

## MFA in Creative Writing Core Reading List

### ○ FICTION

- Barth, John. *Lost in the Fun House*, Bantam, 1979.
- Byatt, A.S. *Possession: A Romance*, Vintage, 1991.
- Raymond Carver, *What We Talk About When We Talk About Love*, Vintage, 1989.
- Chekov, Anton. *Anton Chekov's Short Stories*, Norton Critical Edition, 1979
- Faulkner, William *Go Down, Moses*, Vintage, 1991.
- Fitzgerald, F. Scott. *The Great Gatsby*, Scribner, 1996.
- Hurston, Zora Neale. *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Perennial, 1999.
- Joyce, James. *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, Penguin, 1993.
- Morrison, Toni. *Beloved*, Plume, 1998.
- Munro, Alice. *Selected Stories*, New York: Vintage, 1997.
- O'Connor, Flannery. *Complete Stories*, Noonday, 1996.
- Paley, Grace. *Collected Stories*, Noonday, 1995.
- Steinbeck, John. *East of Eden*, Penguin, 1992.
- Welty, Eudora, *Collected Stories of Eudora Welty*, Harvest Books, 1982.
- Woolf, Virginia. *To the Lighthouse*, Harvest Books, 1990.

### ○ CREATIVE NON FICTION

- Ackerman, Diane. *A Natural History of the Senses*, Vintage, 1991.
- Carson, Rachel. *Silent Spring*, Mariner Books, 1994.
- Capote, Truman. *In Cold Blood*, Vintage, 1994.
- Didion, Joan. *The White Album*, Noonday, 1990
- Dillard, Annie. *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*, Harper Perennial, 1989
- Emerson, Ralph Waldo. *Nature*, Beacon Press, 1994.
- Karr, Mary. *Liar's Club: A Memoir*, Penguin, 1998.
- Kingston, Maxine Hong. *Woman Warrior*, Vintage, 1989.
- Lopez, Barry. *Arctic Dreams*, Vintage, 2001.
- McCourt, Frank. *Angela's Ashes*, Touchstone, 1999.
- Muir, John. *Mountains of California*, Modern Library, 2001.
- Stegner, Wallace. *Where the Bluebird Sings to the Lemonade Springs*, Modern Library, 2002.
- Wolfe, Tom. *Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test*, Bantam, 1999.
- Wolff, Tobias. *This Boy's Life*, Grove Press, 2000.
- Wolff, Virginia. *A Room of One's Own*, Harvest, 1990.

### ○ POETRY

- Ashbery, John. *Selected Poetry*, Viking-Penguin, 1986.
- Auden, W.H. *Selected Poems*, Vintage, 1990.
- Bishop, Elizabeth. *The Complete Poems, 1927-1979*, Noonday Press, 1984.
- Dove, Rita, *Selected Poems*, Pantheon, 1993.
- Eliot, T. S. *Selected Poems*, Harvest Books, 1988.
- Frost, Robert. *Selected Poems*, Random House
- Ginsberg, Allen. *Selected Poetry: 1947 - 1995*, Harper Perennial.

- Hughes, Langston. *Selected Poems*, Vintage, 1990.
  - Lowell, Robert. *Selected Poems*, Noonday Press, 1977.
  - Plath, Sylvia. *Collected Poems*, HarperCollins, 1986.
  - Rich, Adrienne. *Adrienne Rich's Poetry and Prose*, Norton Critical Edition, 1993.
  - Stevens, Wallace. *The Palm at the End of the Mind: Selected Poems*, Vintage, 1990.
  - Williams, William Carlos. Charles Tomlinson, editor. *Selected Poems*, New Directions, 1985.
  - Wright, James. *Above the River: Complete Poems*, Noonday Press, 1992.
  - Yeats, William Butler. *Collected Poems*, Scribners, 1996.
- **Playwriting/Screenwriting**

#### PLAYS

- Albee, Edward. *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*.
- Beckett, Waiting for Godot.
- Chekhov, Anton. *The Cherry Orchard*.
- Hansberry, Lorraine. *A Raisin in the Sun*.
- Ibsen, Henrik. *Ghosts*.
- Miller, Arthur. *Death of a Salesman*.
- O'Neill, Eugene. *Long Day's Journey into Night*.
- Shakespeare, William. *Hamlet*.
- Sophocles. *Oedipus Rex*.
- Williams, Tennessee. *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

