Homer (8<sup>th</sup> century B. C. E.), *The Iliad* **OR** *The Odyssey*

##### 3. Ancient Rome

- Virgil (70–19 B. C. E.) *The Aeneid*, Norton selections (Books I, II, IV, VI, from Book VIII, from Book XII)

##### 4. Ancient India

- *The Rāmāyana of Vālmīki* (ca. 550 B. C. E.) Norton selections

##### 5. Medieval Persia

- Abolqasem Ferdowsi (940–1020), Norton selections from *The Shahnameh*

##### 6. *Sunjata: A West African Epic of the Mande Peoples* (late 13<sup>th</sup> –early 14<sup>th</sup> century)

##### 7. *Popol Vuh* (1554–58), Norton selections

### II. Poetry

#### Choose 2 periods

Ancient: Choose 3 between sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Classical: sections 6, 7

Medieval: sections 8, 9, 10

Early Modern: 11, 12

1. Ancient Egyptian literature

- *The Story of Sinuhe* (19<sup>th</sup> century B. C. E.)
- ***Egyptian love poems*** (Norton selections)

2. Early Chinese Literature and Thought (choose 2)

- *Classic of Poetry* (ca. 1000–600 B. C. E.)
- Confucius (551–479 B. C. E.), from *Analects*
- Laozi (6<sup>th</sup>–3<sup>rd</sup> centuries B. C. E.), from *Daodejing*
- *Songs of the South* (ca. 4<sup>th</sup> century B. C. E.–2<sup>nd</sup> century CE)
- Zhuangzi (4<sup>th</sup>–2<sup>nd</sup> centuries B. C. E.) Norton selections.

3. Ancient India (choose 1)

- *The Mahabharata* (ca. 400 B. C. E.–400 CE) Norton selections
- *The Bhagavad-Gītā*

4. Ancient Greece

- Sappho (born ca. 630 B. C. E.), selections

5. Ancient Rome (choose 1)

- Catullus (ca. 84–ca. 54 B. C. E.), Poems 1, 3, 5, 13, 51, 76, 101, 107.
- Ovid (43 B. C. E. –17 CE) *Metamorphoses*, from Books I, II, V, IX, X.

6. India's Classical Age (choose 1)

- ***Classical Tamil lyric*** (ca. 100 B. C. E. and 250 C. E.) Norton selections
- ***Classical Sanskrit lyric*** (ca. 500–) Norton selections by Bhartrhari, Three Women Poets, Banā, Murari, Yogeśvara)

7. Japan's Classical Age (choose 1)

- *The Man'yōshū* (*Collection of Myriad Leaves*) (ca. 759), Norton selections
- ***Poetry of the Heian Court*** Norton selections by Sugawara No Michizane (845–903)

8. Medieval Mediterranean (choose 2)

- *Beowulf* (9<sup>th</sup> century) **OR** *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* (late 14<sup>th</sup> century)
- *The Song of Roland* (11<sup>th</sup> century), Norton selections **OR** Marie de France (1150? – 1200?), from *The Lais*, Norton selections
- ***Medieval lyrics*** (Norton transnational selections)
- Dante Alighieri (1265–1321), from *The Divine Comedy* (Norton selections)
- Jalal Ad-din Muhammad Rumi (1207-1273), Norton selections
- Kebra Nagast (14<sup>th</sup> century), from *The Glory of Kings* (Norton selections)
- Giovanni Boccaccio (1313–1375), from the *Decameron* (Norton selections)
- Geoffrey Chaucer (1340? –1400), from *The Canterbury Tales* (Norton selections)

- Christine de Pizan (c.1364–c.1431), from *The Book of the City of Ladies* (Norton selections)

9. Medieval China (choose 1)

- Tao Qian (365–427), *Norton* selections
- Hanshan (c. 600–800), *Norton* selections **AND Tang Poetry**, *Norton* selections
- **Women in Early China** Liu Xian (ca. 79–8 B.C.E.) (distributed); Ban Zhao (ca. 45–120); (distributed); Yuan Cai (ca. 1140–1195) (distributed); Yuan Zhen (779–831) (*Norton* selection)

10. **Indian Poetry after Islam** (ca. 12<sup>th</sup> century to 17<sup>th</sup> century) *Norton* selections by Basavannā, Mahādevīyakkā, Kabir, Mīrabāī, and Tukaram.

11. **Petrarch and the love lyric** (14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> century) *Norton* transnational selections

12. **The World of Haiku** (17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century) *Norton* selections.

