American Literature, 1900-2000

Literary Prose

Theodore Dreiser
*Sister Carrie* (1900)

Henry James
*The Wings of the Dove* (1902)

Gertrude Stein
*Three Lives* (1909)

Willa Cather
*O Pioneers!* (1913)

Sherwood Anderson
*Winesburg, Ohio* (1919)

E.E. Cummings
*The Enormous Room* (1922)

Ernest Hemingway
*In Our Time* (1925)

F. Scott Fitzgerald
*The Great Gatsby* (1925)

William Faulkner
*Absalom, Absalom!* (1936)

Zora Neale Hurston
*Their Eyes Were Watching God* (1937)

Ralph Ellison
*Invisible Man* (1952)

Jack Kerouac
*On The Road* (1955)

William S. Burroughs
*Naked Lunch* (1959)

Thomas Pynchon
*The Crying of Lot 49* (1965)

Norman Mailer
*The Armies of the Night* (1968)

Kurt Vonnegut
*Slaughterhouse-Five* (1969)

Maxine Hong Kingston
*The Woman Warrior* (1975)

Don Delillo
*White Noise* (1985)

Toni Morrison
*Beloved* (1987)

David Foster Wallace
*Girl with Curious Hair* (1990)

Karen Tei Yamashita

Poetry

Gertrude Stein (1874-1946)
*Tender Buttons* (1914)

Robert Frost (1874-1963)
“Mending Wall” (1914)
“After Apple-Picking” (1914)
“Birches” (1916)
“For Once, Then, Something” (1923)

Wallace Stevens (1879-1955)
*Harmonium* (1923)

William Carlos Williams (1883-1963)
*Spring and All* (1923)
*Paterson*, part I (1946)

Ezra Pound (1885-1972)
“In a Station of the Metro” (1913)
“The River-Merchant’s Wife: A Letter” (1915)
*The Cantos* I (1917), II (1917), XLI (1937), CXX (1969)

Marianne Moore (1887-1972)
“The Fish” (1918)
“Poetry” (1919)
“The Steeple-Jack” (1932)
“The Paper Nautilus” (1940)
T.S. Eliot (1888-1965)
“The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” (1917)
*The Waste Land* (1922)
“Little Gidding” (1942)

Langston Hughes (1902-1967)
*Fine Clothes to the Jew* (1927)

Theodore Roethke (1908-1963)
“My Papa’s Waltz” (1948)
“Elegy for Jane” (1953)
“The Waking” (1953)
“In a Dark Time” (1964)

Charles Olson (1910-1970)
“Pacific Lament” (1946)
“The Thing Was Moving” (1952)
“Maximus, to Himself” (1960)

Elizabeth Bishop (1911-1979)
*Geography III* (1976)

Robert Lowell (1917-1977)
*Life Studies* (1959)

Gwendolyn Brooks (1917-2000)
“The Sundays of Satin-Legs Smith” (1944)
“The Mother” (1945)
“Sadie and Maud” (1945)
“We Real Cool” (1960)
“A Bronzeville Mother Loiters in Mississippi” (1960)

Allen Ginsberg (1926-1977)
“Howl” (1956)
“America” (1956)

John Ashbery (1927-)
“Some Trees” (1956)
“The Instruction Manual” (1956)
“The Tennis Court Oath” (1962)
“Soonest Mended” (1970)
“Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror” (1975)

Sylvia Plath (1932-1963)

*Ariel* (1965)

Amiri Baraka (Leroi Jones) (1934-)
*Preface to a Twenty-Volume Suicide Note* (1961)

Lyn Hejinian (1941-)
*My Life* (1987)

Sherman Alexie (1966-)
“Evolution” (1991)
“On the Amtrak from Boston to New York City” (1993)
“Tourists” (1996)
“How to Write the Great American Indian Novel” (1996)

**Drama**

Eugene O’Neill (1888-1953)
*Long Day’s Journey into Night* (1940)

Tennessee Williams (1911-1983)
*A Streetcar Named Desire* (1947)

Arthur Miller (1915-2005)
*Death of a Salesman* (1949)

Edward Albee (1928-)
*Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf* (1962)

Amiri Baraka (Leroi Jones) (1934-)
*Dutchman* (1964)

David Mamet (1947-)
*Glengarry Glen Ross* (1984)

Tony Kushner (1956-)
*Angels in America Pts. 1 & 2* (1992)

Suzan-Lori Parks (1964-)

**Cultural Thought**

W.E.B. DuBois (1868-1963)
*The Souls of Black Folk* (1903)
William James (1842-1910)
*Pragmatism* (1907)

T.S. Eliot
“Tradition and the Individual Talent” (1919)
“Hamlet” (1919)

Alain Locke
*The New Negro* (1925)

Gertrude Stein
*Lectures in America* (1935)

Wallace Stevens
*The Necessary Angel: Essays on Reality and the Imagination* (1951)

Joan Didion (1934-)
*Slouching Towards Bethlehem* (1968)

**Criticism**

David Perkins
(relevant selections)

Elizabeth Ammons
*Conflicting Stories: American Women Writers at the Turn into the Twentieth Century* (1992)

Michael North
*The Dialect of Modernism* (1994)

Walter Benn Michaels

David Minter