

## Master of Arts in French Reading List

The Master's Exam incorporates readings and works from classes taken during the program at MU as well as those works listed here. This list does not constitute a "coverage list" but rather a "performance list"; that is to say, if you have not taken a course in a period listed, you can expect to find questions based on these specific works. All students should feel free to consult with the professors who specialize in these periods prior to the exam so that supplemental critical works can be suggested which will provide additional depth.

Prior to taking the MA comprehensive exam, the Graduate Studies Director will ask you to provide a list of the courses you took during your MA program. If you have not taken a course in one of the six areas covered by the exam, you can expect a question based on material from the reading list. The MA exam is divided into six one-hour sessions. These include:

1. Medieval and Renaissance
2. 17<sup>th</sup> century
3. 18<sup>th</sup> century
4. 19<sup>th</sup> century

And two of the three following areas (to be decided by you and your advisor)

5. Twentieth Century continental literature
6. Francophone and Canadian Literature
7. Literary Theory

For an overview of general principles of literary theory, interested students might consider one or more of the following works:

1. Terry Eagleton, *Literary Theory. An Introduction.*
2. D. W. Fokkema and Elrud Kunne-Ibsch. *Theories of Literature in the Twentieth Century: Structuralism, Marxism, Aesthetics of Reception, Semiotics.*
3. Paul Hernadi, editor. *What is Literature?*
4. René Wellek and Austin Warren. *Theory of Literature.*
5. Kamal Salhi, ed. *Francophone Post-Colonial Cultures: Critical Essays.*
6. J. Gibaldi, ed. *Introduction to Scholarship in Modern Languages and Literatures (MLA Texts)*

The following anthologies will also provide a broad overview of historical movements and literary trends:

1. Geoffrey Brereton. *A Short History of French Literature*
2. Pierre Brunel, editor. *Histoire de la littérature française* (Bordas edition)
3. Henri Clouard. *Petite histoire de la littérature française*
4. Denis Hollier, editor. *A New History of French Literature.*

Students who begin in the Fall Semester should plan on taking the M.A. exam in the Spring Semester of their second year of study.

### Medieval Period and Renaissance Period

1. *La Chanson de Roland*
2. Chrétien de Troyes. *Yvain*
3. Marie de France. *Lais* ("*Chèvrefeuille*," "*Laustic*," "*Bisclavret*," "*Yonec*")
4. *La Farce de Maître Pathelin*
5. Villon. *Poésies choisies*. "Ballade des Pendus," "Ballade des dames du temps jadis," "Ballade pour prier Notre Dame."
6. *Aucassin et Nicolette*
7. Fabliaux: "*Estula*," "*La Bourgeoise d'Orléans*," "*Le Meunier et les deux clercs*," "*Les Trois bossus*"
8. *Tristan et Iseult* (Bédier edition)
9. Christine de Pisan, *La Cité des dames*. Introduction: 1.1-1.23:11.50.1
10. Rabelais. *Gargantua ou Pantagruel*.
11. Marguerite de Navarre: *L'Heptaméron* : Prologue: Stories 2 and 4: 3 and 11: 43 and 49.
12. Montaigne: *Essais* I: 20, 26, 28, 31; II: 16, 37; III: 2, 5, 13.
13. du Bellay: *Les Antiquités de Rome*, 3, 6, 30; *L'Olive*, 83, 113; *Les Regrets*, 6, 9, 16, 31, 86; Introduction to *La Défense et illustration de la langue française*
14. Ronsard. *Le Premier livre des Sonnets pour Hélène*, sonnets 12, 17, 26, 51

