Reading List for Folk Studies Graduate Students
Western Kentucky University
(Adopted August 2013)

The purpose of the Master’s reading list is to acquaint students with standard reference and research tools and important theories and methodologies in the discipline. Students will be held accountable on the Master’s comprehensive examination for specific kinds of mastery described in the introduction to each of the reading list’s sections. The comprehensive examination will call for a knowledge of all relevant materials covered in any course completed by the student and all other works listed on the reading list regardless of whether they were read in connection with a particular course.

This reading list remains in effect for two calendar years from the end of students’ first semester of enrollment in the program. After that, any new or revised M.A. reading list supplants it, and students will be held responsible for the new list.

I. Periodicals and Serials

Students should be familiar with the general content, editorial policy and approach, as well as the historical significance of the following journals.

*Journal of Ethnomusicology*
*Folk Life*
*Folklore*
*Folklore Forum* (online journal from 2008: [http://folkloreforum.net/](http://folkloreforum.net/))
*Journal of American Folklore*
*Journal of Folklore Research*
*Journal of Popular Culture*
*Material Culture*
*New Directions in Folklore* ([http://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/ndif/index](http://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/ndif/index), back issues: [https://scholarworks.iu.edu/dspace/handle/2022/6614](https://scholarworks.iu.edu/dspace/handle/2022/6614).)
*Pennsylvania Folklife*
*Buildings and Landscapes* (*Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture*)
*Southern Folklore/Southern Folklore Quarterly*
*Western Folklore*
*Winterthur Portfolio*

II. Websites and Electronic Resources
Students should be able to comment on the content, organization, general usefulness, and significance of these reference tools.

- American Folklife Center website: [http://lcweb.loc.gov/folklife](http://lcweb.loc.gov/folklife)
- American Folklore Society website: [http://afsnet.org](http://afsnet.org)
- City Lore: [http://www.citylore.org/](http://www.citylore.org/)
- Folkstreams: [http://www.folkstreams.net/](http://www.folkstreams.net/)
- Local Learning Network, [http://locallearningnetwork.org](http://locallearningnetwork.org)
- Louisiana Voices website: [http://www.louisianavoices.org/edu_home.html](http://www.louisianavoices.org/edu_home.html)
- Open Folklore, [http://openfolklore.org/](http://openfolklore.org/)
- Publore: [http://list.unm.edu/cgi-bin/wa?AO=publore](http://list.unm.edu/cgi-bin/wa?AO=publore)
- Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage: [http://www.folklife.si.edu/](http://www.folklife.si.edu/)

### III. Reference Works and Methodological Tools

Students should be able to comment on the content, organization, general usefulness, and significance of these reference tools.


IV. Selected Textbooks

Students should be able to write critical essays concerning these textbooks.
V. Special Issues of Journals and Anthologies

Students should read the introduction to these volumes and, without necessarily reading each article in its entirety, should be able to comment on the general content, organization, usefulness, and goals of these volumes.


VI. Monographs & Articles

Students must be thoroughly familiar with the following studies.


