



**College of Letters and Science**  
*Department of English*

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Literature and Cultural Theory  
Preliminary Exam Texts

**Major Fields of Literature and Culture**  
**British Literature and Culture: 19th Century**

Please choose at least 50% of the items from each of the sections

Novels

- Austen, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice* (1813)
- ---. *Mansfield Park* (1814)
- Braddon, Elizabeth. *Lady Audley's Secret* (1862)
- Bronte, Anne. *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* (1848)
- Bronte, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre* (1847)
- ---. *Villette* (1853)
- Bronte, Emily. *Wuthering Heights* (1847)
- Collins, Wilkie. *The Woman in White* (1859)
- ---. *The Moonstone* (1868)
- Conan Doyle, Arthur. *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* (1892)
- Conrad, Joseph. *Heart of Darkness* (1900)
- De Quincey, Thomas. *Confessions of an English Opium Eater* (1821)
- Dickens, Charles. (choose at least 4)
- ---. *Oliver Twist* (1839)
- ---. *Dombey and Son* (1848)
- ---. *David Copperfield* (1850)
- ---. *Bleak House* (1853)
- ---. *Hard Times* (1854)
- ---. *Little Dorrit* (1857)
- ---. *Great Expectations* (1861)
- ---. *Our Mutual Friend* (1865)
- Disraeli, Benjamin. *Sybil, Or, The Two Nations* (1845)
- Edgeworth, Maria. *Castle Rackrent* (1800)
- Eliot, George. *The Mill on the Floss* (1860)
- ---. *Felix Holt* (1866)
- ---. *Middlemarch* (1871-71)
- ---. *Daniel Deronda* (1876)
- Gaskell, Elizabeth. *North and South*

- ---. *Mary Barton*
- Haggard, Rider. *She*
- Hardy, Thomas. *The Mayor of Casterbridge* (1886)
- ---. *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* (1891)
- ---. *Jude the Obscure* (1895)
- Kipling, Rudyard. *Kim* (1901)
- Maturin, Charles. *Melmouth the Wanderer* (1820)
- Morris, William. *News from Nowhere* (1890)
- Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein* (1831)
- Stevenson, Robert L. *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (1886)
- Steel, Flora Annie. *On the Face of the Waters* (1896)
- Stoker, Bram. *Dracula* (1897)
- Thackeray, William. *Vanity Fair* (1848)
- Trollope, Anthony. *Barchester Towers* (1857)
- Wilde, Oscar. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1891)
- ---. *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895)

#### Poetry

- Arnold, Matthew. "Dover Beach"
- ---. "The Buried Life"
- ---. "The Scholar-Gypsy"
- Browning, E.B. "Sonnets from the Portuguese"
- ---. *Aurora Leigh*. (selections)
- Browning, Robert. "Andrea del Sarto"
- ---. "Bishop Orders His Tomb"
- ---. "Fra Lippo Lippi"
- ---. "My Last Duchess"
- ---. "Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister"
- Hopkins, Gerard M. "God's Grandeur"
- ---. "Pied Beauty"
- ---. "The Windhover"
- Rossetti, Christina. "Goblin Market"
- ---. "Good Friday"
- ---. "In an Artist's Studio"
- Rossetti, Dante G. "The Blessed Damozel"
- Swinburne, Algernon. "Hymn to Prosperine"
- ---. "The Triumph of Time"
- Tennyson, Lord A. "In Memoriam"
- ---. "The Lady of Shalott"
- ---. "Locksley Hall"
- ---. "Ulysses"
- Yeats, William Butler. *The Rose* (1893).

## Prose

- Arnold, Matthew. *Culture and Anarchy* (1882)
- ---. "Function of Criticism at the Present Time" (1864)
- Butler, Josephine. *Women's Work and Women's Culture* (1869)
- Carlyle, Thomas. *Chartism* (1839)
- ---. *On Heroes, Hero Worship, and the Heroic in History* (1841)
- ---. *Past and Present* (1843)
- ---. "Occasional Discourses on the Negro Question" (1849)
- Darwin, Charles. *The Origin of Species* (1859)
- Howard, Ebenezer. *Garden Cities of Tomorrow* (1898)
- Macaulay, Thomas. *History of England* (1848) selections
- ---. "Minute on Indian Education" (1835)
- Mayhew, Henry. *London Labour and the London Poor* (1861) Volume I.
- Mill, John Stuart. *Autobiography*
- ---. *On Liberty*
- Newman, J.H. *Apologia Pro Vita Sua*
- Pater, Walter. *Renaissance: Studies in Art and Poetry* (1873)
- Ruskin, John. *Unto this Last* (1862)
- ---. *Sesame and Lilies* (1865)

## Secondary Readings

- Adams, James Eli. *Dandies and Desert Saints: Styles of Victorian Masculinity* (1995)
- Arata, Stephen. *Fictions of Loss at the Victorian Fin De Siecle* (1996)
- Brantlinger, Patrick. *Rule of Darkness: British Literature and Imperialism, 1830-1914*(1988)
- Brody, Jennifer. *Impossible Purities: Blackness, Femininity, and Victorian Culture*(1998)
- Briggs, Asa. *The Age of Improvement, 1783-1867* (1959)
- Claybaugh, Amanda. *The Novel of Purpose: Literature and Social Reform in the Anglo-American World* (2006)
- Flint, Kate. *The Victorians and the Visual Imagination* (2000)
- Goodlad, Lauren. *Victorian Literature and the Victorian State: Character and Governance in a Liberal Society* (2003)
- Gallagher, Catherine. *The Industrial Reformation of English Fiction: Social Discourse and Narrative Form, 1832-1867* (1985)
- ---. *The Body Economic: Life, Death, and Sensation in Political Economy and the Victorian Novel* (2006)
- Gagnier, Regina. *Subjectivities: A History of Self-Representation in Britain 1832-1920*(1991)
- ---. *Individualism, Decadence, and Globalization: On the Relation of Part to Whole 1859-1920* (2010)
- Marcus, Sharon. *Between Women: Friendship, Desire, and Marriage in Victorian England* (2007)
- Mehta, Uday Singh. *Liberalism and Empire: A Study in Nineteenth Century British Liberal Thought* (1999)

- Poovey, Mary. *Uneven Developments: The Ideological Work of Gender in Mid-Victorian England* (1988)
- ---. *Genres of the Credit Economy: Mediating Value in Eighteenth-and Nineteenth Century Britain* (2008)
- Said, Edward. *Culture and Imperialism (esp. Chapters One and Two)*
- Trumpener, Katie. *Bardic Nationalism: Romantic Novel and British Nationalism* (1997).
- Tucker, Herbert. *Epic: Britain's Historic Muse 1790-1910* (2008).
- Williams, Raymond. *The Country and the City* (1973)