

Doctoral Reading Exams List: Critical Theory

(Many of these selections can be found in the *Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*)

1) Marxism

Marx & Engels: selections from the *Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844*, *The German Ideology*, *The Communist Manifesto*, *Capital* (Vol.1) [Robert C. Tucker (ed.), *The Marx-Engels Reader*]

Louis Althusser: "Ideology & Ideological State Apparatuses"

Theodor Adorno & Max Horkheimer: *Dialectic of Enlightenment*

Walter Benjamin: "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction"

Fredric Jameson: from *The Political Unconscious* (Preface and Ch.1)

Terry Eagleton: *Marxism & Literary Criticism*

Gayle Rubin, "The Traffic in Women"

2) Psychoanalysis

Freud: from *The Interpretation of Dreams*; *3 Essays on the Theory of Sexuality*; "The Uncanny"

Lacan: "The Mirror Stage"; "The Agency of the Letter in the Unconscious"; *Feminine Sexuality* [eds. Juliet Mitchell & Jacqueline Rose]

Jean Laplanche & Cathy Caruth: "Traumatic Temporality" [interview in *Listening to Trauma*]

Teresa Brennan, ed.: *Between Feminism and Psychoanalysis* (Intro., Whitford, Copjec essays)

Julia Kristeva: from *Powers of Horror* (Chs. 1 & 2 or selections in *Portable Kristeva*)

Leo Bersani, *The Freudian Body: Psychoanalysis and Art*

Lauren Berlant: *Desire/Love*

3) Formalism/New Criticism

W.K. Wimsatt & M.C. Beardsley: "The Intentional Fallacy"

T. S. Eliot: "Tradition and the Individual Talent"

Cleanth Brooks: from *The Well-Wrought Urn*

F.R. Leavis: from *The Great Tradition*

William Empson: from *Seven Types of Ambiguity*

Frank Lentricchia: *After the New Criticism*

Marjorie Levinson, "What Is New Formalism?"

4) Structuralism

Claude Levi-Strauss: "The Structural Study of Myth"

Ferdinand de Saussure: "Nature of the Linguistic Sign"; "Binary Oppositions"

Northrop Frye: *The Archetypes of Literature*

Jonathan Culler: *Structuralist Poetics*

Tzvetan Todorov: *The Fantastic OR The Conquest of America*

Roman Jakobson: *Linguistics and Poetics*

5) Post-Structuralism/Deconstruction

Friedrich Nietzsche: "On Truth and Lying in a Non-moral Sense"

Jacques Derrida: "Structure, Sign & Play"; "Différance"; "The Law of Genre"

Roland Barthes: "The Death of the Author"; *The Pleasure of the Text*

Michel Foucault: "What is an Author?"; "Nietzsche, Genealogy, History"; from *Discipline & Punish* ("The Carceral")

Paul De Man: *Allegories of Reading* –OR– *Blindness and Insight*

Barbara Johnson: from *The Barbara Johnson Reader* ("Melville's Fist"; "Nothing Fails Like Success"; "Apostrophe, Animation, and Abortion")

6) Feminism/Gender

Monique Wittig: "One is Not Born a Woman"

Helene Cixous: "The Laugh of the Medusa" OR Luce Irigaray: "This Sex Which is Not One"

Diana Fuss, *Essentially Speaking*

Judith Butler: *Gender Trouble*

Susan Bordo: from *Unbearable Weight: Feminism, Western Culture, and the Body* (Ch.5)

Elizabeth Grosz: from *Space, Time and Perversion* (Ch.1-3)

Cherrie Moraga & Gloria Anzaldúa: *This Bridge Called My Back*

7) Queer Theory

Gayle Rubin: "Thinking Sex"

Michel Foucault: *The History of Sexuality, Vol. 1*

Eve K. Sedgwick: "Axiomatic" from *Epistemology of the Closet*; "Paranoid Reading and Reparative Reading" from *Touching Feeling*

Judith Butler: from *Bodies That Matter* (Chs. 1,2, 8)

Lee Edelman: *Homographesis* –OR– *No Future*

Judith Halberstam: *Female Masculinity* – OR – *In a Queer Time and Place*

Lauren Berlant & Michael Warner: "Sex in Public"

8) Postcolonial

Edward Said: from *Orientalism* ("Introduction")

Frantz Fanon: *Black Skin, White Masks* –OR– *The Wretched of the Earth*

Homi Bhabha: from *The Location of Culture* ("Of Mimicry and Man" and "DissemiNation")

Gayatri C. Spivak: "Can the Subaltern Speak?"

