

# Reading List for English Literature after 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

Chose from the Norton poetry selections of the following poets:

Blake, Burns, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, Keats, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Tennyson, Robert Browning, Arnold, Meredith, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Christina Rossetti, Hopkins

Longer complete poems:

Blake: *The French Revolution* (1791); *The Four Zoas* (1795-1804); *Milton* (1804-08); *Jerusalem* (1804-20)

Wordsworth: *The Prelude* (1804 or 1850)

Byron: *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage* (1812-18); *Don Juan* (1819-24)

Shelley: *The Cenci* (1819; Play); *Prometheus Unbound* (1820; Closet Drama)

Keats: *Endymion* (1818); *Lamia* (1820)

Tennyson: *In Memoriam* (1850); *Maud* (1855); *Idylls of the King* (1869)

Elizabeth Barrett Browning: *Aurora Leigh* (1860)

Meredith: *Modern Love* (1862)

Robert Browning: *The Ring and the Book* (1868-69)

### 2) Contemporary Literary Criticism:

Wordsworth: Preface to *Lyrical Ballads* (Norton)

Coleridge: *Biographia Literaria* (excerpt in Norton)

Shelley: *A Defence of Poetry* (Norton)

Keats: *Letters* (Norton)

### 3) Novels

**Austen:** *Sense and Sensibility* (1811); *Pride and Prejudice* (1813); *Mansfield Park* (1814); *Emma* (1816); *Northanger Abbey* (1818); *Persuasion* (1818)

**Scott:** *Waverley* (1814); *The Antiquary* (1816); *Old Mortality* (1816); *The Heart of Midlothian* (1818)

**Dickens:** *Pickwick Papers* (1836-37); *Oliver Twist* (1837-38); *Nicholas Nickleby* (1838-39); *Dombey and Son* (1848); *David Copperfield* (1849-50); *Bleak House* (1852-53); *Great Expectations* (1860-61)

**The Brontës:** Charlotte Brontë, *Jane Eyre* (1847); Emily Brontë, *Wuthering Heights* (1847)

**George Eliot:** *Adam Bede* (1859); *The Mill on the Floss* (1860); *Silas Marner* (1861); *Middlemarch* (1871-72)

**Hardy:** *Far From the Madding Crowd* (1874); *The Return of the Native* (1878); *The Mayor of Casterbridge* (1886); *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* (1891); *Jude the Obscure* (1895)

Walpole: *The Castle of Otranto* (1764)

Mackenzie: *The Man of Feeling* (1771)

Gibbons: *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* (1776-88; read one-volume excerpts)

Beckford: *Vathek* (1786)

Burney: *Evelina* (1778); *Cecilia* (1782); *Camilla* (1796)

Boswell: *Life of Johnson* (1791)

Radcliffe: *The Mysteries of Udolpho* (1794); *The Italian* (1797)

Lewis: *The Monk* (1796)  
Maria Edgeworth: *Castle Rackrent* (1800); *The Absentee* (1812)  
Mary Shelley: *Frankenstein* (1818)  
Charles Maturin: *Melmoth the Wanderer* (1820)  
William Makepeace Thackeray: *Vanity Fair* (1847-48); *Henry Esmond* (1852)  
Mrs. Gaskell: *Cranford* (1853); *North and South* (1855)  
Anthony Trollope: *Barchester Towers* (1857); *The Way We Live Now* (1875)  
George Meredith: *The Ordeal of Richard Feverel* (1859); *The Egoist* (1879)  
Wilkie Collins: *The Woman in White* (1860); *The Moonstone* (1868)  
Robert L. Stevenson: *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* (1886)  
Oscar Wilde: *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1890)  
Rudyard Kipling: *The Jungle Books* (1894); *Kim* (1901)  
Samuel Butler: *The Way of All Flesh* (1903)

Works from the anthology *Popular Fiction by Women 1660-1730*, ed. Paula Backscheider and John Richetti

#### 4) Non-novelistic Prose

**Chose from the complete prose selections in the Norton of the following writers:**

Wollstonecraft, Dorothy Wordsworth, Lamb, De Quincey, Carlyle, Newman, Mill, Ruskin, Huxley

#### Longer works:

Edmund Burke: *The Sublime and the Beautiful* (1757); *Reflections on the Revolution in France* (1790)  
Tom Paine: *The Rights of Man* (1791-92)  
Mary Wollstonecraft: *A Vindication of the Rights of Men* (1790); *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (1792); *Letters Written ... in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark* (1796)  
William Hazlitt: *Lectures on the English Poets* (1818)  
Thomas DeQuincey: *Confessions of an English Opium Eater* (1822)  
Charles Lamb: *Essays of Eliah* (1823)  
Thomas Carlyle: *Sartor Resartus* (1833-34); *History of the French Revolution* (1837); *Heroes and Hero-Worship* (1841); *Past and Present* (1843)  
John Ruskin: *Modern Painters* (1843-60); *The Seven Lamps of Architecture* (1849); *The Stones of Venice* (1851-53)  
John Stuart Mill: *The Subjection of Women* (1869); *Autobiography* (1873)  
Charles Robert Darwin: *On the Origin of Species* (1859)  
John Henry Newman: *Apologia pro Vita Sua* (1864)  
T.H. Huxley: *Evolution and Ethics* (1893)

#### 5) Drama

Oscar Wilde: *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895; Norton)

### • Literary Criticism, Theory and History:

#### Overview:

Relevant sections in Sanders, *Short Oxford History of English Literature*  
All period and author introductions in the *Norton Anthology*

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