### III. Drama

#### Choose 2

1. Ancient Athenian Drama (choose 2)

- Aeschylus (ca. 524–456 B. C. E.), *Agamemnon*
- Sophocles (ca. 496–406 B. C. E.), *Oedipus the King* **OR** *Antigone*
- Euripides (ca. 480–406 B. C. E.), *Medea* **OR** *Trojan Women*,
- Aristophanes (ca. 450–ca. 385 B. C. E.), *Lysistrata*,
- Plato (429–347 B. C. E.), *Symposium*.

2. East Asian Drama

- **Japan:** *Noh*, Zeami Motokiyo (ca. 1363–1443) *Atsumori*.
- **China:** *Chuanqi*, Kong Shangren (1648–1718) from *The Peach Blossom Fan* (1699).
- **Japan:** *Puppet Theatre*, Chikamatsu Monzaemon (1653–1725), from *The Love Suicides at Amijima*.
- **Korea:** *p'ansori* narrative drama. *The Song of Ch'un-Hyang* (18<sup>th</sup> century).

3. European Drama

- William Shakespeare (1564–1616), *Othello, the Moor of Venice* **OR** *The Tempest*
- Molière (Jean-Baptiste Poquelin) (1622–1673) *Tartuffe*.

### IV. Tales, Stories, and Myths

#### Choose 6

1. **Creation and the Cosmos.** *Norton* transnational selections: *The Great Hymn to the Aten*,

The Babylonian Creation Epic (*Enuma Elish*), Hesiod, from *Theogony* and *Works and Days*, Early Greek philosophy (selections), Lucretius, from *On the Nature of Things*.

2. Ancient Egyptian literature

- Setne Khamwas and Naneferkaptah (Setne 1) (ca. 250 B. C. E.)
- Stela of Taimhotep (42 B. C. E.)

3. The Hebrew Bible (ca. 1000–300 B. C. E.)

- Genesis, chapters 1–11.
- [Abraham and Isaac] 21, 22
- The Story of Joseph 37, 39–45
- *The Book of Judith*  
[https://www.coptics.info/Bible\\_Study/Bible/The%20Book%20of%20Judith.pdf](https://www.coptics.info/Bible_Study/Bible/The%20Book%20of%20Judith.pdf)

4. Ancient Greece

- Aesop, *Fables* (ca. 620–564 B. C. E.)

5. ***Tales of Travel and Conquest***. Norton transnational selections including *Tale of the Shipwrecked Sailor* (ca. 1900 B. C. E.), *Senna Stela of Senwosret III* (ca. 1830 B. C. E.), Herodotus, *Histories* (ca. 484–425 B. C. E.), Book I, and selections from Book II, Aeschylus, from *Persians* (472 B. C. E.), *Airs, Waters, Places* (late 5<sup>th</sup> century)

6. Ancient India

- The Jātaka (4<sup>th</sup> century B. C. E.)

7. The Christian Bible: Norton selections from the New Testament (ca. 1<sup>st</sup> century CE)

8. The Qur'an (610–632), Norton selections

9. *The Thousand and One Nights* (14<sup>th</sup> century), Prologue and first 10 stories (Norton selections)

10. ***Tales of Travel and Encounter*** Norton transnational selections including Marco Polo, from *The Diversity of the World*, Ibn Battuta, from *Travels*, and From *The Book of John Mandeville*

11. India's Classical Age

- Visnuśarman (2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> century), from *Pañcatantra*

12. Japan's Classical Age

- Kamo No Chōmei (ca. 1155–1216), *An Account of a Ten-Foot-Square Hut* **OR** *The Tales of the Heike* (14<sup>th</sup> century), Norton selections. 25

13. ***The Encounter of Europe and the New World*** Norton selections including: from the Huarochirī manuscript, C. Columbus, *Letter concerning the first voyage*, P. Vaz de Caminha, from *Letter to King Manuel*, H. Cortés, from *The Second Letter*, The Florentine Codex, from Book 12, *The Conquest of Mexico*, B. de las Casas, from *A Short Account of*

*the Destruction of the Indies*, J. de Léry, from *History of a Voyage to the Land of Brazil*, I. Garcilaso de la Vega, from *Royal Commentaries of the Incas and General History of Peru*, G. Poma de Ayala, from *The First New Chronicle and good Government*

- Selections from *The Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents: Travels and Explorations of the Jesuit Missionaries in New France 1610–1791*  
<http://moses.creighton.edu/kripke/jesuitrelations/>

## V. Early Novels/Narratives/Tales

Choose 2, in 2 regions

### 1. Japan's Classical Age

- Murasaki Shikibu (ca. 978–c. 1014), from *The Tale of Genji*, from Chapters I, II, V, VII, IX, X, XII, XIII, XXV, XL, XLI