#### FILMS

- Casablanca.
  - Citizen Kane.
  - The Grapes of Wrath.
  - North by Northwest.
  - Wild Strawberries.
- **WRITERS ON WRITING (Critical Writing: Background Reading)**
- Baxter, Charles. *Burning Down the House*, Graywolf, 1998.
  - Dunn, Stephen. *Walking Light*, BOA, 2001.
  - Flaubert, Gustav. Francis Steegmuller, editor. *The Letters of Gustave Flaubert: 1830-1880*, Harvard, 1984.
  - Frost, Robert. *Selected Prose*, MacMillan, 1968.
  - Gardner, John. *On Moral Fiction*, Basic Books, 2000.
  - Gardner, John. *The Art of Fiction*, Vintage, 1991.
  - Hass Robert. *Twentieth Century Pleasures*, Ecco Press, 1997.
  - Hugo, Richard, *Triggering Town*, Norton, 1992.
  - Jarrell, Randall. *No Other Book*, Harper Perennial, 2000.

- Lamott, Anne. *Bird By Bird*, Anchor, 1995.
- Maugham, Somerset. *The Summing Up*, Viking, 1992.
- O'Connor, Flannery. *The Habit of Being*, Noonday Press, 1988.
- Pinsky, Robert. *Poetry and the World*, Ecco Press, 1992.
- Rich, Adrienne. *Arts of the Possible*, Norton, 2002.
- Stevens, Wallace. *The Necessary Angel*, Random House, 1965.
- Williams, William Carlos. *In the American Grain*, New Directions, 1956.
- Woolf, Virginia. *A Passionate Apprenticeship: The Early Journals 1897-1909*, Harvest Book, 1992.

## 2. Supplemental Reading Lists

### ○ FICTION

- Anderson, Sherwood. *Winesburg, Ohio*, Bantam, 1995.
- Atwood, Margaret. *Cat's Eye*, Anchor Books, 1998.
- Barthelme, Donald. *Unspeakeable Practices, Unnatural Acts*, Noonday, 1977.
- Borges, Jorge Luis. *Labyrinths*, New Directions, 1988.
- Calvino, Italo. *Cosmicomics*, Trans. William Weaver. Harvest Books, 1981.
- Cather, Willa. *My Antonia*, Mariner Books, 1995.
- Cheever, John. *Stories of John Cheever*, Vintage, 2000.
- Coetzee, J.M. *Waiting for The Barbarians*, Penguin, 1999.
- Cortazar, Julio. *Blow-Up and Other Stories*, Random House, 1985.
- DeLillo, Don. *Mao II*, Penguin, 1992.
- Erdrich, Louise. *Love Medicine*, Harper Perennial, 1993.
- Faulkner, William. *Absalom, Absalom*, Vintage, 1990.
- Flaubert, Gustave. *Madame Bovary*, Bantam, 1982.
- Gardner, John. *Grendel*, Vintage, 1989.
- Gordimer. Nadine. *July's People*, Penguin, 1982.
- Heller, Joseph. *Catch-22*, Scribner, 1996.
- Hemingway, Ernest. *The Sun Also Rises*, Scribner's, 1996.
- James, Henry. *The Turn of The Screw*, New York: Bantam, 1981.
- Joyce, James. *Ulysses*, Vintage, 1990.
- Marquez, Gabriele Garcia. Tr. Gregory Rabassa. *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, Harper Perennial, 1998.
- Nabokov, Vladimir. *Pale Fire*, Vintage Books, 1989.
- O'Brien, Tim. *The Things They Carried*, New York: Penguin, 1990.
- O'Connor, Flannery. *The Complete Stories*, Noonday Press, 1996.
- Poe, Edgar Allan. *Selected Short Stories*, Doubleday, 1966.
- Pynchon, Thomas. *Crying of Lot 49*, HarperCollins, 1999.
- Roy, Arundhati. *The God of Small Things*, HarperCollins, 1998.
- Silko, Leslie Marmon. *Ceremony*, Penguin, 1988.
- Updike, John. *Trust Me: Stories*, Bantam, 1996.
- Wharton, Edith. *Age of Innocence*, Modern Library, 1999.

