

Ph.D. Field Examination in Postcolonial Literatures

The reading list for the Postcolonial Literatures Field Examination consists of two parts: A) the following list of primary and theoretical readings required of every Ph.D. candidate writing the examination and B) a series of readings divided by theme and specialization, from which the candidate selects 10 titles from one theme category.

Part A: Students read all works on the list

I. Theory/Criticism

Aijaz Ahmad. In Theory: Classes, Nations, Literatures

Bill Ashcroft, Gareth Griffiths and Helen Tiffin. The Empire Writes Back: Theory and Practice in Post-Colonial Literatures, 2nd edition.

Homi K. Bhabha. The Location of Culture

E. K. Brathwaite. History of the Voice: The Development of Nation Language in Anglophone Caribbean Poetry

Rey Chow. Writing Diaspora: Tactics of Intervention in Contemporary Cultural Studies

Gaurav Desai and Supriya Nair. Postcolonialisms: An Anthology of Cultural Theory and Criticism

Frantz Fanon. Black Skin, White Masks

---. The Wretched of the Earth

Henry Louis Gates Jr., ed. "Race," Writing and Difference

Paul Gilroy. The Black Atlantic

Bob Hodge and Vijay Mishra. Dark Side of the Dream: Australian Literature and the Postcolonial Mind

McClintock, Anne, Aamir Mufti, Ella Shohat, eds. Dangerous Liaisons : Gender, Nation, and Postcolonial Perspectives

John McLeod. Beginning Postcolonialism

Ngugi wa Thiong'o. Decolonising the Mind: The Politics of Language in African Literature

Edward Said. Culture and Imperialism

Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak. The Postcolonial Critic: Interviews, Strategies, Dialogues

Robert Young. White Mythologies: Writing History and the West (2004 ed.)

Recommended reference works

Bill Ashcroft, Gareth Griffiths and Helen Tiffin. Key Concepts in Post-Colonial Studies

John Thieme. Post-Colonial Studies: The Essential Glossary

II. Africa

Chinua Achebe. Things Fall Apart

Ama Ata Aidoo. Our Sister Killjoy

J.M. Coetzee. Waiting for the Barbarians

Tsitsi Dangarembga. Nervous Conditions

Nawal El Saadawi. Woman at Point Zero

Buchi Emecheta. The Joys of Motherhood

Nuruddin Farah. Maps

Nadine Gordimer. July's People

Gerald Moore and Ulli Beier, eds. Penguin Book of Modern African Poetry (1999 ed.)

Ngugi wa Thiong'o. Petals of Blood

Wole Soyinka. The Road

M.G. Vassanji. The Gunny Sack

Yvonne Vera, ed. Opening Spaces: An Anthology of Contemporary African Women's

Writing

III. India and Pakistan

Mulk Raj Anand. Untouchable

Kamala Das. The Old Playhouse and Other Poems

Anita Desai. Clear Light of Day

Zulfikar Ghose. Selected Poems

A.K. Mehrotra, ed. The Oxford India Anthology of Twelve Modern Indian Poets

R.K. Narayan. The Guide

Raja Rao. The Serpent and the Rope

Salman Rushdie. Midnight's Children

Shyam Selvadurai. Cinnamon Gardens

Bapsi Sidhwa. Cracking India

Sara Suleri. Meatless Days

Rabindranath Tagore. Collected Poems and Plays

IV. Caribbean

Erna Brodber. Myal

Edward Kamau Brathwaite. The Arrivants

Stewart Brown, Mervyn Morris, Gordon Rohlehr, eds. Voiceprint: an Anthology of Oral
and Related Poetry

