

## SU 2024

<b>AP/EN 3175 3.0M (S2)</b>	Travel Writing in English
<b>Course Director:</b>	Natalia Khomenko <a href="mailto:khomenko@yorku.ca">khomenko@yorku.ca</a> Virtual Office Hours: TBD (Meeting ID on Zoom: 769 129 3766, <a href="https://yorku.zoom.us/j/7691293766">https://yorku.zoom.us/j/7691293766</a> )
<b>Time:</b>	There is no set course meeting time. Students may engage with course content/materials 24/7.
<b>Delivery Format:</b>	<b>ONLINE</b> – (asynchronous delivery).
<b>Description:</b>	<p>This course surveys the history of travel writing – primarily from the perspective of Anglophone writers – from the sixteenth to the twenty-first century. We will begin with early European travel and move to the accounts of travel to Asia, the Near and Far East, and Africa. We will then consider a range of narratives related to the discovery and colonization of the Americas, the Caribbean, Australia, and the Pacific. Moving to the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, we will discuss travel in the United States in the era of Jim Crow laws, present-day travel blogging, and the rising trend of nomadic vanlife.</p> <p>Nearly all travel accounts we will encounter in the beginning of course have been produced by white, male, affluent, Christian (likely Protestant) authors. But by the eighteenth century, women’s voices became widely represented in the genre of travel writing. The development of transportation and communication technologies in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries also supported greater access to travel across class lines and income levels. Throughout, we will trace the voices of racialized writers who meditated on and subverted the traditional assumptions about race and authority in travel writing, culminating with the contemporary Kenyan writer and activist Nanjala Nyabola.</p> <p>Throughout the course, we will reflect on the conventions and expectations of travel writing as a genre, as well as examine the power dynamics and imbalances inherent both in travel and in writing about it. We might ask: Who has access to travel at any given time in history, and how might the demands of travel shape the narrative produced? How do socio-political contexts of travel, as well as the writer’s identity, affect the depiction of cultural encounters, and to what extent can this depiction ever be objective? In addition to critically examining existing narratives, students will have the opportunity to produce a piece of travel writing of their own as part of a creative assignment</p>

<b>Category:</b>	D
<b>Historical Requirement:</b>	N/A
<b>Requirements:</b>	<u>Evaluation:</u> Short paper: analysis-based response (20%) Creative submission (10%) Final essay informal proposal and outline (10%) Final essay: 30% Final exam: 15% Forum participation (15%)
<b>Reading List:</b>	<b>***Please see below</b>
<b>Open To:</b>	YR 3, 4

\*\*\*Textbooks (all available electronically through York University Libraries):

Matthew Dimmock and Andrew Hadfield, eds. *Amazons, Savages, and Machiavels: Travel and Colonial Writing in English, 1550-1630: An Anthology*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Oxford University Press: 2022. [https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL\\_YOR/18bi3sj/cdi\\_proquest\\_ebookcentral\\_EBC\\_7014277](https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL_YOR/18bi3sj/cdi_proquest_ebookcentral_EBC_7014277)

Elizabeth Bohls and Ian Duncan, eds. *Travel Writing 1700-1830. An Anthology*. Oxford University Press, 2005. [https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL\\_YOR/vg268k/alma991036459151905164](https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL_YOR/vg268k/alma991036459151905164)

Jane Robinson, ed. *Unsuitable for Ladies: An Anthology of Women Writers*. Oxford University Press: 2001. [https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL\\_YOR/18bi3sj/cdi\\_askewsholts\\_vlebooks\\_9780191538742](https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL_YOR/18bi3sj/cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_9780191538742)

Excerpts from Florence Nightingale, *Letters from Egypt*. A. & G.A. Spottiswoode: 1854. [https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL\\_YOR/q36if8/alma991036645322305164](https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL_YOR/q36if8/alma991036645322305164)

Excerpts from Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative*, edited by Brycchan Carey. Oxford University Press: 2016. [https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL\\_YOR/mc13rm/alma991036845513605164](https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL_YOR/mc13rm/alma991036845513605164)

Excerpts from Jessica Bruder, *Nomadland*. Swift Press: 2020. [https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL\\_YOR/q36if8/alma991036351827105164](https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL_YOR/q36if8/alma991036351827105164).

Excerpts from Sara Wheeler, *Terra Incognita: Travels in Antarctica*. Random House Publishing Group, 1996. [https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL\\_YOR/sqt9v/cdi\\_askewsholts\\_vlebooks\\_9780804152426](https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL_YOR/sqt9v/cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_9780804152426).

Nanjala Nyabola, *Travelling While Black: Essays Inspired by a Life on the Move*. C. Hurst and Company, 2021. [https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL\\_YOR/sqt9v/cdi\\_askewsholts\\_vlebooks\\_9781787385245](https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL_YOR/sqt9v/cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_9781787385245).

Any additional open-access sources will be linked in the syllabus.