

Reading List: Modern and Contemporary Irish Literature

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.

Poetry:

W. B. Yeats

Patrick Kavanagh

Louis MacNeice

Thomas Kinsella

John Montague

Seamus Heaney

Rita Ann Higgins

Michael Longley

Derek Mahon

Ciaran Carson

Medbh McGuckian

Paul Muldoon

Eavan Boland

Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin

Paula Meehan

Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill

Dennis O'Driscoll

Cathal Ó Searcaigh

Chris Agee (ed.)—*The New North: Contemporary Poetry from Northern Ireland*

Short Fiction:

Sean O'Faolain—*The Short Story*

Ben Forkner (ed.)—*Modern Irish Short Stories*

W. B. Yeats—*Irish Fairy and Folk Tales*

George Moore—*The Untilled Field*

James Joyce—*Dubliners*

Elizabeth Bowen—*Collected Stories*

Frank O'Connor—*Collected Stories*

Mary Lavin—*In a Café: Selected Stories*

Edna O'Brien—*A Fanatic Heart: Selected Stories* (especially the stories from *Returning*)

William Trevor—*Collected Stories*

Bernard MacLaverty—*Collected Stories*

Éilís Ní Dhuibhne—*Midwife to the Fairies: New and Selected Stories*
Emma Donoghue—*The Woman Who Gave Birth to Rabbits*
Roddy Doyle—*The Deportees: and Other Stories*

Novels:

George Moore—*Esther Waters, A Drama in Muslin*
Oscar Wilde—*The Picture of Dorian Gray*
Bram Stoker—*Dracula*
James Joyce—*A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, Ulysses*
Edith Somerville and Martin Ross—*The Big House of Inver*
Elizabeth Bowen—*The Last September, The Heat of the Day*
Kate O'Brien—*The Land of Spices*
Samuel Beckett—*Watt*
Flann O'Brien (Brian O'Nolan)—*The Third Policeman*
Sam Hanna Bell—*December Bride*
Edna O'Brien—*The Country Girls* trilogy, *The Light of Evening*
William Trevor—*Fools of Fortune, Felicia's Journey*
John McGahern—*The Barracks, Amongst Women*
J. G. Farrell—*Troubles*
Bernard MacLaverly—*Cal, Grace Notes*
John Banville—*The Untouchable, The Sea*
Sebastian Barry—*A Long Long Way*
Jamie O'Neill—*At Swim, Two Boys*
Colm Tóibín—*Brooklyn*
Roddy Doyle—*Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha, The Woman Who Walked into Doors, A Star Called Henry*
Joseph O'Connor—*Star of the Sea*
Colum McCann—*Trans Atlantic*
Emma Donoghue—*Hood, Room*
David Park—*The Truth Commissioner, The Light of Amsterdam*
Seamus Deane—*Reading in the Dark*
Jennifer Johnston—*How Many Miles to Babylon?, The Christmas Tree*
Patrick McCabe—*The Butcher Boy*
Anne Enright—*The Gathering*
Deirdre Madden—*One by One in the Darkness*

Drama:

W. B. Yeats—*On Baile's Strand, At the Hawk's Well, Purgatory*
Lady Gregory—*Spreading the News, The Rising of the Moon*
W. B. Yeats and Lady Gregory—*Cathleen ni Houlihan*
J. M. Synge—*In the Shadow of the Glen, Riders to the Sea, The Playboy of the Western World*
George Bernard Shaw—*Pygmalion, John Bull's Other Island*

Oscar Wilde—*The Importance of Being Earnest, A Woman of No Importance*
 Sean O’Casey—*The Shadow of a Gunman, Juno and the Paycock, The Plough and the Stars*
 Samuel Beckett—*Waiting for Godot, Endgame, Happy Days, Krapp’s Last Tape*
 Brendan Behan—*The Quare Fellow*
 Sam Thompson—*Over the Bridge*
 Brian Friel—*Faith Healer, Translations, Dancing at Lughnasa*
 Tom Murphy—*Bailegangaire, The Gigli Concert*
 David Rudkin—*Ashes*
 Stewart Parker—*Spokesong, Northern Star, Pentecost*
 Christina Reid—*Joyriders, The Belle of the Belfast City*
 Anne Devlin—*After Easter*
 Martin McDonagh—*The Leenane trilogy*
 Frank McGuinness—*Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme, Someone Who’ll Watch Over Me*
 Marie Jones—*The Hamster Wheel*
 Sebastian Barry—*Prayers of Sherkin, The Steward of Christendom*
 Conor McPherson—*The Weir*
 Marina Carr—*Portia Coughlan, By the Bog of Cats*