Michelle Cliff. No Telephone to Heaven

Wilson Harris. Palace of the Peacock

Jamaica Kincaid. Annie John

George Lamming. In the Castle of My Skin

Earl Lovelace. The Dragon Can't Dance

V.S. Naipaul. The Mimic Men

V.S. Reid. New Day

Jean Rhys. Wide Sargasso Sea

Sam Selvon. Moses Ascending

Derek Walcott. Collected Poems 1948-1984

V. Australia and New Zealand

Barbara Baynton. Bush Studies

Peter Carey. True History of the Kelly Gang

Janet Frame. The Carpathians

Miles Franklin. My Brilliant Career

Patricia Grace. Potiki

Harry Heseltine, ed. Penguin Book of Australian Verse

Keri Hulme. The Bone People

Colin Johnson/Mudrooroo. Master of the Ghost Dreaming

David Malouf. Remembering Babylon

Katherine Mansfield. Bliss and Other Stories

Sally Morgan. My Place

Randolph Stow. The Visitants

Patrick White. Voss

Part B: Students choose TEN titles from ONE thematic category

I. Imperialist discourses and literatures

Aphra Behn. Oroonoko

Christopher Columbus. The Journal of Christopher Columbus (try Cecil Jane translation)

Joseph Conrad. Heart of Darkness

Daniel Defoe. Robinson Crusoe

E.M. Forster. A Passage to India

H. Rider Haggard. King Solomon's Mines

Rudyard Kipling. Kim

Bartolomé de las Casas. A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies

George Orwell. Burmese Days

James De Mille. A Strange Manuscript Found in a Copper Cylinder

William Shakespeare. The Tempest

Jonathan Swift. "A Modest Proposal"

II. Gender, sexuality and colonialism

Eavan Boland. Outside History: Selected Poems, 1980-1990

Dionne Brand. In Another Place, Not Here

Erna Brodber. Jane and Louisa Will Soon Come Home

Lorna Goodison. Selected Poems

Kate Grenville. Joan Makes History

Alan Duff. Once Were Warriors

Bessie Head. A Question of Power

Jamaica Kincaid. The Autobiography of My Mother

Anne-Marie MacDonald. Fall on Your Knees

Shani Mootoo. Cereus Blooms at Night

Patricia Powell. The Pagoda

Arundathi Roy. The God of Small Things

Shyam Selvadurai. Funny Boy

Sistren. Lionheart Gal

III. Aboriginal literatures (Australian Aboriginal, Maori, North American Native)

Jeannette Armstrong. Whispering in Shadows

Maria Campbell. Halfbreed

Jack Davis, ed. Paperbark: A Collection of Black Australian Writings

Jennifer Sabbioni, Kay Schaffer, and Sidonie Smith, eds. Indigenous Australian Voices: A Reader.

Patricia Grace. The Dream Sleepers and Other Stories

Tomson Highway. Kiss of the Fur Queen

Witi Ihimaera. The Matriarch

Thomas King. One Good Story, That One

Ruby Langford. Don't Take Your Love to Town

Daniel David Moses and Terry Goldie, eds. An Anthology of Canadian Native Literature in English, 2nd ed.

Doris Pilkington. Rabbit Proof Fence

Leslie Marmon Silko. Storyteller

Hone Tuwhare. No Ordinary Sun

Albert Wendt. Leaves of the Banyan Tree

IV. Diaspora, transnationality, multiculturalism

Lillian Allen. Women Do This Everyday

Dionne Brand. A Map to the Door of No Return

---. Land to Light On

Brian Castro. Birds of Passage

Austin Clarke. The Austin Clarke Reader, ed. Barry Callaghan

George Elliott Clarke. Beatrice Chancy

Yasmine Gooneratne. A Change of Skies

Hanif Kureishi. The Buddha of Suburbia

Paule Marshall. Brown Girl, Brownstones

Rohinton Mistry. Tales from Firozsha Baag

Bharati Mukherjee. Jasmine

M. NourbeSe Philip. She Tries Her Tongue, Her Silence Softly Breaks

Michael Ondaatje. Running in the Family

Salman Rushdie. The Satanic Verses

Sam Selvon. Lonely Londoners

Zadie Smith. White Teeth