

Reading List for English Literature before 1750, 7,5 hp
(no works are obligatory; this list is a contingent guide and
the titles are negotiable, but all genres must be represented;
the total selection should be about 3000 pages)

• **Literature:**

1) Poetry:

Beowulf (Norton)

Chaucer: *Canterbury Tales* (5 tales)

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight (Norton)

Piers Plowman (Norton)

Sidney: *Astrophil and Stella* (Norton)

Spenser: *The Faerie Queene*, *The Shepheardes Calender*, *Amoretti & Epithalamion* (Norton)

Marlowe: "Hero and Leander" (Norton)

Shakespeare: *Sonnets* (Norton)

Jonson: *Poems* (Norton)

Donne: *Poems* (Norton)

Herbert: *The Temple* (Norton)

Marvell: *Poems* (Norton)

Milton: *Paradise Lost*, *Samson Agonistes*, shorter poems (Norton)

Dryden: "Absalom & Achitobel," "A Song for St. Cecilia's Day"

Pope: "The Rape of the Lock," *An Essay on Man*, *The Dunciad*

Poems of your own choice selected from Skelton, Wyatt, Surrey, Raleigh, Campion, Lady Mary Wroth, Herrick, Crashaw, Vaughan, King, Carew, Suckling, Lovelace, Waller, Butler, Finch, Montagu, Swift, Dr Johnson, Thomson, Gray, Collins, Goldsmith, Crabbe, Cowper (all in Norton).

2) Contemporary Literary Criticism:

Sidney: *The Defence of Poesy* (Norton)

Dryden: *Critical Essays* (selection in Norton)

Pope: *An Essay on Criticism* (Norton)

3) Prose

Selections from the following writers:

Malory, More, Hoby, Ascham, Foxe, Lyly, Hooker, Lanyer, Donne, Milton, Bacon, Burton, Hobbes, Walton, Browne, Pepys, Bunyan, Swift, Addison & Steele, Dr. Johnson, Boswell

Read some of the Longer works:

Malory: *Morte d'Arthur* (read 7 of the 21 Books)

More: *Utopia*

Elyot: *The Governor*

Lyly: *Euphues*

Sidney: *The Old Arcadia*

Nashe: *The Unfortunate Traveller*

Bacon: *Essays*, *New Organon*, *The Advancement of Learning*

Burton: *Anatomy of Melancholy* (third partition on "Love Melancholy")
 Browne: *Religio Medici* and *Urn Burial*
 Walton: *Compleat Angler*
 Milton: *Areopagitica*, *To Establish a Free Commonwealth*, *The Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce*, *Of Education*
 Hobbes: *Leviathan* (Parts 1 and 2)
 Pepys: *Diary* (kept 1660-69; read excerpt)
 Bunyan: *Pilgrim's Progress* (1678)
 Behn: *Oroonoko* (1688)
 Locke: *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding* (1690), *Two Treatises Concerning Civil Government* (1690)
 Swift: *Tale of a Tub* (1704)
 Berkeley: *The Principles of Human Knowledge* (1710)
 Addison and Steele: *The Tatler* and *The Spectator* (1709-14)
 Defoe: *Robinson Crusoe* (1719); *Moll Flanders* (1722); *Roxana* (1725); *Journal of the Plague Years* (1722)
 Hume: *Treatise of Human Nature* (1739); *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* (1748)
 Richardson: *Pamela* (1740-41); *Clarissa* (1747)
 Fielding: *Joseph Andrews* (1742); *Tom Jones* (1749)
 Smollet: *Roderick Random* (1748); *Humphrey Clinker* (1771)
 Lennox: *The Female Quixote* (1752)
 Sterne: *Tristram Shandy* (1759-67)
 Goldsmith: *The Vicar of Wakefield* (1766)

3) Drama:

The Second Shepherd's Play (Norton)
Everyman (Norton)
 Marlowe: *Doctor Faustus* (Norton)
 Jonson: *Volpone* (Norton)
 Webster: *The Duchess of Malfi* (Norton)
 Shakespeare: plays from the categories comedy, tragedy, history, and romance
 Dryden: *Marriage à la Mode* (1672); *All for Love* (1678)
 Etherege: *The Man of Mode* (1676)
 Behn: *The Rover* (1677)
 Otway: *Venice Preserved* (1682)
 Congreve: *Love for Love* (1695); *The Way of the World* (1700)
 Farquhar: *The Recruiting Officer* (1706); *The Beaux' Stratagem* (1707)
 Gay: *The Beggar's Opera* (1728)
 Goldsmith: *She Stoops to Conquer* (1773)
 Sheridan: *The School for Scandal* (1777)

• Literary Criticism, Theory and History:

Relevant sections in Andrew Sanders, *The Short Oxford History of English Literature*,
 Relevant period and author introductions in the *Norton Anthology*
 Isabel Rivers, *Classical and Christian Ideas in English Renaissance Poetry*, 2nd ed. (1994)
 Ian Watts, *The Rise of the Novel* (1954)

Read at least three other critical or theoretical works related to the period, selected after consultation with your supervisor.