

## Comparative Literature

### Ph.D. Reading List for Literary Theory and Criticism

#### **Reading Lists**

A reading list for all parts enumerated below will be compiled by the student with the help of the examination committee. The definitive version of the reading list, with a cover page bearing signatures of the committee members and indicating who will direct the examination and chair the dissertation, must be submitted to the graduate director *no later than one month prior* to the scheduled date of examination. Please note: Students should also submit a description of the special area, related to the dissertation, along with the reading list.

All lists must include at least twenty of the works below. The Graduate director will consider alternative texts from the same historical periods. In addition, the list must contain approximately twenty works from the twentieth century, chosen so as to include a reasonable distribution of texts that address at least three important areas of recent criticism.

Plato, *Symposium*, "Phaedrus," "Ion," *Republic* (Bks. 2,3,10)  
Aristotle, "Rhetoric," "Poetics"  
Horace, "The Art of Poetry"  
Longinus, "On the Sublime"  
Boethius, "The Consolation of Philosophy"  
St. Augustine, "De Ordine," "De Musica"  
Dante Alighieri, "Letter to Can Grande della Scala"  
Leonardo da Vinci, "Notebooks" (selections)  
Marsilio Ficino Commentary on Plato's *Symposium*  
Sir Philip Sidney, "An Apologie for Poetrie"  
Nicholas Boileau, "The Art of Poetry"  
Alexander Pope, "An Essay on Criticism"  
Samuel Johnson, Preface to *Shakespeare*, "Rasselas" (Bk. 10)  
Giambattista Vico, "The New Science" (Bks. 1-3)  
Gotthold Lessing, Laocoön (Chs.2,3,16)  
Jean-Jacques Rousseau, "Essay on the Origin of Language"  
Immanuel Kant, *Critique of Judgement* (Bks. 2,3)  
G.W.F. Hegel, Introduction to *The Philosophy of Fine Art*  
William Wordsworth, Preface to *Lyrical Ballads*  
Samuel T. Coleridge, "Biographia Literaria" (Chs. 7,14,15,17,18)  
Percy B. Shelley, "Defense of Poetry"  
Friedrich Nietzsche, *The Birth of Tragedy from the Spirit of Music*, "On Truth and Lies in Their Non-Moral Sense"  
David Hume, "Of the Standard of Taste"  
Edmund Burke, *A Philosophical Inquiry...*  
Matthew Arnold, *Science and Poetry, Culture and Anarchy*, "The Function of Criticism at the Present Time"  
Oscar Wilde, "The Critic as Artist"  
Stéphane Mallarmé, "Crise de vers"  
Marcel Proust, "Contre Sainte-Beuve"

#### **Please note:**

All titles and spelling must be correct. The GSC will not consider any list with more than 5 errors.

**Committee for the Examination:** Students will discuss the choice of a chair for their examination committees with their advisors and the director of graduate studies. One CAT faculty member will be asked by the student to serve as chair of the committee. Three more faculty members who can examine the student in one or more areas of the examination, as defined below, will be selected by the student in consultation with the director of graduate studies, the advisor and the chair of the committee. At least three of the four members of the examination committee must be members of the CAT graduate faculty (including affiliates). At least three of the members of the committee must be physically present at the examination.