### Seventeenth Century

1. Corneille, *Le Cid*; *Horace*; *L'illusion comique*
2. Racine. *Andromaque*; *Phèdre*; *Athalie*
3. Molière. *Les Précieuses ridicules*; *Le Misanthrope*; *Tartuffe*
4. Madame de Lafayette. *La Princesse de Clèves*
5. Pascal. *Les Pensées*, Textes choisis, numérotation La Fuma: 44, 45, 84, 85, 88, 90, 112, 114, 136, 148, 192, 199, 200, 208, 218, 224, 225, 226, 246, 257, 267, 269, 272, 276, 290, 390, 391, 418, 427, 512, 701, 911, 978
6. Descartes. *Discours de la Méthode*
7. La Bruyère. *Les Caractères* Textes choisis (édition de 1696). ("*Des ouvrages de l'esprit*" 1, 43, 54; "*Du mérite personnel*" 40; "*Des femmes*" 1, 2, 49; "*De la société et de la conversation*" 9, 47; "*Des biens de la fortune*" 12, 83; "*De la ville*" 4, 12, 22; "*De la cour*" 22, 74; "*Des grands*" 3, 8, 25, 50; "*Du souverain de la république*" 9; "*De l'homme*" 1, 122, 128; "*Des jugements*" 20, 55; "*De la mode*" 14, 24
8. La Fontaine. *Fables*. Fables choisies: "*La Cigale et la fourmi*" (I, 1); "*Le Corbeau et le renard*" (I, 2); "*Le Loup et le chien*" (I, 5); "*La Mort et le bûcheron*" (I, 16); "*Le Lion et le moucheron*" (II, 9); "*Les Animaux malades*

de la peste" (VII, 1); "Les Deux amis" (VIII, 11); "Les Obsèques de la lionne" (VIII, 14); "Les Deux pigeons" (IX, 2); "Les Souris et le chat-huant" (XI, 9)

### **Eighteenth Century**

1. Beaumarchais. *Le Mariage de Figaro*
2. Chénier. "La Jeune Captive," et lambes: IX "Comme un dernier rayon ..."
3. Diderot. *Jacques Le Fataliste and Supplément au voyage de Bouganville*
4. Graffigny. *Lettres d'une Péruvienne*
5. Marivaux. *Le Jeu de l'amour et du hasard* ou *L'Île des esclaves*
6. Montesquieu. *Les Lettres persanes*;
7. Prévost. *Manon Lescaut*
8. Rousseau. *Discours sur l'origine de l'inégalité; Les Rêveries du promeneur solitaire, "Première promenade" et "Cinquième promenade"*
9. Voltaire. *Candide; Zadig; Poème sur le désastre de Lisbonne; Dictionnaire philosophique (texte de 1765)- "Préface" et articles "Abraham", "Arius", "Bien (tout est)", "Catéchisme chinois", "Fanatisme", "Job", "Morale", "Théiste", "Vertu"*
10. Dictionnaire philosophique: Préface and Fanatisme, Vertu, Superstition.
11. Claire Duras, *Ourika*

### **Nineteenth Century**

1. Balzac. *Le Père Goriot*
2. Baudelaire. *Les Fleurs du Mal*: "L'Albatros," "Élévation," "Correspondances," "La Beauté," "Hymne à la Beauté," "La Chevelure," "L'Invitation au voyage," "Spleen" ("Quand le ciel bas et lourd ..."), "Le Cygne," "A une passante"; *Petits poèmes en prose*: "L'Étranger," "Un hémisphère dans une chevelure," "Anywhere out of the world," "Assommons les pauvres!"; *Le Peintre de la vie moderne*
3. François-René de Chateaubriand. *René*
4. Marceline Desbordes-Valmore. "Les Roses de Saadi," "Rêve intermittent d'une nuit triste"
5. Gustave Flaubert. *Madame Bovary*
6. Théophile Gautier. "Symphonie en blanc majeur," "L'Art," Préface de *Mademoiselle de Maupin*
7. Victor Hugo. *Le Dernier jour d'un condamné*, "Les Djinns," "Tristesse d'Olympio," "Demain dès l'aube," Préface de *Cromwell*
8. Alphonse de Lamartine. "L'Isolement," "Le Lac"
9. Stéphane Mallarmé. "Brise marine," "L'Après-midi d'un faune," "Le Vierge, le vivace et le bel aujourd'hui," "Un Coup de dés"
10. Guy de Maupassant. *Boule de Suif*
11. Gérard de Nerval. *Sylvie*, "El Desdichado," "Myrtho"
12. Arthur Rimbaud. Première lettre dite "du voyant"; *Poésies*: "Le Dormeur du val," "Sensation," "Le Bateau ivre," "Voyelles"; *Illuminations*: "Aube," "Mouvement;" *Une saison en enfer*
13. Georges Sand. *Indiana*
14. Mme de Staël. *Delphine*

