Anglo-Saxon Reading List

Primary Texts
Literature of the Alfredian Period:
Alfred, Preface to Pastoral Care;
OE translation of Consolation of Philosophy

Asser, Life of King Alfred

Homilies:
Vercelli Homilies (Selections):
The Dream of the Rood
Soul and Body
Andreas
Cynewulf, Fates of the Apostles and Elene

Wulstan, Sermo Lupi ad Anglos
De Falsis Deis

Saints’ Legends:
Vita S. Cuthberti
Aelfric, Lives of Saints
Cynewulf, Juliana
Guthlac A and B

Biblical Literature:
Junius MS: Genesis; Exodus; Christ and Satan

Judith (Beowulf MS)

Liturgical and Devotional Texts
Aldhelm, De virginitate
Alcuin, De virtutibus et vitiis
The Phoenix

OE Physiologus: The Panther; The Whale; The Partridge

Caedmon’s Hymn

Legal, Scientific, and Scholastic Works
Wulfstan, Institutes of Polity
Alcuin, Colloquy

Wisdom Literature and Lyric Poetry:
Menologium
The Seafarer
The Wanderer
Wulf and Eadwacer
The Wife’s Lament
The Husband’s Message
The Ruin
The Riming Poem

Germanic Legend and Heroic Lay:

Beowulf
The Battle of Finnsburg
Deor
Widsith
The Battle of Maldon
The Battle of Brunanburh

Other:

The Letter of Alexander to Aristotle
Anglo-Saxon Chronicle (Selections)
The Encomium Emma Reginae
The Life of King Edward (Vita Aedwardi)
Durham

Secondary Texts:

Nicholas Howe, Migration and Myth-Making in Anglo-Saxon England

Peter Hunter Blair, The World of Bede

Thomas Bredehoft, Textual Histories: Readings in the A-S Chronicle

Allen Frantzen, Desire for Origins

Sebastian I. Sobecki, The Sea and Medieval English Literature
Michael Fox and Manish Sharma, eds. *Old English Literature and the Old Testament*

Dorothy Whitelock, *The Audience of Beowulf; The Beginnings of English Society*

Andy Orchard, *Pride and Prodigies: Studies in the Monsters of the Beowulf-Manuscript*

David Fowler, *The Bible in Early English Literature*

Peter Brown, *The Cult of Saints: Its Rise and Function in Latin Christianity*

Greenfield and Calder, *A New Critical History of Old English Literature*