Theories of History (and Memory)

Primary Texts (30)

Virgil, Aeneid

Ovid, Metamorphoses

Augustine, Confessions (Books 8, 11, especially)

City of God

Boethius, Consolatio Philosophiae

Bede, Historia ecclesiastica gentis Anglorum

Bede, De temporibus (not necessary)

Hugh of St. Victor, The Three Best Memory Aids for Learning History

Henry of Huntingdon, Historia Anglorum (selections)

Geoffrey of Monmouth, Historia Regum Britanniae

Vita Merlini

Wace, Roman de Brut

William of Malmesbury, Gesta Regum Anglorum (selections)

William of Newburgh, Historia rerum Anglicarum (selections)

Dante, Vita Nuova (Book of Memory)

Commedia: Inferno, Purgatorio, Paradiso
De Monarchia
De Vulgari Eloquentia

Boccaccio, Decameron (selections); Il Filostrato; Il Teseida

Petrarch, Canzoniere

Secretum
Familiares (selections) – Ascent of Mont Ventoux

Chaucer, Troilus and Criseyde

Boece

Book of the Duchess
'Parliament of Fowls

House of Fame

Legend of Good Women

The Canterbury Tales

Shorter Poems, etc.: Treatise on the Astrolabe, Complaint of Chaucer to his Purse, “Chaucers Wordes unto Adam his Owne Scriveyn”

Hegel, Introduction to the Philosophy of History

Reason in History

Nietzsche, On the Use and Abuse of History
On the Genealogy of Morality

Foucault, “Nietzsche, Genealogy, History” in language, counter-memory, practice

Johan Huizinga, The Autumn of the Middle Ages

Georg Lukacs, History and Class Consciousness

Martin Heidegger, Being and Time

Walter Benjamin, Illuminations (selections – “Theses on Philosophy of History,” “Storyteller”)

Raymond Williams, Marxism and Literature

Roland Barthes, The Discourse of History in The Rustle of Language

Secondary Texts (10)

Michel de Certeau, The Practice of Everyday Life

Mary Carruthers, The Book of Memory: A Study of Memory in Medieval Culture (one or two chapters)

Lee Patterson, Chaucer and the Subject of History

Negotiating the Past: The Historical Understanding of Medieval Literature

Robert W. Hanning, The Vision of History in Early Britain

Jacques Le Goff, History and Memory

Sylvia Federico, New Troy: Fantasies of Empire in the Late Middle Ages
Gabrielle Spiegel, *The Past as Text: The Theory and Practice of Medieval Historiography*

*Romancing the Past* (selections)

R.A. Markus, *Saeculum: History and Society in the Theology of St. Augustine*

Frances A. Yates, *The Art of Memory*

Monika Otter, *Inventiones: Fiction and Referentiality in Twelfth-Century English Historical Writing*

Paul Connerton, *How Societies Remember*

*How Modernity Forgets*

Hayden White, *Metahistory & Tropics of Discourse*

Michel Trouillot, *Silencing the Past: Power and the Production of History*