

Fall/Winter 2021-2022

AP/EN 4120 6.0A (Y)	Studies in 18th-Century Literature: The Rise of the Novel
Course Director:	Prof. Katarina O’Brian Office 620 Atkinson Ext. 22147 kobriain@yorku.ca
Time:	Thursday, 2:30-5:30 pm
Delivery Format:	SEMR – in-person
Description:	This course traces the development of the novel in the long eighteenth century, paying close attention to how the genre engages some of the period’s key political concerns: orientalism, colonialism, and slavery; the politics of domesticity; heteropatriarchy and the colonial gender binary; discourses of property and personhood; and the development of global and racial capitalism, among others. As we’ll see, the eighteenth-century novel persists in bringing together modes that might often be thought as distinct, including romance and realism; selfhood and objectification; sensibility and commodification. Our class will closely analyze the ways in which writers revise, establish, and experiment with the novel form to offer a complicated set of social claims, and novels will be read alongside contemporary philosophy and art, as well as more recent criticism and theory of the novel. Throughout we’ll attend to the ways in which the novel reinforces and develops some of the most harmful Enlightenment discourses that remain with us today, while also seeking to recover the foreclosed possibilities that the period and its most capacious genre have to offer.
Category:	B
Historical Requirement:	Time Period II (1700-1900)
Requirements:	Essay 1 (1500 words), 20% Essay 2 (3500 words), 30% Seminar Presentation, 15% Participation & Forum Posts, 15% Final Exam, 20%
Reading List:	Aphra Behn, <i>Oroonoko</i> (Penguin) Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, <i>The Turkish Embassy Letters</i> (Broadview)

	<p>Eliza Haywood, <i>Fantomina</i> (Broadview)</p> <p><i>The Female American; or, The Adventures of Unca Eliza Winkfield</i> (Broadview)</p> <p>Daniel Defoe, <i>Roxana</i> (Penguin)</p> <p>Samuel Richardson, <i>Pamela</i> (Oxford)</p> <p>Henry Fielding, <i>Tom Jones</i> (Oxford)</p> <p>Samuel Johnson, <i>The History of Rasselas, Prince of Abissinia</i> (Penguin)</p> <p>Laurence Sterne, <i>Tristram Shandy</i> (Penguin)</p> <p>Frances Burney, <i>Evelina</i> (Oxford)</p> <p>Brief selections from <i>Hayy Ibn Yaqzan: A Philosophical Tale</i>, <i>Don Quixote</i>, <i>One Thousand and One Nights</i>, <i>The Spectator</i>, <i>The Female Spectator</i>, <i>Robinson Crusoe</i>, <i>Gulliver's Travels</i>, <i>A Sentimental Journey</i>, <i>The Letters of Ignatius Sancho</i>, <i>The Interesting Narrative of Olaudah Equiano</i>, and philosophical and critical readings will be available as PDFs.</p>
Open To:	Year 4 in Honours