○ NONFICTION

- Russell Banks. *Cloudsplitter*, HarperCollins, 1999.
- Baldwin, James. *Notes of a Native Son*,
- Mary Carr. *The Liar's Club*, Penguin, 1998.
- Joan Didion. *Political Fictions*, Vintage, 2002.
- Annie Dillard. *An American Childhood*, HarperCollins, 1998.
- Gretel Ehrlich. *The Solace of Open Spaces*, Penguin, 1986.
- Patricia Hampl. *A Romantic Education*, Norton, 1999.
- John Hersey. *Hiroshima*, Vintage, 1989.
- Hemmingway, Ernest. *A Movable Feast*, Touchstone, 1996.
- Hubbell, Sue. *A Country Year: Living the Questions*, Mariner Books, 1999.
- Kincaid, Jamaica. *A Small Place*, Farrar Straus & Giroux, 2000.
- Kingsolver, Barbara. *High Tide in Tucson*, Harper Perennial, 1996.
- Leopold, Aldo. *A Sand County Almanac*, Bantam, 1991.
- McPhee, John. *Coming Into the Country*, Noonday Press, 1991.
- Ortiz Cofer, Judith. *Silent Dancing: A Partial Remembrance of a Puerto Rican Childhood*, Arte Pueblo, 1990.
- Sanders, Scott Russell. *Writing From the Center*, Indiana Univ. Press, 1997.
- Sarton, May. *Journal of a Solitude*, W. W. Norton, 1992.
- Stein, Gertrude. *Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas*, Vintage, 1990.
- Styron, William. *Darkness Visible*, Vintage, 1992.
- Williams, Terry Tempest. *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Time and Place*, Vintage, 1992.

○ POETRY

- A. R. Aamons. *Selected Poems*, Norton, 1987.
- Ai. *Vice: New and Selected Poems*, Norton, 2000.
- Collins, Billy. *Sailing Alone Around the Room, New and Selected Poems*, Random House, 2001.
- Crane Hart. Ed. Marc Simon. *The Complete Poems*, Liveright, 2001
- Creeley, Robert. *Selected Poems*, Univ. of California Press, 1991.
- Stephen Dunn. *New and Selected Poems*, Norton, 1995.
- Gluck, Louise. *The First Four Books of Poems*, Ecco Press, 1996.
- Graham, Jorie. *The Dream of the Unified Field: Selected Poems 1974 - 1994*, Ecco Press, 1997.
- Hass, Robert. *Praise*, Ecco Press, 1980.
- Jeffers, Robinson. *Selected Poems*, Stanford University Press, 2001
- Kinnell, Galway. *New Selected Poems*, Houghton-Mifflin, 2001.
- Kizer, Carolyn. *Cool, Calm, and Collected*, Copper Canyon, 2000.
- Komunyakaa, Yusef. *Pleasure Dome*, Wesleyan University Press, 2001.
- Levertov, Denise. *Poems 1960 - 1967*, New Directions, 1983.
- Levine, Philip. *New Selected Poems*, Knopf, 1992.
- Merrill, James. *Selected Poems: 1946 - 1985*, Knopf, 1995.
- Merwin, W. S. *Second Four Books of Poems*, Copper Canyon, 1993.
- Milosz, Czeslaw. *The Collected Poems, 1931-1987*, Ecco Press, 1990.

- Moore, Marianne. *Complete Poems*, McMillan, 1994.
  - O'Hara, Frank. *The Selected Poems of Frank O'Hara*, Univ. of California, 1995.
  - Roethke, Theodore. *The Collected Poems*, Doubleday/Anchor, 1975.
  - Soto, Gary. *Gary Soto: New and Selected Poems*, Chronicle Books, 1995.
  - Stafford, William. *The Way It Is: New and Selected Poems*, Graywolf Press, 1999.
- **Playwriting/Screenwriting**

#### **PLAYS**

- Brecht, Bertolt. *The Good Woman of Setzuan*.
- Ionesco, Eugene. *The Bald Soprano*.
- Moliere. *Tartuffe*.
- Pinter, Harold. *The Birthday Party*.
- Reza, Yasmina. *Art*.
- Sartre, Jean Paul. *No Exit*.
- Shaw, George Bernard. *Candida*.
- Sheridan. *School for Scandal*.
- Stoppard, Tom. *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*.
- Wilde. *The Importance of Being Earnest*
- Valdez, Luis. *Zoot Suit*.
- Williams, Tennessee. *The Glass Menagerie*.
- Wilson, August. *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*.

#### **FILMS**

- *All About Eve*.
- *Bicycle Thief, The*.
- *Rear Window*.
- *Rules of the Game*.
- *Singin' in the Rain*.
- *Stagecoach*.
- *Seven Samauri*.