England and the "Renaissance"

Prose

Desiderius Erasmus

Praise of Folly

John Calvin

Institutes of the Christian Religion

Sir Thomas More

A Dialogue Concerning Heresies

William Tyndale

Answer to More's Dialogue

John Foxe

Foxe's Book of Martyrs (selections)

Richard Hooker

Of the Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity Book 1; Book 5

Sir Philip Sidney

The Defense of Poesy

1611 King James Bible

New Testament

William Allen

An admonition to the nobility and people of England

Poetry

Sir Thomas Wyatt the Elder

The long love that in my thought doth harbor & Petrarch, Rima 140; Whoso list to hunt & Petrarch Rima 190; They flee from me; Blame not my lute; Stand whoso list; Who list his wealth and ease retain;

Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey

The soote season; Love that doth reign and live within my thought; Alas! So all things now do hold their peace & Petrarch Rima 164; So cruel prison how could betide; Wyatt resteth here, that quick could never rest;

Sir Philip Sidney

Astrophel and Stella

Edmund Spenser

The Faerie Queen (selections)

Shepherd's Calendar

Robert Herrick

(selections)

Andrew Marvell

(selections)

Henry Vaughan

(selections)

William Shakespeare

Sonnets

John Donne

The Flea; The Sun rising; The Canonization; The Bait; The Funeral; The Relic; Elegy 19; Holy Sonnets (all)

George Herbert

(Selections)

John Milton

Sonnets; On Shakespeare; L'Allegro; Il Pensoroso Paradise Lost

Drama

Christopher Marlowe

Doctor Faustus

William Shakespeare

Hamlet; Macbeth

King Lear; Othello

Merchant of Venice; Winter's Tale

Midsummer Night's Dream; Romeo and Juliet

Henry IV, parts I and II

Richard II; Richard III

Ben Jonson

The Alchemist

Thomas Middleton

The Changeling

Secondary Reading:

C.S. Lewis, English Literature in the Sixteenth Century, Excluding Drama Douglas Bush, English Literature in the Earlier Seventeenth Century Eamon Duffy, Stripping of the Altars
Keith Thomas, Religion and the Decline of Magic
Stanley Fish Surprised By Sin
Debora Shuger The Renaissance Bible
Claire McEachern Believing in Shakespeare
Stephen Greenblatt, Renaissance Self-Fashioning
Robert Watson, Back to Nature
John Bossy, Religion in the 17th Century