15. Stendhal. *Le Rouge et le noir*
16. Vigny. "La Maison du Berger," "La Mort du loup," *Chatterton*
17. Villiers de l'Isle Adam. *L'Eve future* ou *Huysmans A rebours*
18. Emile Zola. *La Bête humaine* or *Germinal*

**Twentieth Century; Francophone and Theory** (Choose two sections out of three)

A. Continental French Literature

1. Beckett. *En attendant Godot*
2. Cocteau. *La Machine infernale*
3. Genet. *Les Nègres* **ou** *Les Bonnes*
4. Giraudoux. *La Guerre de Troie n'aura pas lieu* **ou** Paul Claudel. *L'Annonce Faite à Marie*
5. Ionesco. *Les Chaises* **ou** *Le Roi se meurt*
6. Jarry. *Ubu Roi*
7. Sartre. *Huis-Clos* **ou** *Les Mouches*
8. Butor. *La Modification*
9. Camus. *La Peste* **ou** *L'Etranger*
10. Céline. *Voyage au bout de la nuit*
11. Colette. *Chéri*
12. Duras. *L'Amant*
13. Gide. *L'Immoraliste*
14. Malraux. *La Condition humaine*
15. Proust. *Du côté de chez Swann*
16. Robbe-Grillet. *La Jalousie*
17. Sarraute. *Le Planétarium* **ou** *Les Fruits d'or*
18. Apollinaire. *Alcools*
19. Aragon. *Feu de joie* **ou** *Le Mouvement perpétuel*
20. Prévert. *Paroles*
21. Valéry. *Charmes*

B. Francophone and Canadian Literature

1. Alexis. *Les Arbres musiciens.*
2. Miriama Bâ. *Une si longue lettre*
3. Ken Bugul. *Le Baobab fou*
4. Blais. *La Belle Bête*
5. Capécia. *Je suis martiniquaise.*
6. Césaire. *Cahier d'un retour au pays natal*
7. Césaire. *Le Roi Christophe*
8. Condé. *Traversée de la mangrove*
9. Damas. *Pigments*
10. Chamoiseau. *Solibo Magnifique* ou *Chemin d'école*
11. Hébert. *Kamouraska* ou *Les Fous de Barssan*
12. Hémon, *Maria Chapdelaine*
13. Kourouma Amadou, *Les Soleils des independances*

14. Maran. *Batouala, véritable roman nègre*
15. Maximin. *L'Isolé soleil*
16. Oyono. *Une Vie de boy*
17. Roumain. *Gouverneurs de la rosée*
18. Roy. *Bonheur d'occasion*
19. Schwarz-Bart. *Pluie et vent sur Telumée Miracle*
20. Senghor. "Nuit de sine," "Femme noire," "Masque noir," "Méditerranée"
21. Tahar Ben Jelloun, *L'Enfant de sable*
22. Zobel. *La Rue Cases-Nègres*

### C. Literary Theory

1. Breton. *Le Premier Manifeste du Surréalisme*
2. Derrida. *Positions* ou Foucault. *Les Mots et les Choses*
3. Althusser. "Idéologie et appareils idéologiques d'état"
4. Barthes. *Mythologies* and "The Death of the Author"
5. Simone de Beauvoir. *Le Deuxième sexe*
6. Walter Benjamin. "Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction" and "The Author as Producer"
7. Hélène Cixous. "Le Rire de la méduse"
8. Terry Eagleton. *Literary Theory. An Introduction*
9. Frantz Fanon. "L'Expérience vécue du noir" (from *Peau noire, masques blancs*)
10. Michael Foucault. *Surveiller et punir*
11. Freud. *The Interpretation of Dreams* (Ch. 5 "The Material and Sources of Dreams" [Oedipus Complex] and Ch. 6 "The Dream Work," "The Uncanny")
12. Edouard Glissant. *Poétique de la relation*
13. Paul Hernadi, editor. *What is Literature?*
14. Alexandre Kojève. *Introduction à la lecture d'Hegel*
15. Vincent Leitch, et. al., editors. *The Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*
16. Marx and Engels. *The Communist Manifesto*
17. Albert Memmi. *Portrait du colonisé, précédé du portrait du colonisateur* ou Césaire. *Discours sur le colonialisme.*
18. René Wellek and Austin Warren. *La Théorie littéraire*