

Updated 22 March 2022

U.S. literature through World War I

Qualifying exam list in U.S. literature through World War I. Fifty set titles, to be supplemented with 20 titles selected by the candidate with approval of director and committee. Candidates are strongly encouraged to focus their supplementary lists on primary works and a small number of major critical works (5 or fewer) in their main historical area(s) of interest (e.g., pre-1820, 1820-1865, 1865-WWI).

N.B. References to *Norton* are to the 9th edition of *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*.

Part I: Beginnings to 1820

1. Bradford, William, *Of Plimmoth Plantation*
2. Brown, Charles Brockden, *Wieland*
3. Crèvecoeur, J. Hector St. John de, *Letters from an American Farmer*
4. Edwards, Jonathan, Selections in *Norton*
5. Equiano, Olaudah, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, The African. Written by Himself*
6. Foster, Hannah Webster, *The Coquette*
7. Franklin, Benjamin, *The Autobiography*
8. Irving, Washington, *The Sketch-book*.
9. Jefferson, Thomas, *Notes on the State of Virginia*
10. Marrant, John, *A Narrative of the Lord's Wonderful Dealings with John Marrant, a black* (In Vincent Carreta, ed., *Unchained Voices: An Anthology of Black Authors in the English-Speaking World of the Eighteenth Century*)
11. Mather, Cotton, Selections in *Norton*
12. Native American Oral Literature, Selections in *Norton*
13. Occom, Samson, Selections in *Norton*
14. Paine, Thomas, *Common Sense*
15. Puritan Poetry: Bradstreet, Anne, *The Tenth Muse* (entire volume) and later works included in *Norton*; Taylor, Edward. Selections in *Norton*
16. Rowlandson, Mary, *A Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson*
17. Rowson, Susanna, *Charlotte Temple*
18. Wheatley, Phillis, *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral*
19. Williams, Roger, *A Key into the Language of America*
20. Winthrop, John, Selections in *Norton*

Part II: 1820-1865

21. Apses, William, *Son of the Forest and "An Indian's Looking Glass for the White Man"*
22. Cooper, James Fenimore, *Last of the Mohicans*
23. Dickinson, Emily Selections in *Norton*
24. Douglass, Frederick Selections in *Norton*
25. Emerson, Ralph Waldo Selections in *Norton*
26. Fuller, Margaret Selections in *Norton*
27. Hawthorne, Nathaniel, Selections in *Norton*
28. Jacobs, Harriet, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*
29. Lincoln, Abraham, Selections in *Norton*
30. Melville, Herman, *Moby-Dick* and Selections in *Norton*
31. Poe, Edgar Allan, Selections in *Norton*
32. Stowe, Harriet Beecher, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
33. Thoreau, Henry David, Selections in *Norton*
34. Walker, David, *David Walker's Appeal, in Four Articles*
35. Whitman, Walt, *Democratic Vistas* and EITHER *Leaves of Grass* (1855 Edition, including Preface) and selections in *Norton* OR the "Deathbed Edition" (1892)

Part III: 1865-WWI

36. Cather, Willa, *My Ántonia*
37. Chesnut, Charles, *The Conjure Woman* and "The Future American"
38. Chopin, Kate, *The Awakening*
39. Crane, Stephen, *The Red Badge of Courage*
40. Dreiser, Theodore, *Sister Carrie*
41. DuBois, W.E.B., *The Souls of Black Folk*
42. Harper, Frances Ellen Watkins, *Poems* (1871)
43. Howells, William Dean, *The Rise of Silas Lapham*
44. James, Henry, *Portrait of a Lady* and "The Turn of the Screw"
45. Jewett, Sarah Orne, *Country of the Pointed Firs*
46. Poems by Paul Lawrence Dunbar and Emma Lazarus in *Norton*
47. Stein, Gertrude. *Three Lives*
48. Twain, Mark, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and selections in *Norton*
49. Wharton, Edith, *The House of Mirth*
50. Zitkála-Šá, "Impressions of an Indian Childhood," "The School Days of an Indian Girl," and "The Soft-Hearted Sioux" (reprinted in *American Indian Stories*)