



College of Letters and Science
Department of English

Curtin Hall
P.O. Box 413
Milwaukee, WI
53201-0413
414.229.4511 *phone*
414.229.2643 *fax*
www.uwm.edu/Dept/English/

Literature and Cultural Theory
Preliminary Exam Texts

Major Fields of Literature and Culture
American Literature and Culture: Late 20th and 21st Century

- William S. Burroughs, *Naked Lunch* (1959)
- John Updike, *Rabbit, Run* (1960)
- Joseph Heller, *Catch-22* (1961)
- Frank O'Hara, *Lunch Poems* (1964) [poems]
- Sylvia Plath, *Ariel* (1965) [poems]
- Thomas Pynchon, *The Crying of Lot 49* (1965) --OR-- *Gravity's Rainbow* (1973)
- Philip Roth, *Portnoy's Complaint* (1967)
- Kurt Vonnegut, *Slaughterhouse Five* (1968)
- Philip K. Dick, *Ubik* (1969)
- Joan Didion, *Play It as It Lays* (1970)
- E.L. Doctorow, *The Book of Daniel* (1971)
- Ishmael Reed, *Mumbo Jumbo* (1972)
- Maxine Hong Kingston, *The Woman Warrior* (1975)
- John Ashbery, *Houseboat Days* (1977) [poems]
- Robert Coover, *The Public Burning* (1976)
- Leslie Marmon Silko, *Ceremony* (1977)
- Marilynne Robinson, *Housekeeping* (1980)
- Donald Barthelme, *60 Stories* (1981)
- Theresa Hak Kyung Cha, *Dictee* (1982)
- Raymond Carver, *Cathedral* (1983)
- Charles Bernstein and Bruce Andrews, *The L=A=N=G=U=A=G=E Book* [poems]
- Louise Erdrich, *Love Medicine* (1984)
- Don DeLillo, *White Noise* (1984) --OR-- *Underworld* (1997)
- Cormac McCarthy, *Blood Meridian* (1985)

- Paul Auster, *New York Trilogy* (1985)
- Art Spiegelman, *Maus* (1986)
- Toni Morrison, *Beloved* (1987)
- Gloria Anzaldúa, *Borderlands/La Frontera* (1987)
- Kathy Acker, *Empire of the Senseless* (1988)
- David Henry Hwang, *M. Butterfly* (1988)
- William Vollmann, *The Rainbow Stories* (1989)
- Jessica Hagedorn, *Dogeaters* (1990)
- Charles Johnson, *Middle Passage* (1990)
- Tim O'Brien, *Things They Carried* (1990)
- Adrienne Rich, *An Atlas of the Difficult World* (1991) [poems]
- Bret Easton Ellis, *American Psycho* (1991)
- Tony Kushner, *Angels in America* (1992)
- Sherman Alexie, *The Business of Fancy-Dancing* (1992)
- Octavia Butler, *Parable of the Sower* (1993)
- Jeffrey Eugenides, *The Virgin Suicides* (1993)
- Jorie Graham, *The Dream of the Unified Field* (1994) [poems]
- Amiri Baraka, *Transbluency* (1995) [poems]
- Chang-Rae Lee, *Native Speaker* (1995)
- David Foster Wallace, *Infinite Jest* (1996)
- Karen Tei Yamashita, *Tropic of Orange* (1997)
- Colson Whitehead, *The Intuitionist* (1999)
- Mark Z. Danielewski, *House of Leaves* (2000)
- Jonathan Franzen, *The Corrections* (2001)
- Harryette Mullen, *Sleeping with the Dictionary* (2002) [poems]
- William Gibson, *Pattern Recognition* (2003)
- Richard Powers, *The Echo-Maker* (2006)
- Junot Diaz, *Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* (2007)
- Helena María Viramontes, *Their Dogs Came with Them* (2007)
- Lydia Davis, *Varieties of Disturbance* (2007)
- Juliana Spahr, *Well Then There Now* (2011) [poems]