



Phillips Exeter Academy
Department of English

READING LIST
2009 - 2010

Asterisks identify texts that have been popular and used successfully in English courses up to 2002. Ideally, the department will review this survey of current practice every 2-3 years; this list was updated in May of 2008. Teachers are not required to teach any of the texts listed, but they may not use a text *earlier* than the course in which it appears. Many teachers often use a text by the poet visiting in the Lamont Poetry series during the term of the visit (Naomi Shihab Nye will be with us this fall), or a play being produced as a main stage production, as well as other texts of comparable complexity that do not appear on this list. *Othello* has been moved to 330 since the school will produce *Lysistrata* in the fall. As the department agreed, *Macbeth* and *The Merchant of Venice* have been switched back to their original positions in 210 and 220, respectively. While Shakespeare may be taught any term, the department decided that EN 410, 330, 230, 130 must include a Shakespeare play.

ENGLISH 120-130

This sequence of courses focuses on the observation and selection of the concrete details that make writing vivid. Students practice the use of such details in a variety of assignments that may include descriptions, narratives, letters, journal entries, and expository paragraphs, and they gain experience in distinguishing showing from telling. They also write short in-class or overnight responses to their reading. Those readings often complement the emphasis on writing from experience.

English 120

POETRY

Frost, A BOY'S WILL AND NORTH OF BOSTON*
Housman, A SHROPSHIRE LAD
Heaney, POEMS: 1965-75 ("Death of a Naturalist" poems)*
St. Vincent Millay, SELECTED POEMS
W. C. Williams, SELECTED POEMS

DRAMA

Fugard, MASTER HAROLD AND THE BOYS*
Gurney, LOVE LETTERS*
Shakespeare, TAMING OF THE SHREW*
 JULIUS CAESAR*
 ROMEO AND JULIET

NON-FICTION

Baker, GROWING UP
Dahl, COMPLETELY UNEXPECTED TALES
Goodman, selections from CLOSE TO HOME
 selections from AT LARGE
Strunk and White, THE ELEMENTS OF STYLE
Wolff, THIS BOY'S LIFE*
Wright, BLACK BOY*
Yeziarsa, BREADGIVERS

SHORT STORIES

Bamabara, GORILLA, MY LOVE

NOVELS

Chappell, I AM ONE OF YOU FOREVER*

Cisneros, THE HOUSE ON MANGO STREET*

Coelho, THE ALCHEMIST*

Dickens, OLIVER TWIST*

Fitzgerald, Penelope, THE BOOKSHOP

Greene, THE QUIET AMERICAN

Hemingway, THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA*

Hersey, A SINGLE PEBBLE*

Kincaid, ANNIE JOHN

Lee, TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

London, THE SEA WOLF

Merullo, IN REVERE, IN THOSE DAYS

Petry, THE STREET

Salinger, CATCHER IN THE RYE*

Solzhenitsyn, ONE DAY IN THE LIFE OF IVAN DENISOVICH*

Watson, MONTANA, 1948

English 130

POETRY

Blake, SONGS OF INNOCENCE AND SONGS OF EXPERIENCE*

Brooks, SELECTED POEMS

Coleridge, RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER*

Cummings, SELECTED POEMS

Doty, ATLANTIS

Dove, THE YELLOW HOUSE ON THE CORNER

Ferry (tr.), GILGAMESH

Homer, THE ODYSSEY (Fitzgerald translation)

THE ILIAD (Fitzgerald translation)

Kennedy, X.J., ed. INTRODUCTION TO POETRY*

Oliver, TWELVE MOONS*

THE COLLECTED POEMS OF THEODORE ROETHKE

DRAMA

Gogol, THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Mamet, THE CRYPTOGRAM

