Suggested A Level Reading List
[texts in bold have been used by Lang/Lit students for their NEA]

Prose:

Naomi Alderman  
*The Power*

Kingsley Amis  
*Lucky Jim*

Martin Amis  
*The Rachel Papers; London Fields*

Margaret Atwood  
*The Handmaid’s Tale; Alias Grace; The Blind Assassin*

Jane Austen  
*Pride and Prejudice; Persuasion; Sense and Sensibility; Emma*

J.G. Ballard  
*Crash; Empire of the Sun*

Alan Bennett  
*Talking Heads*

Anne Brontë  
*The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*

Emily Brontë  
*Wuthering Heights*

Charlotte Brontë  
*Jane Eyre*

Anthony Burgess  
*A Clockwork Orange*

Albert Camus  
*The Outsider; The Stranger* [French]

Miguel de Cervantes  
*Don Quixote* [Spanish]

Paulo Coelho  
*The Alchemist*

J.M. Coetzee  
*Disgrace*

Wilkie Collins  
*The Woman in White; The Moonstone*

Joseph Conrad  
*Heart of Darkness; The Secret Agent*

Daniel Defoe  
*R Robinson Crusoe; Moll Flanders*

Charles Dickens  
*Great Expectations; Bleak House; David Copperfield*

Fyodor Dostoyevsky  
*Crime and Punishment; The Idiot; The Brothers Karamazov* [Russian]

Roddy Doyle  
*Paddy Clarke Ha Ha; The Van*
Umberto Eco *The Name of the Rose* [Italian]

George Eliot *Middlemarch; Silas Marner; The Mill on the Floss; Adam Bede*

Brett Easton Ellis *American Psycho*

William Faulkner *The Sound and the Fury; As I Lay Dying; Absalom Absalom*

Sebastian Faulks *Birdsong; Engleby; On Green Dolphin Street*

Henry Fielding *Tom Jones*

F. Scott Fitzgerald *Tender is the Night; This Side of Paradise*

Gustave Flaubert *Madame Bovary* [French]

E.M. Forster *A Room with a View; Howard’s End; A Passage to India; Maurice*

Karen Joy Fowler *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves*

John Fowles *The French Lieutenant’s Woman*

Elizabeth Gaskell *Wives and Daughters; North and South*

Stella Gibbons *Cold Comfort Farm*

George Gissing *The Odd Women*

William Golding *Rites of Passage; The Inheritors; Lord of the Flies*

Günter Grass *The Tin Drum* [German]

Graham Greene *Brighton Rock; The Heart of the Matter; The End of the Affair; The Quiet American; Our Man in Havana; The Third Man; The Comedians*

Mikhail Gulgakov *The Master and Marguerita* [Russian]

Mark Haddon *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time; A Spot of Bother*

Thomas Hardy *The Woodlanders; Jude the Obscure; Tess of the D’Urbervilles; Far from the Madding Crowd; The Mayor of Casterbridge; The Return of the Native*

Nathaniel Hawthorne *The Scarlet Letter*

Joseph Heller *Catch-22*
Zoë Heller  
*Notes on a Scandal*

James Hogg  
*The Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner*

Alan Hollinghurst  
*The Line of Beauty*

Zora Neale Hurston  
*Their Eyes Were Watching God*

Khaled Hosseini  
*A Thousand Splendid Suns*

Aldous Huxley  
*Brave New World*

Kasuo Ishiguro  
*Remains of the Day; When We Were Orphans; Never Let Me Go*

Henry James  
*Washington Square; The Portrait of a Lady; The Bostonians; The Ambassadors; The Golden Bowl*

James Joyce  
*Dubliners; A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man; Ulysses*

Franz Kafka  
*The Trial; The Metamorphosis [German]*

Jack Kerouac  
*On the Road; Big Sur*

Ken Kesey  
*One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*

Stephen King  
*IT; Misery*

Milan Kundera  
*The Unbearable Lightness of Being*

D.H. Lawrence  
*Lady Chatterley’s Lover; Sons and Lovers; Women in Love; The Rainbow*

Harper Lee  
*To Kill a Mockingbird*

Laurie Lee  
*Cider With Rosie*

Doris Lessing  
*The Golden Notebook*

Andrea Levy  
*Small Island*

Matthew Lewis  
*The Monk*

Hilary Mantel  
*Wolf Hall*

Yann Martel  
*The Life of Pi*
Gabriel García Márquez  Love in the Time of Cholera; One Hundred Years of Solitude [Latin American]

Daphne Du Maurier  Rebecca; Frenchman’s Creek; Jamaica Inn

Cormac McCarthy  The Road; No Country for Old Men; Blood Meridian

Ian McEwan  On Chesil Beach; Atonement; Enduring Love; Amsterdam; The Cement Garden

Herman Melville  Moby Dick

John Milton  Paradise Lost; Paradise Regained

Toni Morrison  Beloved; Song of Solomon; Bluest Eye

Iris Murdoch  The Sea, The Sea; The Bell; The Unicorn; An Accidental Man; A Severed Head

