Contemporary British and Anglophone Literature (post-1960)

Students preparing for a doctoral examination in this field are asked to compose a reading list, in conjunction with their exam committee, drawn from the core of writers and scholars whose work appears below. We expect students to add to, subtract from, and modify this list as suits their purposes and interests. Students are not responsible for reading everything on this section list; instead, they should create a personalized list of approximately 40-50 texts, using this list as a guide. However, at least 50% of a student’s examination reading should come from this list.

Fiction:
Aravind Adiga, *The White Tiger*
Kingsley Amis, *Lucky Jim*
Martin Amis, *London Fields, Time’s Arrow*
Margaret Atwood, *The Handmaid’s Tale, Cat’s Eye*
John Banville, *The Untouchable, The Sea*
Pat Barker, Regeneration trilogy (*Regeneration, The Eye in the Door, The Ghost Road*)
Julian Barnes, *Flaubert’s Parrot*
A.S. Byatt, *Possession*
Angela Carter, *The Bloody Chamber* (short stories), *Wise Children*
J.M. Coetzee, *Foe, Waiting for the Barbarians, Disgrace*
Emma Donoghue, *Room*
Roddy Doyle, Barrrytown trilogy, *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha*
Margaret Drabble, *The Millstone*
Anne Enright, *The Gathering*
Timothy Findley, *The Wars*
Penelope Fitzgerald, *Offshore*
John Fowles, *The French Lieutenant’s Woman*
Amitav Ghosh, Ibis trilogy (*Sea of Poppies, River of Smoke, Flood of Fire*)
Nadine Gordimer, *July’s People, The Conservationist*
Mark Haddon, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*
Kazuo Ishiguro, *The Remains of the Day, Never Let Me Go*
Hanif Kureshi, *The Buddha of Suburbia, My Beautiful Launderette*
Margaret Laurence, *This Side Jordan, The Stone Angel*
Andrea Levy, *Small Island*
Doris Lessing, *The Golden Notebook*
Hilary Mantel, Wolf Hall trilogy
Yann Martel, *Life of Pi*
Tom McCarthy, *Remainder*
Ian McEwan, *Saturday, Atonement, Amsterdam, On Chesil Beach*
Bernard MacLaverty, *Grace Notes*
David Mitchell, *Cloud Atlas*
Iris Murdoch, *The Sea, The Sea*
V.S. Naipaul, *The Enigma of Arrival*
David Park, *The Truth Commissioner, The Light of Amsterdam*
Mordecai Richler, *Solomon Gursky Was Here*
Arundhati Roy, *The God of Small Things*
Sam Selvon, *The Lonely Londoners*
Zadie Smith, *White Teeth*
Graham Swift, *Waterland*
Colm Tóibín, *The Master*
William Trevor, *Felicia’s Journey, The Collected Stories*
Irvine Welsh, *Trainspotting*
Jeanette Winterson, *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit, Written on the Body*

Poetry:
Anne Carson, *Autobiography of Red*
Ciara Carson, *Belfast Confetti*
Tony Harrison, *V*
Seamus Heaney, *Death of a Naturalist, North, Opened Ground: Selected Poems 1966-1996*
Geoffrey Hill, *Selected Poems*
Ted Hughes, *Selected Poems*
Linton Kwesi Johnson, *Mi Revalueshanary Fren*
Philip Larkin, *The Whitsun Weddings, High Windows*
Liz Lochhead, *A Choosing: Selected Poems*
Derek Mahon, *Selected Poems*
Sylvia Plath, *Ariel*

Drama:
Alan Bennett, *The History Boys*
Caryl Churchill, *Top Girls, Cloud Nine*
Brian Friel, *Translations, Dancing at Lughnasa*
David Hare, *The Judas Kiss*
Terry Johnson, *Hysteria*
Joan Littlewood, *Oh! What a Lovely War*
Martin McDonagh, *The Leenane Trilogy*
John Osborne, *Look Back in Anger (1956), The Entertainer (1957)*
Harold Pinter, *The Caretaker (1959), Betrayal, No Man’s Land*
Tom Stoppard, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, Arcadia, Indian Ink*

Secondary Sources:
Stuart Hall and Paul du Gay, eds., *Questions of Cultural Identity*