Candidates must register with the Graduate Officer during the examination period preceding that in which they propose to sit Field Examinations. Forms for this purpose are available in the office of the Graduate Secretary.

Candidates proposing to sit examinations should arrange with the members of the area committee to discuss the examination and appropriate ways to prepare for it.


**Organization of the examination**

1. The reading list is divided into five Parts: (A) Renaissance Poetry; (B) Renaissance Prose; (C) Shakespeare; (D) Renaissance Drama (excluding Shakespeare); (E) A special field of the student's choosing, to be developed in consultation with the chair of the examining committee.

2. All candidates must prepare three Parts, including (E). When registering for the field examinations, a candidate must specify which two of the other four Parts he or she has chosen to prepare. The field examination for that candidate will include only questions from the three Parts prepared.

3. Three questions are to be answered on the examination, one from each of the three Parts prepared.

**Reading guides**

**Part A: Renaissance Poetry Primary texts:**

- Donne. *Songs and Sonnets, Holy Sonnets.*
- Greville. *Caelica.*
- Sidney. *Astrophil and Stella.*
- Shakespeare. *Sonnets, Venus and Adonis, Rape of Lucrece.*
Wroth. *Pamphilia to Amphilanthus.*
Wyatt. *Complete Poems.*

Students should also have an acquaintance with all poets excerpted in the 16th and 17th-century sections of *The Norton Anthology of English Literature,* 7th ed. Take the Norton poetry selections as a minimum reading guide. Supplement these readings, for authors and genres which particularly interest you, from other sources.

**Secondary texts:**

- Fineman, Joel. *Shakespeare's Perjured Eye.*
- Norbrook, David. *Writing the English Republic.*
- Nyquist, Mary, and Margaret Ferguson, eds. *Re-membering Milton.*
- Peterson, Douglas. *The English Lyric from Wyatt to Donne.*

**Part B: Renaissance Prose**

**Primary Texts:**

- Anger. *Jane Anger her Protection for Women* (excerpts).
- Browne. *Religio Medici or Urn-Burial.*
- Burton. *Anatomy of Melancholy* (Democritus to the Reader, Digression of Air, either Love or Religious Melancholy).
- Deloney. *Jack of Newbury.*
- Erasmus. *The Praise of Folly.*
- Gouge. *Of Domestical Duties.*
- Greene. One romance of your choice.
- Hooker. Preface and Book I of *The Laws.*)
Lyly. *Euphues.*
*Utopia.*
Nashe. *The Unfortunate Traveller.*
Sidney. *Defence of Poetry,* selections from *Arcadia.*
*The Obedience of A Christian Man.*
Wroth. *Urania* (selections).

Students should also familiarize themselves with the critical prose found in G. Gregory Smith's *Elizabethan Critical Essays* (2 vols.) and Brian Vickers' *English Renaissance Literary Criticism.*

**Secondary Texts:**
Croll, Morris. "Attic" and *Baroque Prose Style.*
Loewenstein, David, and James Grantham Turner, eds. *Politics, Poetics, and Hermeneutics in Milton's Prose.*
Shuger, Debora. *Sacred Rhetoric.*

**Part C: Shakespeare**

**Primary Texts:**
Complete dramatic works.

**Secondary Texts:**
Adelman, Janet. *Suffocating Mothers.*
Erne, Lucas, and Margaret Jane Kidnie. *Textual Performances.*
Knapp, Jeffrey. *Shakespeare's Tribe.*
Magnusson, Lynne. *Shakespeare and Social Dialogue.*

**Part D: Renaissance Drama (excluding Shakespeare)**

**Primary texts:**
Towneley. *Prima Pastorum, Secunda Pastorum.*
Medwall. *Fulgens and Lucre.*
Skelton. *Magnificence.*
Stevenson. *Gammer Gurton's Needle.*
Preston. *Cambises.*
Norton and Sackville. *Gorboduc.*
Kyd. *The Spanish Tragedy.*
Anon. *A Warning/or Fair Women.*
Heywood. *A Woman Killed with Kindness.*
Chapman. *Bussy D'Ambois.*
Toumeur?. *The Revenger's Tragedy.*
Beaumont and/or Fletcher. *The Knight of the Burning Pestle, Phi/aster.*
Cary. *The Tragedie of Mariam.*
Massinger. *A New Way to Pay Old Debts, The Renegado.*
Ford. *The Broken Heart, 'Tis Pity She's a Whore.*

**Secondary texts:**

Altman, Joel. *The Tudor Play of Mind.*
Bevington, David. *From Mankind to Marlowe.*
Cox, John D., and David Scott Kastan. *A New History of Early English Drama.*
Dollimore, Jonathan. *Radical Tragedy.*
Diehl, Huston. *Staging Reform, Reforming the Stage.*
Kolve, V.A. *The Play Called Corpus Christi.*
White, Paul Whitfield. *Theatre and Reformation.*

**Students should also be familiar with the following secondary works, relevant to all Parts:**
Ferguson, Margaret et al., eds. *Rewriting the Renaissance.*
Helgerson, Richard. *Forms of Nationhood.*
Shuger, Debora. *Habits of Thought in the English Renaissance.*