Sixteenth Century Reading List

Prose
More, Thomas, *Utopia* (1516)
Erasmus, *The Education of a Christian Prince* (1516)
Elyot, *The Boke Named the Governor* (1531)
Hoby, Sir Thomas, translation of Castiglione’s *Il Cortegiano* (1516) (The Courtier, 1561)
Foxe, *Acts and Monuments* (1563)
Ascham, Roger, *The Schoolmaster* (1570)
Lyly, John, *Euphues: The Anatomy of Wit* (1578-80)
Hooker, Richard (minister), *Of the Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity* (1585)
Nashe, Thomas, *Pierce Penniless, His Supplication to the Devil* (1592)
   *The Unfortunate Traveler, or the Life of Jack Wilton* (1594)

Debates on Poetry
Gascoigne, *Certain Notes of Instruction* (1575)
Sidney, Sir Philip, *A Defense of Poesy* (pub 1595)
Campion, Thomas, *Observations in the Art of English Poesy* (1602)
Daniel, Samuel, *The Defense of Rhyme* (post-1602)

Histories (nationalism)
*A Mirror for Magistrates* incl. Norton and Sackville, *Gordobuc* (1559)
Hakluyt, Richard, *Voyages* (late 1580s)
Raleigh, *Discovery of Guiana* (1595)

Lyric Poetry
Skelton, John (1460-1529)
Wyatt, Sir Thomas the Elder (1503-1542)
Surrey, Henry (Howard, Earl of) (1517-1547)
Queen Elizabeth (1533-1603)
Gascoigne, George (1539-1578)
Spenser, Edmund, (1552-1599)
   *The Shepheardes Calender* (1579)
   “Colin Clout’s Come Home Again” (1595)
   *Amoretti* (1595)
   “Epithalamion” and “Prothalamion” (1595)
   “Fowre Hymns”
Raleigh, Sir Walter, “The Nymph’s Reply to the Shepherd,” et al. (1552-1618)
Greville, Fulke (1554-1628)
Sidney, Sir Phillip, *Astrophil and Stella* (1581-ish) (1554-1586)
Tottel’s *Miscellany* (1557)
Southwell, Robert (1561-1595)
Mary (Sidney) Herbert, Psalm translations (1562-1621)
Daniel, Samuel (1592) (1562-1619)
Drayton, Michael (1563-1631)
Marlowe, Christopher, “The Passionate Shepherd to His Love” (1564-1593)
Shakespeare, Sonnets (1609) (1564-1616)
Campion, Thomas (1567-1620)
Alabaster, William (1567-1640)
Selections from other sonneteers of the 16th Century:
Narrative Poetry
Spenser, Edmund, *The Faerie Queen*, (1590, 1596)
  “The Ruins of Time” (1591)
  “The Tears of the Muses” (1591)
  “Muiopatmos,” (1591)
  “Mother Hubberd’s Tale, or Prosopoeia” (1591)
Marlowe, Christopher, “Hero and Leander” (1593)
  (and Chapman’s expansion)
Shakespeare, “Venus and Adonis,” (1593)
  “The Rape of Lucrece” (1594)

Prose Romance
Sidney, Sir Philip, *The Old Arcadia* (1577ish)
  *The Countess of Pembroke’s Arcadia* (1590-1593)
Greene, Robert, *Pandosto* (1588)
Lodge, Thomas, *Rosalind* (1590)

Drama
Heywood, John, *The Four PP* (1520s)
Gascoigne, Translation of Ariosto’s *The Supposes* (1566)
  *The Glass of Government* (1575)
Preston, *Cambyses* (1569-70)
Sidney, Sir Philip, *The Queen of May* (proto-masque, 1578)
Marlowe, Christopher, *Tamburlaine, Parts I and II* (1587-8)
  *The Jew of Malta* (1589)
  *Edward II* (1592)
  *The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus* (A text 1604; 1616)
Greene, *Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay* (1589)
Kyd, *The Spanish Tragedy* (1590)
Lyly, John, *Gallathea* (1592)
Dekker, Thomas, *The Shoemaker’s Holiday* (1599)

Shakespearean Drama
  *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (early 1590s)
  *Taming of the Shrew* (1592ish)
  2 Henry 6 (1591)
  Richard, Duke of York (3 Henry 6)
  *Titus Andronicus* (1592)
  1 Henry 6 (1592ish)
  Richard III (1592/3)
  *The Comedy of Errors* (1594ish)
  Loves Labors Lost (1594-5)
  *Midsummer Night’s Dream* (1595)
  Romeo and Juliet (1595)
  Richard II (1595-7)
  King John (1596)
  Merchant of Venice (1595)
  1 Henry 4 (1597ish)
  2 Henry 4 (1598ish)
  *Much Ado About Nothing* (1598)
  Henry 5 (1599)
  Julius Caesar (1599)
  As You Like It (1598-1600)
Hamlet (1600)
Twelfth Night (1601)
Troilus and Cressida (1601-2)
All’s Well that Ends Well (1601-2)
Timon of Athens (1601-2)
Othello (1603-4)
Measure for Measure (1604)
King Lear (1603-6; Q 1608 “History”; F1 1623 “Tragedy”; conflated 18C)
Macbeth (1606)
Antony and Cleopatra (1606-7)
Pericles, Prince of Tyre (1607-8)
Coriolanus (1608)
The Winter’s Tale (1609-11)
Cymbeline, King of Britain (1609-11)
The Tempest (1611)

Historical Background

Lockyer and Thrush, *Henry VII*
Scarisbrick, *Henry VIII*
Tittler, *The Reign of Queen Mary I*
Neale, *Queen Elizabeth*