### 2. Early Modern Europe

- *The Abencerraje* (16<sup>th</sup> century)
- Miguel de Cervantes (1547–1616), from *Don Quixote* (Norton selections) **OR** Lope de Vega (1562–1635), *Fuenteovejuna*
- Marguerite de Navarre (1492–1549), from *The Heptameron* (Norton selections)

### 3. Early Modern East Asia

- **China** Wu Cheng'en (ca. 1500–1582) from *The Journey to the West* **OR** Cao Xueqin (ca. 1715–1763) from *The Story of the Stone*. Norton selections.
- **Korea** Hō Kyun (att.) (1569–1618) *The Tale of Hong Kiltong*, Norton selections, **OR** Lady Hyegyōng (1642–1816) Norton selections.
- **Japan** Ihara Saikaku (1642–1693) from *Life of a Sensuous Woman*

### 4. 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Europe

- Aphra Behn (1640?–1689) *Oroonoko; or, The Royal Slave*. 48
- Jonathan Swift (1667–1745) from *Gulliver's Travels*. Norton selections **AND** "A Modest Proposal" 56
- Voltaire (François-Marie Arouet) (1694–1778) *Candide, or Optimism* **OR** *Zadig or Destiny: An Oriental Tale*. 64
- J.-J. Rousseau (1712–1778), from *Confessions*. Norton selections.

## Section C: World Literature from the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup> century

❖ *Choose three of the six sections, as indicated*

### I. An Age of Revolutions in Europe and the Americas

Choose 3

1. **Revolutionary Contexts** Norton selections including US *Declaration of Independence*, French *Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen*, and transnational selections by O. de Gouges, E. Burke, J.-J. Dessalines, William Wordsworth, Simón Bolívar, as well as the *Declaration of Sentiments* (The Seneca Falls Women's Rights Convention of 1848)
2. Olaudah Equiano (ca. 1745–1797), from *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African, Written by Himself*.
3. Frederick Douglass (1818–1895), from *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American-Slave*
4. Herman Melville (1819–1895), “Bartleby, the Scrivener.”
5. **Romantic Poets and their Successors** Norton selections A. L. Barbauld, W. Blake
  - a. (choose two poems from *Songs of Innocence* and two from *Songs of Experience*, as well as 2 poems by W. Wordsworth, S. T. Coleridge, J. Keats, G. Leopardi, C. Baudelaire, E. Dickinson, C. Rossetti, R. de Castro, S. Mallarmé, A. Rimbaud, R. Darío

### II. At the Crossroads of Empire

Choose 3

1. **Vietnam** Nguyễn Du (1765–1820) Norton selections from *The Tale of Kiều*
2. **India and Pakistan** Ghalib (1797–1869) Norton selections of poetry
3. **China** Liu E (1857–1909) Norton selections
4. **India** Pandita Ramabai (1858–1922) Norton selections
5. **Tanganyika [Tanzania]** Machemba (late 19<sup>th</sup> century) Letter to Major von Wissmann
6. **U.S.A** Mark Twain (1825–1910) from *King Leopold's Soliloquy*
7. **Poetry and Politics** Norton transnational selections from A. Bunina, P.B. Shelley, H. Heine, A. Mickiewicz, E. Barrett Browning, W. Whitman, Speranza, Lady Jane Wilde, L. Rodríguez de Tió, José Martí, R. Darío (choose five)

### III. Realism across the World

Choose 7, including section 10

1. Fyodor Dostoyefsky (1821–1881) *Notes from Underground*.
2. Gustave Flaubert, (1821–1880) *A Simple Heart*.
3. Leo Tolstoy (1828–1910) *The Death of Ivan Ilyich*.
4. Henrik Ibsen (1828–1906) *Hedda Gabler*.
5. Joaquim Maria Machado de Assis (1839–1908) “The Cane.”
6. José López Portillo y Rojas (1850–1923) “Unclaimed Watch.”
7. Anton Chekhov (1860–1904) *The Cherry Orchard* OR *The Lady with the Dog*.
8. Rabindranath Tagore (1861–1941) “Punishment,” “Kabuliwala”

