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.”

Novels/Short Stories

Henry James
The Portrait of a Lady (Novel, 1881)
Turn of the Screw (Short Story, 1891)
Beast in the Jungle (Short Story, 1903)
The Ambassadors (Novel, 1903)

Theodore Dreiser
Sister Carrie (1900, Novel)

W. E. B. DuBois
Souls of Black Folk (1903, Essays)

Edith Wharton
House of Mirth (1905, Novel)

James Weldon Johnson
Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man (1912)

Willa Cather
My Antonia (1918)

Henry Adams
Education of Henry Adams (1918)

Sherwood Anderson
Winesburg, Ohio (Short Works, 1919)

Eugene O’Neill
Emperor Jones (Play, 1920)

Jean Toomer
Cane (1923)

F. Scott Fitzgerald
The Great Gatsby (1925)
Tender is the Night (1934)

Ernest Hemingway
The Sun Also Rises (1926)

Nella Larsen
Passing (1929)

William Faulkner
The Sound and the Fury (1929)
Absalom, Absalom (1936)
Go Down, Moses (1942)

John Dos Passos
42nd Parallel (1930)
Nineteen Nineteen, (1932)

Djuna Barnes
Nightwood (1936)

Zora Neale Huston
Their Eyes Were Watching God (1937)

John Steinbeck
Of Mice and Men (1937)
Grapes of Wrath (1939)

Nathaniel West
Day of the Locust (1939)

Richard Wright
Native Son (1940)

Walker Evans / James Agee
Let Us Now Praise Famous Men
Tennessee Williams
The Glass Menagerie (Play, 1940)
Cat on the Hot Tin Roof (Play, 1955)

Ralph Ellison
Invisible Man (1953)

Arthur Miller
The Crucible (Play, 1953)

Vladimir Nabokov
Lolita (1955)
Pale Fire (1962)

Edward Albee
Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf? (1962)

Flannery O’Connor
A Good Man is Hard to Find (Selected Stories, 1955)
Everything that Rises Must Converge (Selected Stories, 1965)
Mystery and Manners (Selected Essays, 1969)

Thomas Pynchon
Gravity’s Rainbow (1973)

Toni Morrison
Beloved (1987)

Poetry

Robert Frost
North of Boston (1914)
Mountain Interval (1916)

Edgar Lee Masters
Spoon River Anthology (1915)

Gertrude Stein
Tender Buttons (1914)
Selections from Geography and Plays (1922)

Lectures in America (1935, Essays)

Ezra Pound
Cathay (1915)
Gaudier-Brzeska: A Memoir (1916)
Hugh Selwyn Mauberley (1920)
A Draft of XVI Cantos (1925)
The Pisan Cantos (1948)
Selected Essays

Claude McKay
Harlem Shadows (1922)

Countee Cullen
Black Christ and Other Poems (1929)

Wallace Stevens
Harmonium (1923)
Parts of a World (1942)
Auroras of Autumn (1950)

William Carlos Williams
Spring and All (1923)
The Wedge (1944)
Paterson (1946-63)
Pictures from Brueghel (1962)

Hart Crane
White Buildings (1926)
The Bridge (1930)

Laura Riding Jackson
Survey of Modernist Poetry (with Robert Graves), (1927)
Collected Poems of Laura Riding (1938)
“Introduction for a Broadcast” (BBC 3, 1962)

Louis Zukofsky
Selected Essays (“Sincerity and Objectification”, Intro to “Objectivist” Anthology, American Poetry 1920-1930)
“A” 1–9 (1928–1940)

George Oppen
Discrete Series (1934)
The Materials (1962)
This in Which (1965)
Of Being Numerous (1968)

Marianne Moore
Observations (1924)
Revisions in Selected Poems (1935)
What Are Years (1941)
Tell Me, Tell Me (1966)

Langston Hughes
Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain (Essay, 1926)
Montage to a Dream Deferred (1951)

Theodore Roethke
Lost Son and Other Poems (1948)

Elizabeth Bishop
North and South (1946)
A Cold Spring (1955)
Geography III (1976)

Robert Lowell
Life Studies (1959)
For the Union Dead (1964)

John Berryman
77 Dream Songs (1964)

Allen Ginsberg
Howl and Other Poems (1956)

Sylvia Plath
Ariel (1965)

Charles Olson
Selected Essays (1950s)
Maximus Poems (1950-1970)

Edward Dorn

Robert Creeley
For Love (1950-55)

Jack Spicer
After Lorca (1957)
Language (1965)

Robert Duncan
Opening of the Field (1960)

Frank O’Hara
Selected Poems (1964-?)

A.R. Ammons
Corson’s Inlet / Tape for the Turn of the Year (1965)

Amiri Baraka
Black Magic (1969)

Adrienne Rich
Diving into the Wreck (1974)

John Ashbery
Rivers and Mountains (1966)
Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror (1975)
A Wave (1984)

Bernstein and Andrews, eds.
L=A=N=U=A=G=E Magazine (Select Issues, 1978-81)

Lyn Hejinian
My Life (1980)

Susan Howe
Singularities (1990)