

## MA COMPREHENSIVE EXAM READING LISTS

### I. Expressive Forms

David D. Hall. *Worlds of Wonder, Days of Judgment: Popular Religious Belief in Early New England*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1990.

Karen Halttunen. *Murder Most Foul: The Killer and the American Gothic Imagination*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1998.

Shane and Graham White. *Stylin': African American Expressive Culture from Its Beginnings to the Zoot Suit*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1998.

Philip Deloria. *Playing Indian*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1998.

Bernard Herman. *Town House: Architecture and Material Life in the Early American City, 1780-1830*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2005.

Jane Tompkins. *Sensational Designs: The Cultural Work of American Fiction, 1790-1860*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1985.

Scott Reynolds Nelson. *Steel Drivin' Man: John Henry, the Untold Story of an American Legend*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

Shelly Fisher Fishkin. *Was Huck Black? Mark Twain and African American Voices*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993.

Laura Wexler. *Tender Violence: Domestic Visions in an Age of U.S. Imperialism*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2000.

Kathy Peiss. *Hope in a Jar: The Making of America's Beauty Culture*. New York: Holt, 1998.

Sarah Schrank. *Art and the City: Civic Imagination and Cultural Authority in Los Angeles*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008.

Michael Denning. *The Cultural Front: The Laboring of American Culture in the Twentieth Century*. Brooklyn: Verso, 1997.

Lary May. *The Big Tomorrow: Hollywood and the Politics of the American Way*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000.

Eric Avila. *Popular Culture in the Age of White Flight: Fear and Fantasy in Suburban Los Angeles*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2004.

Tricia Rose. *Black Noise: Rap Music and Black Culture in Contemporary America*. Middletown, Connecticut: Wesleyan University Press, 1994.

Victoria Pitts. *In the Flesh: The Cultural Politics of Body Modification*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2003.

## **II. Gender and Sexuality**

Laurel Thatcher Ulrich. *A Midwife's Tale: The Life of Martha Ballard, Based on Her Diary, 1785-1812*. New York: Alfred Knopf, 1990.

Clare Lyons. *Sex Among the Rabble: An Intimate History of Gender & Power in the Age of Revolution, Philadelphia, 1730-1830*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2006.

Albert Hurtado. *Intimate Frontiers: Sex, Gender, and Culture in Old California*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1999.

Thomas Foster. *Sex & the Eighteenth-Century Man: Massachusetts & the History of Sexuality in America*. Boston, Mass.: Beacon Press, 2006.

Nancy Cott. *The Bonds of Womanhood: 'Woman's Sphere' in New England, 1780-1835*, New Haven: Yale University Press, 1978.

Andrea Tone. *Devices and Desires: A History of Contraceptives in America*. New York: Hill and Wang, 2001.

Christine Stansell. *City of Women: Sex and Class in New York, 1789-1860*. New York: Alfred Knopf, 1986.

Glenda Gilmore. *Gender and Jim Crow: Women and the Politics of White Supremacy in North Carolina, 1896-1920*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1996.

George Chauncey. *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Makings of the Gay Male World, 1890-1940*. New York: Basic Books, 1994.

John Kasson. *Houdini, Tarzan, and the Perfect Man: The White Male Body and the Challenge of Modernity in America*. New York: Hill & Wang, 2001.

Martin Summers. *Manliness and Its Discontents: The Black Middle Class and the Transformation of Masculinity*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2003.

Elizabeth Kennedy. *Boots of Leather, Slippers of Gold: The History of a Lesbian Community*. New York: Routledge, 1993.

Miriam Reumann. *American Sexual Character: Sex, Gender, and National Identity in the Kinsey Reports*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005.

Amy Farrell. *Yours in Sisterhood: Ms. Magazine and the Promise of Popular Feminism*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998.

Shirley Lim. *A Feeling of Belonging: Asian American Women's Public Culture, 1930-1960*. New York: New York University Press, 2006.

### **III. Institutions and Ideals**

Jill Lepore. *The Name of War: King Philip's War and the Origins of American Identity*. New York: Knopf, 1998.