9. Higuchi Ichiyō (1872–1896) “Separate Ways.”
10. *Orature*. Norton transnational selection of folktales and stories.

#### **IV. Modernity and Modernism, 1900–1945**

**Choose 10 texts (from more than one region), including sections 18 and 19**

1. Joseph Conrad (1875–1924) *Heart of Darkness*
2. Thomas Mann (1875–1955) *Death in Venice*
3. Marcel Proust (1871–1922) *Swann’s Way* Part 1. Combray
4. James Joyce (1882–1941) “The Dead”
5. Franz Kafka (1883–1924) *The Metamorphosis*
6. Lu Xun (1881–1936) “Diary of a Madman,” and “Ah Q—The Real Story”
7. Luigi Pirandello (1892–1936) *Six Characters in Search of an Author*
8. Akutagawa Ryūnosuke (1892–1927) “In a Bamboo Grove”
9. Kawabata Yasunari (1899–1972) “The Dancing Girl of Izu”
10. Virginia Woolf (1882–1941), from *A Room of One’s Own*
11. William Faulkner (1897–1962) “Barn Burning” and “Spotted Horses”
12. Kushi Fusako (1903–1986) “Memoirs of a Declining Ryukyuan Woman,” and “In Defense of ‘Memoirs of a Declining Ryukyuan Woman’”
13. Lao She (1899–1966) “An Old and Established Name”
14. Ch’ae Man-Sik (1902–1950) “My Innocent Uncle”
15. Jorge Luis Borges (1899–1986) “The Garden of Forking Paths” and “The Library of Babel”
16. Bertolt Brecht (1898–1956) *The Good Woman of Setzuan*
17. Zhang Ailing (1920–1995) “Sealed Off”
  
18. *Modern Poetry* Transnational Norton selection of poetry by C. Cavafy, W. B. Yeats, R. M. Rilke, T. S. Eliot, A. Akhmatova, F. García Lorca, P. Neruda, A. Césaire, O. Paz.
  
19. *Manifestos* Transnational Norton selections by F. T. Marinetti, Chen Duxiu, A. Breton, Black Panthers Party, V. Solanas

#### **V. Postwar, Postcolonial Literature**

**Choose 10**

1. Julio Cortázar (1914–1984) “House Taken Over”
2. Tadeusz Borowski (1922–1951) “This Way for the Gas, Ladies and Gentlemen”
3. Paul Celan (1920–1970) “Deathfugue” and “Zurich, at the Stork”
4. Doris Lessing (1919–2013) “The Old Chief Mshlanga”
5. James Baldwin (1924–1987) “Notes of a Native Son”
6. Albert Camus (1913–1960) “The Guest”
7. Samuel Beckett (1906–1989) *Endgame*
8. Vladimir Nabokov (1899–1977) “The Vane Sisters”
9. Clarice Lispector (1920–1977) “The Daydreams of a Drunk Woman”
10. Chinua Achebe (1930–2013) “Chike’s School Days”



11. Carlos Fuentes (1928–2012) *Aura*
12. Alexander Solzhenitsyn (1918–2008) *Matryona's House*
13. Naguib Mahfouz (1911–2006) “Zaabalawi”

## **VI. Contemporary Literature**

### **Choose 15, including at least one poetry selection**

1. Yehuda Amichai (1924–2000) *Norton* selection of poems
2. Derek Walcott (1930–2017) *Norton* selection of poems
3. Seamus Heaney (1939–2013) *Norton* selection of poems
4. Gabriel García Márquez (1928–2014) “Death Constant Beyond Love”
5. Ama Ata Aidoo (b. 1942) “Two Sisters”
6. Leslie Marmon Silko (b. 1948) “Yellow Woman”
7. Ngũgĩ Wa Thiong’o (b. 1938) “Wedding at the Cross”
8. Wole Soyinka (b. 1934) *Death and the King's Horseman*
9. Bessie Head (1937–1986) “The Deep River: A Story of Ancient Tribal Migration”
10. Nawal El Saadawi (b. 1931) “In Camera”
11. Ōe Kenzaburō (b. 1935) “The Clever Rain Tree”
12. Salman Rushdie (b. 1947) “The Perforated Sheet”
13. Park Wansuh (1931–2011) from *Mother's Hitching Post*
14. Hanan Al-Shaykh (b. 1945) “The Women's Swimming Pool”
15. Toni Morrison (b. 1931) “Recitatif”
16. Mo Yan (b. 1955) “The Old Gun”
17. Yu Hua (b. 1960) “On the Road at Eighteen”
18. Nguyen Huy Thiep (b. 1950) “The General Retires”
19. Isabel Allende (b. 1942) “And of Clay Are We Created”
20. Chu T'ien-Hsin (b. 1958) “Man of la Mancha”
21. Junot Díaz (b. 1968) “Drown”
22. Roberto Bolaño (1953–2003) “Sensini”
23. Orhan Pamuk (b. 1952) “To Look Out the Window”
24. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (b. 1977) “The Headstrong Historian”