Historical and Critical Works:

Terence Brown—*Ireland: A Social and Cultural History 1922-2002*
 R. F. Foster—*Modern Ireland, 1600-1972, Paddy and Mr. Punch: Connections in Irish and English History*
 F. S. L. Lyons—*Ireland Since the Famine, Culture and Anarchy*
 Jonathan Bardon—*A History of Ulster*
 Marc Mulholland—*Northern Ireland: A Very Short Introduction*
 Alvin Jackson—*Ireland: 1798-1998*
 Linda Connolly—*The Irish Women’s Movement from Devolution to Revolution*
 Clair Wills—*That Neutral Island: A History of Ireland During the Second World War*

G. J. Watson—*Irish Identity and the Irish Literary Revival: Synge, Yeats, Joyce and O’Casey*
 Declan Kiberd—*Inventing Ireland*
The Field Day Anthology of Irish Writing (5 volumes)—editorial sections
 Seamus Deane—*A Short History of Irish Literature*
 David Lloyd—*Anomalous States: Irish Writing and the Post-Colonial Moment*
 Michael Parker—*Northern Irish Literature: The Imprint of History* (two volumes)
 Michael Rubenstein—*Public Works: Infrastructure, Irish Modernism, and the Postcolonial*
 Richard Ellmann—*James Joyce*
 Stuart Gilbert—*James Joyce’s Ulysses*
 Vincent Cheng—*Joyce, Race, and Empire*
 Margot Norris—*Virgin and Veteran Readings of Ulysses*
 Weldon Thornton—*Voices and Values in Joyce’s Ulysses*
 Karen Lawrence—*The Odyssey of Style in Ulysses*
 R. F. Foster—*W. B. Yeats: A Life* (two volumes)

Marjorie Howes—*Yeats's Nations: Gender, Class, and Irishness*
Yug Mohit Chaudhry—*Yeats: The Irish Literary Revival and the Politics of Print*
Elizabeth Butler Cullingford—*Gender and History in Yeats's Love Poetry, Ireland's Others: Gender and Ethnicity in Irish Literature and Popular Culture*
John Harrington—*The Irish Beckett*
Sinead Mooney—*A Tongue Not Mine: Beckett and Translation*
Dillon Johnston—*Irish Poetry After Joyce*
Edna Longley—*Yeats and Modern Poetry, Poetry in the Wars*
Heather Clark—*The Ulster Renaissance: Poetry in Belfast, 1962-1972*
Richard Rankin Russell—*Poetry and Peace: Michael Longley, Seamus Heaney, and Northern Ireland, Seamus Heaney's Regions*
John Wilson Foster—*Irish Novels 1890-1940: New Bearings in Culture and Fiction*
Vera Kreilkamp—*The Anglo-Irish Novel and the Big House*
Elizabeth Grubgeld—*Anglo-Irish Autobiography: Class, Gender, and the Forms of Narrative*
Margot Backus—*The Gothic Family Romance: Heterosexuality, Child Sacrifice, and the Anglo-Irish Colonial Order*
Emer Nolan—*Catholic Emancipations: Irish Fiction from Thomas Moore to James Joyce*
Christopher Murray—*Twentieth-Century Irish Drama: Mirror Up to Nation*
Nicholas Grene—*The Politics of Irish Drama: Plays in Context from Boucicault to Friel*
Anthony Roche—*Contemporary Irish Drama: From Beckett to McGuinness*
Susan Cannon Harris—*Gender and Modern Irish Drama*
Marilynn Richtarik—*Acting Between the Lines: The Field Day Theatre Company and Irish Cultural Politics 1980-1984*
Scott Boltwood—*Brian Friel, Ireland, and The North*