Rose, TWELVE ANGRY MEN

Shakespeare, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING*

RICHARD III*

Shaw, ANDROCLES AND THE LION

THE DEVIL'S DISCIPLE

Stoppard, THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND

Wilson, THE PIANO LESSON*

NON-FICTION

Angelou, I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS*

Brent, INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF A SLAVE GIRL

Lee, CIDER WITH ROSIE

SHORT STORIES

Salinger, NINE STORIES*

P. Fitzgerald, THE MEANS OF ESCAPE

NOVELS

Atwood, THE PENELOPIAD

Bronte, JANE EYRE*

Carroll, ALICE IN WONDERLAND THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

Cather, MY MORTAL ENEMY

Dickens, A TALE OF TWO CITIES*

Dorris, A YELLOW RAFT IN BLUE WATER*

Golding, LORD OF THE FLIES*

Hall, STRING TOO SHORT TO BE SAVED

Hartley, THE GO-BETWEEN

Hurston, MULES AND MEN

Kingsolver, THE BEAN TREES*

Malory, MORTE D'ARTHUR

Marquez, CHRONICLE OF A DEATH FORETOLD
Martin, MARY REILLY (suggested as a pair with DR. JEKYLL
AND MR. HYDE
Moody, COMING OF AGE IN MISSISSIPPI
Maxwell, SO LONG, SEE YOU TOMORROW*
Potok, MY NAME IS ASHER LEV*
O'Connor, selections from COLLECTED SHORT STORIES
Pushkin, THE CAPTAIN'S DAUGHTER AND OTHER STORIES
Stevenson, DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE*
Twain, THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN*
PUDD'NHEAD WILSON

ENGLISH 210-220-230

In this sequence of courses, readings introduce broader and more complex personal and social issues. The writing assignments, ranging from personal narratives and personal essays to letters, editorials, poetry projects, and responses to the readings, encourage awareness of audience and exploration of perspective. In the spring term, students are likely to produce a sustained piece of writing based on research into their family history. The reading list includes a play by Shakespeare. A student normally has the same teacher for the second and third terms.

English 210

POETRY

Clifton, AN ORDINARY WOMAN
Dove, MOTHER LOVE
Kendrick, THE WOMEN OF PLUMS
Justice, NEW AND SELECTED POEMS
Lee, ROSE
Oliver, AMERICAN PRIMITIVE*
Thomas (Dylan), SELECTED POEMS

DRAMA

Mamet, AMERICAN BUFFALO
Shaffer, THE ROYAL HUNT OF THE SUN
Shaw, ARMS AND THE MAN
Shakespeare, MACBETH
Wolfe, THE COLORED MUSEUM

NON-FICTION

Hurston, DUST TRACKS ON A ROAD
Stewart, LETTERS OF A WOMAN HOMESTEADER
Wiesel, NIGHT

SHORT STORIES

Alexi, THE LONE RANGER AND TONTO FISTFIGHT IN HEAVEN
Crane, MAGGIE, A GIRL OF THE STREETS*
Diaz, DROWN
Gogol, DIARY OF A MADMAN AND OTHER STORIES
Huddle, ONLY THE LITTLE BONE*

NOVELS

Baldwin, GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN*
Banks, THE SWEET HEREAFTER
Davies, FIFTH BUSINESS
Defoe, ROBINSON CRUSOE
Haddon, THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN
THE NIGHT-TIME
Hardy, TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES*
Kingsolver, ANIMAL DREAMS*
Knowles, A SEPARATE PEACE*
Lewis, SCREWTAPE LETTERS*
Mason, IN COUNTRY*
Remarque, ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT*
Richter, THE APPRENTICESHIP OF DUDDY KRAVITZ
Spark, THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE
Steinbeck, THE GRAPES OF WRATH*
Thomas, PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A YOUNG DOG
Vonnegut, CAT'S CRADLE*
Wilde, PICTURE OF DORIAN GREY*

English 220

POETRY

Arnold, DOVER BEACH AND OTHER POEMS (selected/Dover)
BEOWULF*
Browning (R.), MY LAST DUCHESS AND OTHER POEMS (selected/Dover)
Dove, THOMAS AND BEULAH
Glück, THE WILD IRIS
Komunyakaa, MAGIC CITY
Tennyson, (selected/DOVER)
Wilbur, SELECTED POEMS
Wright (James), THE BRANCH WILL NOT BREAK