Vladimir Nabokov  Lolita [Russian]

Jennifer Niven  All the Bright Places

George Orwell  1984; Down and Out in Paris and London; Animal Farm

Boris Pasternak  Doctor Zhivago [Russian]

Sylvia Plath  The Bell Jar

Edgar Allen Poe  Collected Stories; Tales of Suspense

Marcel Proust  In Search of Lost Time [French]

Anne Radcliffe  The Mysteries of Udolpho

Jean Rhys  Wide Sargasso Sea

Samuel Richardson  Pamela; Clarissa

Philip Roth  The Human Stain

Salman Rushdie  Midnight’s Children

J.D. Salinger  The Catcher in the Rye

Olive Schreiner  Story of an African Farm
Lionel Shriver  
*We Need to Talk About Kevin*

Dodie Smith  
*I Capture the Castle*

Muriel Spark  
*The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*

John Steinbeck  
*The Grapes of Wrath; Of Mice and Men*

Laurence Sterne  
*Tristram Shandy*

Kathryn Stockett  
*The Help*

Graham Swift  
*Waterland*

Jonathan Swift  
*Gulliver’s Travels*

Donna Tartt  
*The Secret History; The Little Friend*

W.M. Thackeray  
*Vanity Fair*

Hunter S. Thompson  
*Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*

J.R.R. Tolkien  
*The Lord of the Rings; The Hobbit*

Leo Tolstoy  
*Anna Karenina [Russian]*

Anthony Trollope  
*The Barchester Chronicles; The Warden*

Mark Twain  
*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

John Updike  
The ‘Rabbit’ books

Alice Walker  
*The Color Purple*

Sarah Waters  
*Fingersmith; Tipping the Velvet; The Night Watch; The Little Stranger*

Evelyn Waugh  
*Brideshead Revisited; Vile Bodies; Decline and Fall; Scoop*

H.G. Wells  
*The War of the Worlds, The Island of Dr Moreau*

Edith Wharton  
*The Age of Innocence; Ethan Frome; The Buccaneers*

Oscar Wilde  
*The Picture of Dorian Gray*

Jeanette Winterson  
*Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*

P.G. Wodehouse  
*The Code of the Woosters*
Virginia Woolf  A Room of One's Own; To the Lighthouse; Mrs Dalloway; Orlando; Jacob's Room

Yevgeny Zamyatin  We [Russian]

**Drama:**

Edward Albee  Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?
Francis Beaumont  The Knight of the Burning Pestle
Samuel Beckett  Endgame; Waiting for Godot
Aphra Behn  The Rover
Alan Bennett  The History Boys; The Habit of Art
Stephen Berkoff  Metamorphosis
George Bernard Shaw  Pygmalion
Bertolt Brecht  The Caucasian Chalk Circle
Anton Chekhov  The Cherry Orchard; Three Sisters; The Seagull
Caryl Churchill  Top Girls
Thomas Dekker  The Shoemaker’s Holiday
Brian Friel  Translations; Dancing at Lughnasa
Henrik Ibsen  A Doll’s House; Ghosts; Hedda Gabler
Ben Jonson  Volpone; The Alchemist; Epicoene
Sarah Kane  Blasted; Skin; Crave; 4.48 Psychosis
Christopher Marlowe  Doctor Faustus
John Marston  The Dutch Courtesan
Thomas Middleton  The Honest Whore; The Revenger’s Tragedy
Arthur Miller  Death of a Salesman; All My Sons; A View from the Bridge
Molière  Tartuffe
Eugene O’Neill: The Iceman Cometh; Long Day’s Journey Into Night; Desire Under the Elms; Mourning Becomes Electra

Harold Pinter: The Birthday Party; **The Caretaker**

William Shakespeare Collected Plays: The Taming of the Shrew; Macbeth; Othello

Richard Sheridan: The Rivals

Tom Stoppard: Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead; Arcadia

August Strindberg: Miss Julie

J.M. Synge: Playboy of the Western World

John Webster: The Duchess of Malfi; The White Devil

Oscar Wilde: The Importance of Being Ernest; A Woman of No Importance; An Ideal Husband

Tennessee Williams: Sweet Bird of Youth; **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof**

**Poetry:**

**Simon Armitage**

William Blake

John Betjeman

**Charles Bukowski**

Lord Byron

Geoffrey Chaucer

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Wendy Cope

Emily Dickinson

John Donne
John Dryden
T.S. Eliot
Robert Frost
Thomas Hardy
Gerard Manley Hopkins
Ted Hughes
John Keats
Philip Larkin
Louis Macneice
John Milton
Andrew Motion
Paul Muldoon

**Wilfred Owen**

**Sylvia Plath**

Alexander Pope
Siegfried Sassoon
William Shakespeare
Percy Bysshe Shelley
Edmund Spenser
Alfred, Lord Tennyson
Walt Whitman
William Wordsworth
W.B. Yeats