Nancy Cott. *Public Vows: A History of Marriage and the Nation*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2000.

Albert Raboteau. *Slave Religion: The "Invisible Institution" in the Antebellum South*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1978.

Walter Johnson. *Soul by Soul: Life inside the Antebellum Slave Market*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1999.

Alfred Young. *The Shoemaker and the Tea Party: Memory and the American Revolution*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1999.

Drew Faust. *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2008.

David Henkin. *The Postal Age: The Emergence of Modern Communications in Nineteenth Century America*. Chicago: University of Chicago, 2006.

Louis Menand. *The Metaphysical Club: A Story of Ideas in America*. New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2001.

Joan Jacobs Brumberg. *Kansas Charley: The Boy Murderer*. New York: Viking, 2003.

Ellen Herman. *Kinship by Design: A History of Adoption in the Modern United States*. Chicago: University of Chicago, 2008.

Sarah Igo. *The Averaged American: Surveys, Citizens, and the Making of a Mass Public*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2007.

William Graebner. *Coming of Age in Buffalo: Youth and Authority in the Postwar Era*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1990.

Lisa McGirr. *Suburban Warriors: The Origins of the New American Right*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001.

Kathryn Dudley. *Debt and Dispossession: Farm Loss in America's Heartland*. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 2002.

Anne Fadiman. *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down: A Hmong Child, Her American Doctors, and the Collision of Two Cultures*. New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 1997.

#### **IV. The National and the Global**

Richter, Daniel K. *Facing East From Indian Country: A Native History of Early America*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001.

Rediker, Markus. *The Slave Ship: A Human History*. New York: Penguin, 2008.

Armitage, David. *The Declaration of Independence: A Global History*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2008.

Kuo Wei Tchen, John. *New York Before Chinatown: Orientalism and the Shaping of American Culture, 1776-1882*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001.

Kaplan, Amy. *The Anarchy of Empire in the Making of U.S. Culture*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2003.

Sanchez, George. *Becoming Mexican American: Ethnicity, Culture, and Identity in Chicano Los Angeles, 1900-1945*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995.

Jacobson, Matthew Frye. *Special Sorrows: The Diasporic Imagination of Irish, Polish, and Jewish Immigrants in the United States*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002.

Azuma, Eiichiro. *Between Two Empires: Race, History, and Transnationalism in Japanese America*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005.

Yung, Judy. *Unbound Feet: A Social History of Chinese Women in San Francisco*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995.

Schivelbusch, Wolfgang. *Three New Deals: Reflections on Roosevelt's America, Mussolini's Italy, and Hitler's Germany, 1933-1939*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 2007.

Seigel, Micol. *Uneven Encounters: Making Race and Nation in Brazil and the United States*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2009.

Wagnleitner, Reinhold. *Coca-Colonization and the Cold War: The Cultural Mission of the United States in Austria after the Second World War*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1994.

Von Eschen, Peggy. *Satchmo Blows Up the World: Jazz Ambassadors Play the Cold War*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2004.

McAlister, Melani. *Epic Encounters: Culture, Media, & U.S. Interests in the Middle East since 1945, Updated Edition, With a Post-9/11 Chapter*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005.

#### **V. Natural and Built Environments**

William Cronon. *Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England*. New York: Hill and Wang, 2003.

Gabrielle M. Lanier. *The Delaware Valley in the Early Republic: Architecture, Landscape, and Regional Identity*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005.

Michael Lewis, ed. *American Wilderness: A New History*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2007.

Frieda Knobloch. *The Culture of Wilderness: Agriculture as Colonization in the American West*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1996.

John F. Sears. *Sacred Places: American Tourist Attractions in the Nineteenth Century*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1989.

Dolores Hayden. *Building Suburbia: Green Fields and Urban Growth, 1820-2000*. New York: Pantheon Books, 2003.

Patricia Nelson Limerick. *The Legacy of Conquest: The Unbroken Past of the American West*. New York: W. W. Norton, 1987; new edition, 2006.

