Victorian
period list for PhD oral examination, 2020, compiled by Shalmi Barman
* indicates overlap with field list (Bibliography, Textual Studies, and Book History)

Prose fiction
1. Emily Brontë, *Wuthering Heights* (1847)
2. William Makepeace Thackeray, *Vanity Fair* (1848)
3. Elizabeth Gaskell, *Mary Barton* (1848)
5. Charlotte Brontë, *Villette* (1853)
7. Lewis Carroll, *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* (1865)
10. Thomas Hardy, *The Return of the Native* (1878)
12. Margaret Oliphant, *Hester* (1883)

Poetry
17. Alfred Tennyson:
   “Mariana”, “The Lady of Shalott”, “The Palace of Art”, “The Lotos Eaters”, “Ulysses” (1842);
   selections from *In Memoriam* (Prologue, IV-VII, XXX, XLIX-LV, LXXVI, CXIII-CXVI, Epilogue) (1849); “Maud” (1855); “Tithonus” (1864); “The Holy Grail” (1869)

18. Robert Browning:
   “My Last Duchess”, “Porphyria’s Lover” (1842); “The Bishop Orders His Tomb At St. Praxed’s Church”, “Meeting at Night”, “Parting at Morning” (1845); “A Woman’s Last Word”, “Fra Lippo Lippi”, “An Epistle Containing the Strange Medical Experience of Karshish, the Arab Physician”,
“Andrea del Sarto”, “Two in the Campagna” (1855); “Caliban Upon Setebos” (1864)

19. Elizabeth Barrett Browning:
“The Cry of the Children” (1844); selections from Sonnets from the Portuguese (IV, IX, XIII, XVII, XXIX, XXXV, XLII, XLIII, XLIV) (1850); Aurora Leigh (1856); “The Runaway Slave at Pilgrim’s Point” (1850); “A Curse For a Nation” (1860); “A Musical Instrument” (1862)

20. Christina Rossetti:

21. Algernon Charles Swinburne:

22. Dante Gabriel Rossetti:
“Of Life, Love, and Death: Sixteen Sonnets” (1869); “The Blessed Damozel”, “Jenny”, “Sister Helen” (1870)

23. Gerard Manley Hopkins:

24. Augusta Webster:

25. James Thomson:
“The City of Dreadful Night”, “To Our Ladies of Death”, “Sunday at Hampstead” (1880); “Mater
Tenebarum” (1881)

26. Oscar Wilde:
“Ave Imperatrix”, “The Garden of Eros” (1881); “The Harlot’s House” (1885); “The Sphinx” (1894); “The Ballad of Reading Gaol” (1898)

Drama
27. Wilkie Collins, The Woman in White (1871)
29. Oscar Wilde, Salomé (1894)
30. George Bernard Shaw, Candida (1898)

Non-fiction prose
31. Thomas Carlyle, “The Hero as Man of Letters” (1840), Past and Present (1843)


33. John Ruskin, “Pre-Raphaelitism” (1851), “The Nature of Gothic” (1853), Unto This Last (1860), “The Two Boyhoods”, “Letter the 5th” (Fors Clavigera, 1st May 1871)

34. John Stuart Mill, Utilitarianism (1863)

35. John Henry Newman, Apologia Pro Vita Sua (1864)

36. Matthew Arnold, Culture and Anarchy (1869)


40. Edward Carpenter, “Desirable Mansions” (1883); William Morris, “Useful Work Versus Useless Toil” (1884); Oscar Wilde, “The Soul of Man Under Socialism” (1891)


**Secondary reading**

1. Robin Gilmour, *The Victorian Period, 1830-1890*
2. Raymond Williams, *Culture and Society, 1780-1950*
4. Isobel Armstrong, *Victorian Poetry: Poetry, Poetics and Politics*