DRAMA

Anouilh, BECKET
Eliot, MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL
Shakespeare, THE MERCHANT OF VENICE*
RICHARD II*
Shaw, MAJOR BARBARA
Williams, THE GLASS MENAGERIE*
Wilson, MA RAINEY' S BLACK BOTTOM

NON-FICTION

Cary, BLACK ICE*
Baker, THE PRACTICAL STYLIST

SHORT STORIES

Gen, WHO'S IRISH?
Wolff (Tobias), THE NIGHT IN QUESTION

NOVELS

Cather, MY ANTONIA*
Conrad, THE ROVER
Conroy, STOP-TIME*
Dangarembga, NERVOUS CONDITIONS
Dickens, GREAT EXPECTATIONS*
Doctorow, RAGTIME*
Eliot, SILAS MARNER*

Faulkner, AS I LAY DYING*
Gardner, GRENDAL*
Hardy, FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD*
Hemingway, A FAREWELL TO ARMS*
Hulme, THE BONE PEOPLE
Huxley, BRAVE NEW WORLD*
Malamud, THE NATURAL*
Mathabane, KAFFIR BOY
McCullers, A MEMBER OF THE WEDDING
Minot, MONKEYS
Morrison, THE BLUEST EYE
Neihardt, BLACK ELK SPEAKS
Paton, CRY, THE BELOVED COUNTRY*
Simon, BRONX PRIMITIVE
Walker, THE COLOR PURPLE
Welty, GOLDEN APPLES
West, THE DAY OF THE LOCUST
Wharton, ETHAN FROME*

English 230

POETRY

Boland, OUTSIDE HISTORY
Chaucer, THE CANTERBURY TALES (Coghill, tr.)
Hayden, SELECTED POEMS
O'Hara, SELECTED POEMS
PENGUIN BOOK OF WWI POETS
Pratt, IN THE ORCHARD*
SIR GAWAIN AND THE GREEN KNIGHT*
Hughes (Langston), SELECTED POEMS

DRAMA

Miller, THE CRUCIBLE*
Guare, SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION

Hansberry, RAISIN IN THE SUN
Hellman, CHILDREN'S HOUR
Leavitt, THE ANDERSONVILLE TRIAL
Rostand, CYRANO DE BERGERAC
Shakespeare, HENRY IV, Parts 1 & 2*
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM*
Shaw, CAESAR AND CLEOPATRA
PYGMALION
Simon, BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS
Wilson, TWO TRAINS RUNNING

NON-FICTION

Krakauer, INTO THE WILD*
Ellison, FLYING HOME

SHORT STORIES

Anderson, WINESBURG, OHIO*
O'Brien, THE THINGS THEY CARRIED*

NOVELS

Dickens HARD TIMES*
MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD
Faulkner, THE REIVERS*
Gilman, HERLAND
Hardy, THE MAYOR OF CASTERBRIDGE*
Kesey, ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST
Kingston, CHINA MEN
Kinsella, SHOELESS JOE
Krauss, THE HISTORY OF LOVE
Orwell, 1984
Marshall, BROWN GIRL BROWNSTONES
McCullers, THE HEART IS A LONELY HUNTER
Murray, TRAIN WHISTLE GUITAR
Shelley, FRANKENSTEIN*
Spiegelman, MAUS (graphic novel)
Steinbeck, IN DUBIOUS BATTLE

Swift, GULLIVER'S TRAVELS*

Tan, THE JOY LUCK CLUB*

Updike, THE CENTAUR

Voltaire, CANDIDE

Waugh, THE LOVED ONE

Woolf, JACOB'S ROOM

ENGLISH 310-320-330

In this sequence of courses, written assignments tend to shift from personal narratives and essays to various forms of analysis in which the exploration and articulation of ideas increasingly influence content and structure. Readings continue to grow in complexity of subject matter and style. In the winter term, students produce a sustained piece of narration and exposition (the RAL, or Reporter-at-Large) based on extensive interview and observation. The reading list includes a play by Shakespeare. A student normally has the same teacher for the second and third terms.

