

Doctoral Reading List English Romanticism

Primary Sources:

William Blake: “There Is No Natural Religion”; Songs of Innocence and Experience; The Marriage of Heaven and Hell; The Book of Thel; America: A Prophecy; Visions of the Daughters of Albion; The Four Zoas, Jerusalem.

Robert Burns: “To a Mouse”; “Holy Willie’s Prayer”; “The Cotter’s Saturday Night”; “Tam O’Shanter”; “Song—For a’ That and a’ That.”

William Wordsworth: Lyrical Ballads (1798 and 1800); Preface to Lyrical Ballads (1800); “Nutting”: the “Lucy poems”; “Prospectus” to The Excursion; The Prelude; “The Immortality Ode”; “Resolution and Independence”; “Elegiac Stanzas”; “The Solitary Reaper”; anthology selections from The Excursion; selected sonnets.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge: the “conversation poems”; “France: An Ode”; “Ode to the Departing Year”; The Rime of the Ancient Mariner; Christabel; “Kubla Khan”; “Fears in Solitude”; “Dejection: An Ode”; “Hymn before Sun-Rise, in the Vale of Chamouni”; “The Pains of Sleep”; “Limbo”; “Ne Plus Ultra”; anthology selections from Biographia Literaria; “Essay Third” from On the Principles of Genial Criticism; “On Poesy or Art”; anthology selections from Shakespearean Criticism; “Symbol and Allegory” from The Statesman’s Manual.

Lord Byron: “She Walks in Beauty”; “English Bards and Scotch Reviewers”; “Written after Swimming from Sestos to Abydos”; “Sonnet on Chillon”; “Darkness”; Childe Harold’s Pilgrimage; The Giaour; Manfred; Cain; “Prometheus”; Don Juan.

Percy Shelley: Alastor; “Mont Blanc”; “Hymn to Intellectual Beauty”; “Ozymandias”; “Sonnet: Lift Not the Painted Veil”; “Sonnet: England in 1819”; “Song to the Men of England”; Prometheus Unbound; “Ode to the West Wind”; “To a Skylark”; Epipsychidion; Adonais; The Triumph of Life; “On Love”; A Defence of Poetry.

John Keats: letters from the standard anthologies; “On First Looking into Chapman’s Homer”; “Sleep and Poetry”; “On Seeing the Elgin Marbles”; Book I of Endymion; Hyperion and The Fall of Hyperion; “The Eve of St. Agnes”; “La Belle Dame sans Merci”; Lamia; the Odes; “To Autumn”; “Bright Star”; “This Living Hand.”

John Clare: “The Mouse’s Nest;” “I Am.”

Laetitia Elizabeth Landon: The Improvisatrice

Felicia Hemans: “Casabianca”; “Properzia Rossi”; “Indian Woman’s Death-Song”; “Homes of England”; “The Graves of a Household”; “Corinne at the Capitol.”

Edmund Burke: “On Obscurity” from A Philosophical Enquiry into the Origins of our Ideas of the Sublime and Beautiful; Reflections on the Revolution in France (arrest and imprisonment of the King and Queen)

William Hazlitt: anthology selections from Lectures on the English Poets and The Spirit of the Age; “On Gusto”; “My First Acquaintance with Poets.”

Charles Lamb: “Christ’s Hospital Five and Thirty Years Ago”; “Mrs. Battle’s Opinion on Whist”; “The Praise of Chimney Sweeper’s”; “old China.”

Thomas DeQuincey: Confessions of an English Opium Eater; “The English Mail-Coach”; “On the Knocking at the Gate in Macbeth”; “On Murder Considered as One of the Fine Arts.”

Sir Walter Scott: Waverly; “Lochinvar”; selections from The Lay of the Last Minstrel and The Lady of the Lake.

Jane Austen: Sense and Sensibility; Pride and Prejudice; Emma; Northanger Abbey.

Mary Shelley: Frankenstein

Charlotte Bronte: Jane Eyre

Emily Bronte: Wuthering Heights

Students are also advised to consult any of the following anthologies:

Abrams, M. H., ed. Norton Anthology of English Literature: Volume D: The Romantic Period

Damrosch, David, et al., eds. Longman Anthology of British Literature: Volume 2A: The Romantics and Their Contemporaries

Mellor, Anne K. and Richard E. Matlak, eds. British Literature 1780-1830 (Thomson Learning)

Perkins, David, ed. English Romantic Writers (Harcourt)

Secondary Sources:

A. Core Selections:

M.H. Abrams. The Mirror and the Lamp

M. H. Abrams. Natural Supernaturalism

M. H. Abrams. "Structure and Style in the Greater Romantic Lyric," in Harold Bloom, ed. Romanticism and Consciousness

Harold Bloom, "The Internalization of Quest-Romance," in Bloom, ed. Romanticism and Consciousness

Anne Mellor. Romantic Irony

Jerome McGann. The Romantic Ideology

B. Students are also expected to select recent scholarship reflecting their particular interests.

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