

## M. A. in English

### Subject Area: British Literature Before 1798

[valid for students entering their programs between Fall 2012 and Fall 2017]

#### Reading List:

Note: Students should be familiar with the following representative works. Most can be found in the *Norton Anthology of English Literature, Volume One*.

*Beowulf*

“The Dream of the Rood”

Chaucer. *The Canterbury Tales*: General Prologue; Prologues and Tales of the Knight, Miller, Franklin, Wife of Bath, Pardoner, Nun’s Priest; Retraction

Julian of Norwich, *The Showings*

Margery Kempe, *The Book of Margery Kempe*

*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

*Everyman*

*The Second Shepherd’s Play*

Malory. *Morte D’Arthur*, esp. “The Death of Arthur”

Elizabeth I. Speeches, Poetry.

Rachel Speght. *A Mouzell for Melastomus; Mortality’s Memorandum*

Mary Sidney Herbert, Countess of Pembroke. *Tragedy of Antonie; Psalms* 45, 58, 72, 105, 134, 139

Sidney. *Defence of Poesie; Astrophil and Stella* Sonnets 1, 41, 45, 49

Spenser. *The Faerie Queen Books I and III*

Shakespeare. *Twelfth Night, Hamlet, King Lear, The Tempest, Henry IV Pts. I and II, Sonnets* 18, 29, 73, 129, 130, 138, 146

Marlowe. *Doctor Faustus*

Elizabeth Cary. *The Tragedy of Mariam*

Webster. *The Duchess of Malfi*

Jonson. *Volpone*, “To Penshurst,” “To the Memory of . . . Shakespeare”

Lady Mary Wroth. *Pamphilia to Amphilanthus* “A Crown of Sonnets Dedicated to Love” (beginning and ending with “In this strange Labyrinth, where shall I turn?”)

Donne. “The Good Morrow,” “The Canonization,” “A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning,” “The Ecstasy,” “Hymn to God My God, in My Sickness,” *Holy Sonnets* 7, 10, 14

Aemilia Lanyer. *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*, “The Description of Cook-ham”

Herrick. “Corinna’s Going a-Maying,” “To the Virgins,” “Upon Julia’s Clothes,” “Delight in Disorder.”

Herbert. “The Collar,” “The Pulley,” “The Altar,” “Easter Wings,” “Jordan (1)”

Marvell. “To His Coy Mistress,” “The Garden,” “An Horatian Ode Upon Cromwell’s Return From Ireland”

Milton. “Lycidas,” *Areopagitica, Paradise Lost* I-III, IX-XII

Dryden. “Mac Flecknoe,” All for Love, “Religio Laici,” “To the Pious Memory of . . . Anne Killigrew,” “Song for St. Cecilia’s Day”

Aphra Behn. *The Rover; Oroonoko*

Congreve. *The Way of the World*

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

Pope. *Essay on Criticism, Essay on Man, The Rape of the Lock, Dunciad* Book IV

Gay. *The Beggar’s Opera*

Richardson, *Pamela, or Virtue Rewarded*

Fielding. *Tom Jones*

Sterne. *Tristram Shandy*

Johnson. "The Vanity of Human Wishes," *Rasselas*

Gray. "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"

Sheridan. *The Rivals*, *School for Scandal*

Goldsmith. *The Vicar of Wakefield*, "The Deserted Village," *She Stoops to Conquer*