MFA fiction reading list for comprehensive examination
to be administered in spring 2023 and 2024

Student name/signature: ____________________________________________

Pre-20th C
• Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*
• Emily Brontë, *Wuthering Heights*
• Gustave Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*
• Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations*
• Mark Twain, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
• Leo Tolstoy, “The Death of Ivan Ilyich”
• Anton Chekhov, “The Man in a Case,” “Gusev,” “The Lady With the Little Dog,”
  “Gooseberries,” “Sleepy,” “Rothschild’s Fiddle” from *Stories of Anton Chekhov*
  (trans. Pevear & Volokhonsky, Bantam 2000)

20th & 21st Century
• Franz Kafka, “The Metamorphosis,” “The Hunger Artist,” and “In the Penal Colony”
• James Joyce, *Dubliners*
• Willa Cather, *My Antonia*
• Virginia Woolf, *To the Lighthouse*
• James Baldwin, *Go Tell It on the Mountain*
• Flannery O’Connor, *A Good Man is Hard to Find*
• Vladimir Nabokov, *Pale Fire*
• Jorge Luis Borges, *Labyrinths*
• Gabriel Garcia-Marquez, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*
• Raymond Carver, *What We Talk About When We Talk About Love*
• Toni Morrison, *Beloved*
• Denis Johnson, *Jesus’ Son: Stories*
• Kazuo Ishiguro, *When We Were Orphans*
• ZZ Packer, *Drinking Coffee Elsewhere*
• Elif Batuman, *The Idiot*
• Oyinkan Braithwaite, *My Sister, the Serial Killer*
• Tommy Orange, *There There*
• Charles Yu, *Interior Chinatown*

On the Craft of Fiction
• Robert Boswell, *The Half-Known World*
• Charles Baxter, *Burning Down the House*
Personalised list of fiction texts:

1. ____________________________

2. ____________________________

3. ____________________________

4. ____________________________

5. ____________________________

Approval of individualised list:

Advisor name/signature: ____________________ ____________________