

***MFA nonfiction reading list for comprehensive examination for spring 2024 and 2025***

Student name/signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print legibly)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Essays:

- Baldwin, James, “Notes of a Narrative Son”
- Beard, JoAnn, “The Fourth State of Matter”
- Biss, Eula, “Time and Distance Overcome”
- Brown, Thomas, “Hydriotaphia, Urn Burial”
- Du Bois, W.E.B., “The Coming of John”
- Montaigne, Michel, “Of Books,” (Lopate) and “Of a Monstrous Child”
- Orwell, George, “A Hanging” and “Shooting an Elephant”
- Rich, Adrienne, “Split at the Root”
- White, E.B., “Once More to the Lake”
- Zitkala-Sa, “Impressions of an Indian Childhood”

Books

- Abdurraqib, Hanif, *The Can't Kill Us Until They Kill Us*
- Bechdel, Alison, *Fun Home*
- Didion, Joan, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem*
- Kimmerer, Robin Wall, *Braiding Sweetgrass*
- Kingston, Maxine Hong, *The Woman Warrior*
- Lopez, Barry, *Arctic Dreams*
- Machado, Carmen Maria, *In the Dream House*
- Orlean, Susan, *The Orchid Thief*
- Santiago, Esmerelda, *When I was Puerto Rican*
- Shonagon, Sei. *The Pillow Book*
- Urrea, Luis, *The Devil's Highway*
- Woolf, Virginia, *A Room of One's Own*

Craft

- Castro, Joy (ed.), *Family Trouble*
- Gornick, Vivian, *The Situation and the Story*

Personalized list of nonfiction texts:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

Committee approval of individualized list:

Advisor name/signature: \_\_\_\_\_