Chandra Talpade Mohanty: "Under Western Eyes"

Ngugi wa Thiong'o: *Decolonizing the Mind*

Robert J. C. Young: from *Colonial Desire* (Chs. 1, 2, 7)

9) Critical Race/Ethnic Studies

Barbara Christian: "The Race for Theory"

Henry Louis Gates, Jr.: "Talking Black"

bell hooks: "Postmodern Blackness"

Toni Morrison: *Playing in the Dark*

Paul Gilroy: from *The Black Atlantic* (Chs. 1 & 2)

Gloria Anzaldúa: *Borderlands/La Frontera*

Guillermo Gomez-Pena: *The New World Border* —OR— *Dangerous Border Crossers*

10) Postmodernism

Jean Francois Lyotard: *The Postmodern Condition*

Fredric Jameson: from *Postmodernism, or the Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism* (Introduction, Chs. 1 & 2)

Linda Hutcheon: from *The Poetics of Postmodernism* (Introduction, Chs. 1 & 2)

Jean Baudrillard: *Simulacra & Simulation*

Gilles Deleuze & Felix Guattari: from *A Thousand Plateaus* (Introduction: Rhizome)

Donna Haraway: "Manifesto for Cyborgs"

Slavoj Zizek: *The Sublime Object of Ideology*

11) Narrative Theory

Mikhail Bakhtin: *The Dialogic Imagination*

Wayne Booth: *The Rhetoric of Fiction*

Martin McQuillan: "Aporias of Writing: Narrative and Subjectivity" from *The Narrative Reader*

Mark Currie: "Narrative, Politics and History" from *Postmodern Narrative Theory*

Mieke Bal: "Text: Words" from *Narratology*

Suzanne Keen: "Narrative Situation: Who's Who and What's its Function" from *Narrative Form*

David Herman, et.al.: *Narrative Theory: Core Concepts and Critical Debates*

12) Reader Response

Wolfgang Iser: *Interaction Between Text and Reader*

George Poulet: *Phenomenology of Reading*

E.D Hirsch Jr.: *Objective Interpretation*

Stanley Fish: *Is There a Text in This Class?*

Ellen Esrock: *The Reader's Eye: Visual Imaging as Reader Response*

Elaine Scarry: from *Dreaming by the Book* (Chs. 1-3)

Bibliography—Selected Theory Sourcebooks

Bennet, Andrew & Nicholas Royle. *An Introduction to Literature, Criticism, and Theory*, 4th ed. New York: Routledge, 2009.

Bertens, Hans. *The Basics: Literary Theory*. London: Routledge, 2001.

Castle, Gregory. *The Blackwell Guide to Literary Theory*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2007.

*Cuddon, J.A. & M.A.R. Habib. *Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory*. NY: Penguin, 2014.

- Culler, Jonathan. *Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford, 1997.
- Damon, Maria & Ira Livingston, eds. *Poetry and Cultural Studies: A Reader*. Urbana: Illinois UP, 2009.
- *Grodin, Michael, Martin Kreiswirth, and Imre Szeman, eds. *The Johns Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory & Criticism*, 2nd ed. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005.
- Habib, M.A.R. *Modern Literary Criticism and Theory: A History*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2008.
- Haggerty, George E. and Molly McGarry, eds. *A Companion to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Studies*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2007.
- Hall, Donald E. and Annamarie Jagose, eds. *The Routledge Queer Studies Reader*. New York: Routledge, 2013.
- Lane, Richard J., ed. *Global Literary Theory: An Anthology*. New York: Routledge, 2013.
- Leitch, Vincent B., et. al., eds. *The Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*. 2nd ed. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 2010.
- Loomba, Ania. *Colonialism/Postcolonialism*. London: Routledge, 1998.
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- McCann, Carole R and Seung-kyung Kim, eds. *Feminist Theory Reader: Local and Global Perspectives*. 3rd ed. New York: Routledge, 2013.
- McKeon, Michael, ed. *Theory of the Novel*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2000.
- Rivkin, Julie & Michael Ryan, eds. *Literary Theory: An Anthology*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2004.
- Williams, Raymond. *Keywords*. New York: Oxford, 1985.
- Young, Robert J. C. *Postcolonialism: An Historical Introduction*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2001.