English 310

POETRY

Dickinson, FINAL HARVEST*
Howe, WHAT THE LIVING DO
Lawrence, SELECTED POEMS
Lowell, FOR THE UNION DEAD/LIFE STUDIES
Plath, ARIEL
Tennyson, IN MEMORIAM
Whitman, SELECTED POEMS

DRAMA

Aristophanes, CLOUDS
 LYSISTRATA (*Fall production at PEA*)
Shaffer, EQUUS
Hellman, THE LITTLE FOXES
Ibsen, A DOLL'S HOUSE
Norman, NIGHT, MOTHER
Shakespeare, HENRY V
 CORIOLANUS
Wilson, SEVEN GUITARS*

NON-FICTION

Baldwin, THE FIRE NEXT TIME

Capote, IN COLD BLOOD*
Didion, SLOUCHING TOWARDS BETHLEHEM*
Emerson, SELECTED ESSAYS*
Hall, REMEMBERING POETS
Thomas, THE LIVES OF A CELL
White, ESSAYS OF E.B. WHITE*
 HERE IS NEW YORK
Wolfe, THE NEW JOURNALISM
Zinsser, ON WRITING WELL

SHORT STORIES

Cerf, GREAT MODERN SHORT STORIES
Cheever, THE COLLECTED STORIES
Hemingway, THE NICK ADAMS STORIES*
 IN OUR TIME*
Kingston, SELECTED SHORT STORIES
Lahiri, INTERPRETER OF MALADIES*
Oates, SELECTED STORIES
Roth, GOODBYE, COLUMBUS
Updike, PIGEON FEATHERS
 SELECTED SHORT STORIES

NOVELS

Alexi, INDIAN KILLER
Cather, A LOST LADY*
 DEATH COMES FOR THE ARCHBISHOP
Faulkner, INTRUDER IN THE DUST*
 SARTORIS [FLAGS IN THE DUST]
Fitzgerald, THE GREAT GATSBY*
Fitzgerald, P., OFFSHORE
Ford, THE GOOD SOLDIER
James, THE AMERICAN*
Kingston, THE WOMAN WARRIOR*
Malamud, THE MAGIC BARREL AND OTHER STORIES
McCarthy, ALL THE PRETTY HORSES*
Morrison, SONG OF SOLOMON*

Naipaul, A BEND IN THE RIVER
Paton, TOO LATE THE PHALAROPE*
Percy, THE LAST GENTLEMAN
Wharton, SUMMER

English 320

POETRY

Bishop, GEOGRAPHY III*
Fairchild, ART OF THE LATHE
Herbert, SELECTED POEMS (Penguin)
Hopkins, SELECTED (Penguin)
Larkin, WHITSUN WEDDINGS
Levine, WHAT WORK IS
Moore, SELECTED POEMS
Voigt, KYRIE
Walcott, OMEROS

DRAMA

Bolt, A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS
Ibsen, HEDDA GABBLER
Miller, DEATH OF A SALESMAN*
Shaffer, AMADEUS
Shakespeare, THE TEMPEST*
 ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA
 TROIUS AND CRESSIDA
Sophocles, ANTIGONE
Wilson, JOE TURNER' S COME AND GONE

NON-FICTION

Anzaldua, BORDERLANDS: LA FRONTERA
Beah, A LONG WAY GONE

Orwell, A COLLECTION OF ESSAYS*
McPhee, (The First) JOHN MCPHEE READER

SHORT STORIES

Hawthorne, SELECTED SHORT STORIES*
Babel, THE COLLECTED STORIES
Maxwell, ALL THE DAYS AND NIGHTS
McLeod, ISLAND

