Life Writing

The list focuses on "life writing," in recognition that the term now covers a wider diversity of forms than only "autobiography" and "biography." In addition to acknowledging that this field is still developing, the track is conceived as a historical sweep through a genre that raises questions of gender, sexuality, subjectivity, narrative, and historiography. As such, it may be useful to approach the listed texts with the following questions: How do life-writings show subjectivity to be a cultural concept? How do authors develop, reject, and complicate the autonomous "I"? How is cultural ideology created and how does it inform representation of self? The track brings to the fore the operations of cultural identities in narrations of self and of others' lives, as well as the permeable boundaries between fictional and non-fictional prose and verse. Faculty involved on this track: Saher Alam, Ellen Crowell, Tony Hasler, Georgia Johnston, Paul Lynch, Don Stump, and Phyllis Weliver.

1. Augustine, St., *Confessions* (c. 397-401)
2. Thomas Hoccleve, *Complaint* and *Dialogue* from *Series* (c. 1419-20)
3. The *Book of Margery Kempe* (1436-40?)
4. Anne Askew, *Examinations of Anne Askew* (c. 1548-50)
6. George Cavendish, *The Life and Death of Cardinal Wolsey* (c. 1554-58, pub. 1810)
10. John Bunyan, *Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners* (1666)
11. Lucy Hutchinson, *Memoirs Of The Life Of Colonel Hutchinson* (c. 1664-70, pub. 1806)
15. Anne Lister, *I Know My Own Heart, the Diaries of Anne Lister* (ed by Helena Whitbread) 1817-1824 (printed 1988)
19. Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* (1845)
21. Alfred Tennyson, *In Memoriam* (1850)
27. Oscar Wilde, *De Profundis* (1905)
29. Virginia Woolf, *Orlando* (1928)
30. A.J.A. Symonds, *The Quest for Corvo* (1934)
42. Alice Munro, *The View from Castle Rock* (2006)