Historical Field List: Twentieth Century (American)

Note: As per the graduate handbook, “historical field lists are advisory rather than contractual; they determine the parameters of the exam, but do not rule out the possibility that the conversation may range more broadly. Students may not refer to historical field lists during the exam.”

Theodore Dreiser
*Sister Carrie* (1900)

Jack London
“To Build a Fire” (1902)

Charles Chesnutt
*Marrow of Tradition* (1901)

W.E.B. DuBois
*The Souls of Black Folk* (1903)

Mary Austin
*The Land of Little Rain* (1904)

Edith Wharton
*The House of Mirth* (1905)

Sui Sin Far (Edith Maude Eaton)
“Leaves from the Mental Portfolio of an Eurasian” (1909)
“In the Land of the Free,” “It’s Wavering Image” in *Miss Spring Fragrance* (1912)

James Weldon Johnson
*The Autobiography of an Ex-colored Man* (1912, 1927)

Gertrude Stein
*Three Lives* (1909)
*Tender Buttons* (1914)

Willa Cather
*My Ántonia* (1918)

Sherwood Anderson
*Winesburg, Ohio* (1919)

F. Scott Fitzgerald
*The Great Gatsby* (1925)

Ernest Hemingway
*The Sun Also Rises* (1926)

Ezra Pound
“A Pact” (1913)
“The River-Merchant’s Wife: A Letter” (1915)
Cantos I, XVII, XLV (1925-37), *The Pisan Cantos* (1948)

T.S. Eliot
“The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” (1915)
“Tradition and the Individual Talent” (1919)
*The Waste Land* (1922)
*Four Quartets* (1936-43)

Robert Frost
Selections (1913-1962)

William Carlos Williams
*Spring and All* (1923)
Paterson (1946-1958)

Wallace Stevens
Harmonium (1923)

Marianne Moore
Selections from Complete Poems (1967) (includes Observations [1924])

William Faulkner
The Sound and the Fury (1929)
As I Lay Dying (1930)
Absalom, Absalom! (1936)

Hart Crane
The Bridge (1930)

Djuna Barnes
Nightwood (1936)

Jean Toomer
Cane (1923)

Alaine Locke, editor
“The New Negro” in The New Negro (1925)

Countee Cullen
“Yet do I Marvel,” “Heritage” in Color (1925)

Langston Hughes
“The Negro Speaks of Rivers” (1925)
“I, too” (1925)
“Mother to Son,” (1926)
“Mulatto” (1927)
“Dream Deferred” (1951)

Claude McKay
Home to Harlem (1927)

Nella Larsen
Passing (1929)

Zora Neale Hurston
Their Eyes Were Watching God (1937)

Richard Wright
Native Son (1939)
Black Boy (1945)

Elizabeth Bishop
Selections from The Complete Poems (1927-1979) (1946-79)

Ralph Ellison
Invisible Man (1952)

Flannery O’Connor
A Good Man is Hard to Find (1955)

Vladimir Nabokov
Lolita (1955)
Pale Fire (1962)

Allen Ginsberg
Howl and other poems (1956)

Philip Roth
Good-bye, Columbus (1959)

John Updike
Rabbit, Run (1960)

Thomas Pynchon
The Crying of Lot 49 (1966)

Sylvia Plath
Ariel (1965)

John Ashbery
Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror (1975)

Maxine Hong Kingston
Woman Warrior (1975)

Toni Morrison
Beloved (1987)
Jeffrey Eugenides  
*The Virgin Suicides* (1993)  

Jonathan Safran Foer  
*Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close*  
(2005)  

Junot Díaz  
*The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*  
(2007)