Donald Worster. *Dust Bowl: The Southern Plains in the 1930s*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1979.

Phoebe Kropp. *California Vieja: Culture and Memory in a Modern American Place*. Los Angeles: University of California Press, 2008.

Don Mitchell. *The Lie of the Land: Migrant Workers and the California Landscape*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2000.

Kai Erikson. *Everything in its Path: Destruction of Community in the Buffalo Creek Flood*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1976.

Jane Jacobs. *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*. New York: Random House, 1961.

Thomas Sugrue. *The Origins of the Urban Crisis: Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1996.

## **VI. Race, Ethnicity, and Class Formation**

Morgan, Edmund S. *American Slavery, American Freedom: The Ordeal of Colonial Virginia*. New York: Norton, 1975.

Morgan, Jennifer L. *Laboring Women: Reproduction and Gender in New World Slavery*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004.

Pascoe, Peggy. *What Comes Naturally: Miscegenation Law and the Making of Race in America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Sweet, John Wood. *Bodies Politic: Negotiating Race in the American North, 1730-1830*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003.

Stauffer, John. *The Black Hearts of Men: Radical Abolitionists and the Transformation of Race*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2002.

Pitti, Steven J. *The Devil in Silicon Valley: Northern California, Race, and Mexican Americans*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2003.

West, Eliot. *The Contested Plains: Indians, Goldseekers, and the Rush to Colorado*. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2000.

Welke, Barbara. *Recasting American Liberty: Gender, Race, Law, and the Railroad Revolution, 1865-1920*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2001.

Jacobson, Matthew Frye. *Whiteness of a Different Color: European Immigrants and the Alchemy of Race*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1999.

Blight, David. *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory*. Cambridge: Belknap Press, 2002.

Gordon, Linda. *Great Arizona Orphan Abduction*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001.

Leong, Karen. *The China Mystique: Pearl S. Buck, Anna Mae Wong, Mayling Soong, and the Transformation of American Orientalism*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005.

Ngai Mai. *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005.

Dudziak, Mary. *Cold War Civil Rights: Race and the Image of American Democracy*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002.

Singh, Nikhil Pal. *Black is a Country: Race and the Unfinished Struggle for Democracy*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2004.

## **VII. Work, Consumption, and Leisure**

Daniels, Bruce. *Puritans at Play: Leisure and Recreation in Colonial New England*. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 1996.

Breen, T.H. *The Marketplace of Revolution: How Consumer Politics Shaped American Independence*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005.

White, Shane. *Stories of Freedom in Black New York*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 2007.

Hunter, Tera. *To 'Joy My Freedom: Southern Black Women's Lives and Labors after the Civil War*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1998.

Rosenzweig, Roy. *Eight Hours for What We Will: Workers and Leisure in an Industrial City, 1870-1920*. Cambridge, Mass: Cambridge University Press, 1985.

Levine, Lawrence. *Highbrow/Lowbrow: The Emergence of Cultural Hierarchy in America*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1990.

Garvey, Ellen Gruber. *The Adman in the Parlor: Magazines and the Gendering of Consumer Culture, 1880s to 1910s*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996.

Peiss, Kathy. *Cheap Amusements: Working Women and Leisure in Turn-of-the-Century New York*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1986.

May, Lary. *Screening out the Past: The Birth of Mass Culture and the Motion Picture Industry*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1983.

Oriard, Michael. *Reading Football: How the Popular Press Created an American Spectacle*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998.

Alamillo, Jose. *Making Lemonade out of Lemons: Mexican American Labor and Leisure in a California Town 1880-1960*. Urbana, University of Illinois Press, 2006.

Newman, Kathy. *Radio Active: Advertising and Consumer Activism, 1935-1947*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2004.

Spigel, Lynn. *Make Room for TV: Television and the Family Ideal in Postwar America*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1992.

Cohen, Lizabeth. *A Consumer's Republic: The Politics of Mass Culture in Postwar America*. New York: Vintage, 2003.