NOVELS

Achebe, THINGS FALL APART*
Adichie, PURPLE HIBISCUS
Austen, PRIDE AND PREJUDICE*
Conrad, HEART OF DARKNESS*
 THE SECRET SHARER
Faulkner, THE UNVANQUISHED*
 GO DOWN MOSES
Greene, THE HEART OF THE MATTER
Heller, CATCH 22*
Hemingway, FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS*
James, THE TURN OF THE SCREW
Kafka, IN THE PENAL COLONY
Kincaid, A SMALL PLACE
Koestler, DARKNESS AT NOON
Malamud, THE ASSISTANT*
Melville, BENITO CERENO
Oates, THE WHEEL OF LOVE
Phillips, MACHINE DREAMS
Porter, FLOWERING JUDAS
Swift, WATERLAND
Theroux, MOSQUITO COAST
Tolstoy, ANNA KARENINA
Updike, RABBIT RUN
Wright, NATIVE SON*

English 330

POETRY

Donne, SELECTED POEMS

Eliot, "Hollow Men" & "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"*

H.D., SELECTED POEMS

Pound, SELECTED POEMS (New Directions)

Stevens, COLLECTED POEMS (Vintage)

Yeats, SELECTED POEMS AND THREE PLAYS*

DRAMA

Albee, WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?*

Chekhov, THE CHERRY ORCHARD

Friel TRANSLATIONS

Ibsen, AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE

GHOSTS

Shakespeare, OTHELLO*(*moved from 310 for Spring 2010*)

TWELFTH NIGHT*

KING JOHN

MEASURE FOR MEASURE

Williams, A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE*

NON-FICTION

Lawrence, SELECTED ESSAYS

Thomas, MEDUSA AND THE SNAIL

SHORT STORIES

Canin, THE PALACE THIEF

Chekhov, WARD SIX AND OTHER STORIES

Murakami, AFTER THE QUAKE

O'Connor, A GOOD MAN IS HARD TO FIND*

Gordimer, SELECTED SHORT STORIES

NOVELS

Cather, THE PROFESSOR'S HOUSE

Cheever, THE WAPSHOT SCANDAL

Conrad, VICTORY

THE NIGGER OF THE NARCISSUS

Didion, PLAY IT AS IT LAYS
Dostoevsky, CRIME AND PUNISHMENT*
Greene, THE POWER AND THE GLORY*
Hardy, THE RETURN OF THE NATIVE
Hawthorne, THE SCARLET LETTER*
Hurston, THEIR EYES WERE WATCHING GOD*
Lawrence, SONS AND LOVERS
McCullers, BALLAD OF THE SAD CAFE
McDonell, TWELVE
Morrison, SULA*
 JAZZ
Melville, BILLY BUDD*
O'Connor, THE NORTON READER THREE
Roy, THE GOD SMALL THINGS
Percy, LOST IN THE COSMOS
Southgate, THE FALL OF ROME
Tate, THE FATHERS
Woolf, MRS. DALLOWAY*
Yates, REVOLUTIONARY ROAD
Warren, BROTHER TO DRAGONS

ENGLISH 410-420

This two-term course gives students the opportunity to refine skills developed in previous courses. In the fall term the reading list includes a play by Shakespeare. Students exercise both their power of invention and their analytical skills in a variety of assignments that may range from the writing of poetry or fiction to the writing of expository essays, including literary criticism. In the winter term, students may read just one long text since the English department believes that seniors need and are ready for sustained study. Students gain confidence as readers through the very act of completing such texts. They develop their ability to manage multiple complex themes developed simultaneously, interwoven plots, complex narrative structures, and characters that develop and change in more complex ways. Students learn how essential memory is as they see how events, characters, and images from earlier chapters develop and come to fruition hundreds of pages later. They strengthen their ability to read backwards through a book even as they make their way toward its completion. While reading the long text, a variety of writing exercises reinforce students' reading skills: weekly analytical writing, reading journals, in-class writing. Many students compose and deliver a meditation inspired by those offered weekly in Phillips Church, or write a paper, analytical or creative, of equal length and commitment. A student normally has the same teacher for the two terms.

