Renaissance Exam Reading List

From the list below, please choose any 60 to 67 texts from all fields included here (don’t do only poetry or only drama, for example). Your 60 to 67 choices must include at least ten Shakespeare plays and all of either Milton or Spenser on the list. You can include works you studied in seminars, but do not make your list up wholly of works that are thus familiar to you, and be sure to spread your work across the whole span of the period (1550-1660). The remaining 30 to 33 texts can be your choice, tailored to your specific interests.

Renaissance Drama

1. Sackville and Norton, *Gorboduc*
2. Lyly, *Gallathea*
3. Kyd, *The Spanish Tragedy*
4. Marlowe, *Tamburlaine the Great, 1 and 2*  
   *The Jew of Malta*  
   *Doctor Faustus*  
   *Edward II*  
5. Anon., *Arden of Faversham*
6. Dekker, *The Shoemaker’s Holiday*
   *Fair Maid of the West*
   *Michaelmas Term*
10. Middleton and Dekker, *The Roaring Girl*
11. Middleton and Rowley, *The Changeling*
12. Webster, *The White Devil*  
   *The Duchess of Malfi*
13. Tourneur (? Middleton?), *The Revenger’s Tragedy*
14. Ford, *Perkin Warbeck*
‘Tis Pity She’s a Whore


17. Jonson, *Volpone*
   The Alchemist
   Bartholomew Fair
   Pleasure Reconciled to Virtue
   The Masque of Blacknesse/The Masque of Beautie

18. Shakespeare, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*
   As You Like It
   Twelfth Night
   Henry V
   Richard III
   1 & 2 Henry IV
   Hamlet
   Othello
   King Lear
   The Tempest
   The Winter’s Tale
   Macbeth
   Richard II
   Antony and Cleopatra
   Pericles
   Romeo and Juliet
   Cymbeline
   The Taming of the Shrew
   Love’s Labor’s Lost
   Merchant of Venice
   (at least ten of these)

19. Milton, *Comus*

20. Massinger, *A New Way to Pay Old Debts*

Epic

21. Spenser, *The Faerie Queene*

22. Milton, *Paradise Lost*
   Paradise Regained

Romance
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>Sidney, <em>The Countess of Pembroke’s Arcadia</em></td>
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<td>23.</td>
<td>Wroth, <em>The First Part of the Countess of Montgomery’s Urania</em></td>
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<td>24.</td>
<td>Sir John Harington, trans., <em>Orlando Furioso</em></td>
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**Poetry**

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| 25. | Marlowe, *Hero and Leander*  
*All Ovid’s Elegies*  
“The Passionate Shepherd to his Love” |
| 26. | Sidney, *Astrophel and Stella* |
| 27. | Shakespeare, *Sonnets*  
*Venus and Adonis*  
*The Rape of Lucrece* |
| 28. | Spenser, *Amoretti*  
*The Shepheardes Calender* |
| 29. | Wroth, *Pamphilia to Amphilanthus* |
| 32. | Lanyer, *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*  
“To Cookeham” |
| 33. | Donne, *Songs and Sonets*  
*Epigrams* (incl. “Sapho to Philaenis”)  
*Holy Sonnets* |
| 34. | Mary Herbert, Countess of Pembroke, “The Dolefull Lay of Clorinda,” “A Dialogue between Two Shepherds, Thenot and Piers, in Praise of Astraea,” “To the Angell Spirit of the most excellent Sir Philip Sidney” |
35. Wyatt, “The long love that in my heart doth harbor,” “Whoso list to hunt,” “Farewell, Love, and all thy laws forever,” “Madame, withouten many words,” “What vaileth truth?,” “I find no peace, and all my war is done,” “They flee from me” 
   Surrey, Aeneid Book 4 
   Skelton, “Speke, Parrot,” “Why Come Ye Not to Court?” “Lullay, lullay, lyke a child,” “Go, piteous heart.” Why were ye, Calliope, embraawdered with letters of gold?”


37. Herbert, The Temple


39. Hutchinson, Order and Disorder

40. Golding, trans., Metamorphoses

41. Barnabe Barnes, Pathenophil and Parthenope 1-10

Prose

42. Sidney, Defense of Poesy

43. Hoby, trans., The Book of the Courtier

44. More, Utopia
   History of King Richard III

45. Hobbes, Leviathan

46. Elyot, The Book Named the Governor

47. Florio, trans., Montaigne’s Essays

48. Nashe, The Unfortunate Traveller
   Pierce Pennilesse, His Supplication to the Divell
49. Lancelot Andrewes, *Sermons*
50. Bacon, *Essays*
51. Cavendish, *The Blazing-World*
52. Thomas Browne, *Hydriotaphia: Urn Burial*
53. Robert Greene, *Pandosto*
54. Erasmus, *Praise of Folly*
55. Milton, *Areopagitica Of Education*

**Secondary Material**
63. Bradley, A. C. *Shakespearean Tragedy* (Rpt., 1960)
72. ---------, *Writing Matter: from the hands of the English Renaissance* (Stanford, 1990)
101. Worthen, W. B. *Shakespeare and the Authority of Performance* (Cambridge, 1997)
102. Yates, Frances. *Astraea: The Imperial Theme in the Sixteenth Century* (Boston, 1975)