Todd J. Goddard  
Preliminary Exam List — January 2009

Committee:

Chair, Russ Castronovo ________________________________.

Jeffrey Steele__________________________________________.

David Zimmerman ________________________________________.

Rationale:

The purpose of my list is to balance the historical list of American literature, represented primarily in the section “Colonization, Settlement, and The Quest for Empire,” with a more focused study of ecocriticism, American environmental history, land use, and American history. “Ideas of Nature,” which includes a sampling of foundational ecocritical texts, should provide an important introduction to that critical field while providing rich discussions of how “Nature” has historically been conceived of and figured in American culture. “Property and Speculation,” which includes texts relating to American history, especially the post-Revolutionary period, property, and land speculation, should provide the necessary background for my anticipated dissertation research on American literature and land speculation, from about 1780 through 1837. I plan to focus my study on how land was conceptualized, measured, bought, and sold following the American Revolutionary War and how those ideas and practices were debated in American literature of the period. I expect that ecocriticism and environmental history will provide the theoretical underpinnings and methodology for the project.
Preliminary Exam Reading List  [Todd J. Goddard]

I. Colonization, Settlement, and The Quest for Empire:

1. ANN BRADSTREET. Poems in EAP.

2. WILLIAM BRADFORD. Of Plymouth Plantation.

3. EDWARD TAYLOR. Poems in EAP.


5. JONATHON EDWARDS. “Personal Narrative,” “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God,” “A Divine and Supernatural Light,” “Images or Shadows of Divine Things.”

6. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. Autobiography.

7. PHILLIS WHEATLEY. Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral.

8. ST. JEAN DE CREVECOEUR. Letters from an American Farmer


10. THOMAS PAINE. Common Sense, The Crisis, No. 1.

11. THOMAS JEFFERSON. “Declaration of Independence”;

12. ______________. Notes on the State of Virginia.

13. PHILIP FRENEAU. Poems in EAP.
14. CHARLES BROCKDEN BROWN. Wieland.
15. _______________. Edgar Huntly.
16. _______________. Arthur Mervin.

17. REBECCA RUSH, Kelroy.

18. WILLIAM HILL BROWN. The Power of Sympathy.

19. HANNAH W. FOSTER. The Coquette.

20. WASHINGTON IRVING. The Sketch Book.

21. _______________. A History of New York. (1809)

22. _______________. A Tour on the Prairies. (1835)

23. _______________. The Devil and Tom Walker (1824)

24. _______________. The Mississippi Bubble

25. JAMES FENIMORE COOPER. The Deerslayer.

26. _______________. The Last of the Mohicans.

27. _______________. The Pathfinder.

28. _______________. The Pioneers.

29. _______________. The Prairie.

30. _______________. Homeward Bound.

31. _______________. Home as Found.

32. SUSAN FENIMORE COOPER. Rural Hours.

33. CATHERINE SEDGWICK. Hope Leslie.
34. WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT. Poems in EAP and Lectures on Poetry.

35. CAROLINE KIRKLAND. A New Home, Who'll Follow.

36. _____________. Western Clearings.

37. ELIZABETH FARNHAM. Life in Prairie Land. (1846).


39. MARGARET FULLER. Summer on the Lakes, Woman in the Nineteenth Century.

40. FREDERICK DOUGLASS. Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass.

41. HENRY DAVID THOREAU. Walden.


43. _____________. The Maine Woods

44. _____________. Cape Cod


49. ____________. The Scarlet Letter.

50. ____________. The House of the Seven Gables.

51. ____________. The Blithedale Romance.

52. HERMAN MELVILLE. Moby-Dick.

53. ____________. The Confidence Man.

54. ____________. Bartleby, The Scrivener.

55. ____________. Benito Cereno.

56. ____________. Billy Budd, Sailor.

57. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE. Uncle Tom's Cabin.

58. HARRIET JACOBS. Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl.

59. WALT WHITMAN. “Preface” to Leaves of Grass. (1855), A Backward Glance O'er Traveled Roads, Democratic Vistas.


61. EMILY DICKINSON. Poems in Final Harvest, ed. Thomas H. Johnson.

62. BRET HARTE. “The Outcasts of Poker Flat,” “The Luck of Roaring Camp.”
ABMBROSE BIERCE. “An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge.”

63. MARK TWAIN. Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.

64. HAMLIN GARLAND. Main Travelled Roads.

65. _______________. A Son of the Middle Border.

66. KATE CHOPIN. The Awakening.

67. STEPHEN CRANE. Maggie. “The Open Boat.”

68. MARY WILKINS FREEMAN. “A New England Nun.”

69. SARAH ORNE JEWETT. The Country of the Pointed Firs.

70. FRANK NORRIS. McTeague.

71. ERNEST THOMPSON SETON. Wild Animals I Have Known.

72. JACK LONDON. “To Build a Fire”; White Fang (1906).

73. WILLA CATHER. My Antonia.

74. ____________. O Pioneers.

75. ROBERT FROST. A Boy’s Will; North Of Boston;

76. ____________. Mountain Interval; New Hampshire.

77. ____________. West-Running Brook; A Further Range; A Witness Tree.


81. BABARA PACKER, *The Transcendentalists*.


II. **Ideas of Nature**

85. RAYMOND WILLIAMS. “Ideas of Nature”

86. PERRY MILLER. *Errand into the Wilderness*. (1956).

87. HENRY NASH SMITH. *Virgin Land*. (1950).

88. LEO MARX. *The Machine in the Garden: Technology and the Pastoral Ideal in America*


102. JOHN SEELYE. Prophetic Waters: The River in Early American Life and Literature.
103. ________________. Beautiful Machine: Rivers and the Republican Plan, 1755-1825.

104. JOHN MUIR. My First Summer in the Sierras.

105. ALDO LEOPOLD. Sand County Almanac (1949).

106. RACHEL CARSON. Silent Spring (1962).


110. GRETEL EHRLICH. The Solace of Open Spaces. (1986).

111. BILL MIKIBBEN, The End of Nature.

112. ________________. Hope, Human, Wild.
III. Land, Property, and Speculation:


114. LISA WEST, “I May Be A Stranger to the Grounds of Your Belief: Constructing a Sense of Place in Wieland,”


117. EDWIN T. MARTIN, "Thomas Jefferson, Scientist." (1952)

118. DREW MCCOY, The Elusive Republic.


120. ROY PORTER. The Enlightenment.

121. RAY ALLEN BILLINGTON, "Origin of the Land Speculator as a Frontier Type," Agricultural." History, 19 (1945), 204-12;

122. PAUL GATES, “The Role of the Land Speculator in Western Development.”

123. LESLIE E. DECKER. “The Great Speculation: An Interpretation of Mid-Continent Pioneering”


126. __________________. “The Trouble with Wilderness, or, Getting Back to the Wrong Nature”


131. LOUIS S. WARREN. American Environmental History.


133. ________________. The Land Before Her: Fantasy and Experience of the American Frontiers, 1630-1860.

134. THOMAS HALLOCK. From the Fallen Tree: Frontier Narratives, Environmental Politics, and the Roots of a National Pastoral, 1749-1826.

135. ANDY DOOLEN. Fugitive Empires.

136. YI-FU TUAN. Space and Place: The Perspective of Experience. (2001)

137. ________________. Cosmos and Hearth. (1999)

139. LYNN PARKS. *Capitalism in Early American Literature* (1996).