English 410

POETRY

Eliot, FOUR QUARTETS*

Graham, THE DREAM OF THE UNIFIED FIELD

Keats, ODES

Milton, PARADISE LOST*

DRAMA

Beckett, WAITING FOR GODOT*

Chekhov, THE SEAGULL

THREE SISTERS

Jones, HUMBLE BOY

Shakespeare, HAMLET*
Shaw, MAN AND SUPERMAN
Sophocles, OEDIPUS REX*
Stoppard, ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD
Wasserstein, UNCOMMON WOMEN AND OTHERS
Wilson, FENCES

NON-FICTION

Montaigne, SELECTIONS FROM THE ESSAYS*
Nabokov, SPEAK, MEMORY
Dubus, MEDITATIONS FROM A MOVEABLE CHAIR
A BOOK OF MEDITATIONS*

SHORT STORIES

Carver, WHERE I'M CALLING FROM
Jewett, THE COUNTRY OF THE POINTED FIRS AND
OTHER STORIES
Joyce, DUBLINERS*
Mann, DEATH IN VENICE AND SEVEN OTHER STORIES
Munro, OPEN SECRETS
O'Connor, EVERYTHING THAT RISES MUST CONVERGE*
Salinger, FRANNY AND ZOOEY*
Welty, COLLECTED STORIES

NOVELS

Bronte, WUTHERING HEIGHTS*
Calvino, THE BARON IN THE TREES
COSMICOMICS
Conrad, LORD JIM
DeLillo, WHITE NOISE
Ellison, INVISIBLE MAN*
Sundquist, ed., CULTURAL CONTEXT FOR INVISIBLE MAN*
Faulkner, LIGHT IN AUGUST*
Greer, ed., THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID
Hemingway, THE SUN ALSO RISES*
THE SNOWS OF KILIMANJARO AND OTHER STORIES

James, THE EUROPEANS
Kundera, THE UNBEARABLE LIGHTNESS OF BEING*
Melville, MOBY DICK
Morrison, BELOVED*
Percy, LOVE IN THE RUINS
Wharton, THE AGE OF INNOCENCE*
Oates, THEM
Silko, CEREMONY
Walker, MERIDIAN

English 420

POETRY

Ashbery, SELECTED POEMS
Auden, SELECTED POEMS (Vintage)
Crane, THE BRIDGE
Dante, THE DIVINE COMEDY*
Eliot, THE WASTE LAND*
McHugh, HINGE & SIGN
Wordsworth, THE PRELUDE (“five-book” of 1804, Blackwell, or excerpts)

DRAMA

Harwood, THE DRESSER
Mamet, GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS
O'Neill, LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT
Shakespeare, KING LEAR*
Shaw, SAINT JOAN

NON-FICTION

Didion, SALVADOR
Sanders, THE PARADISE OF BOMBS
Thoreau, WALDEN
Woolf, MOMENTS OF BEING (excerpts)

SHORT STORIES

Borges, COLLECTED FICTIONS

Dubus, IN THE BEDROOM

NOVELS

Austen, EMMA*

Chopin, THE AWAKENING*

Dostoevsky, THE BROTHERS KARAMAZOV*

Eliot, MIDDLEMARCH*

Faulkner, THE SOUND AND THE FURY*

Forster, A PASSAGE TO INDIA

Howard, THE MODERN TRADITION

James, PORTRAIT OF A LADY

DAISY MILLER

Joyce, PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A YOUNG MAN*

Naylor, LINDEN HILLS

Ondaatje, THE ENGLISH PATIENT

Percy, THE MOVIE-GOER

Salinger, FRANNY AND ZOOEY

Turgenev, FATHERS AND SONS

Warren, ALL THE KING'S MEN*

Woolf, TO THE LIGHTHOUSE