

ENEC 4500: At Home and Abroad in the Eighteenth Century

Fall 2018

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MW 3:30-4:45
New Cabell Hall 209

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*To what extent are we
we inhabit? What means
staircase?*

This neighborhood, this city,

*defined and shaped by the spaces
this door, this window, this*

this nation?

The eighteenth century witnessed the professionalization of architecture, the popularity of house and garden design books, and a profusion of novels, poems, and plays that push houses – great and small – front and center. At the same time, improvements in roads and coaches, expanded trade routes, the explorations of science, and the thrust of empire meant that more and more people of all classes could travel more easily at home and abroad, visiting other houses, other cities, other cultures, and writing about them. In this seminar we will learn to visualize with historical clarity the cottages, farmhouses, inns, and country seats, as well as the roads, cities, and seas, of eighteenth-century domesticity and exploration. We will read poems, letters, novels, travel narratives, country house guides, garden theory, biography, and ship's logs, by Jane Austen, Captain Bligh, James Boswell, John Bunyan, Frances Burney, Lord Chesterfield, William Cowper, Daniel Defoe, Oliver Goldsmith, Eliza Haywood, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, Alexander Pope, Humphry Repton, Jonathan Swift, and Gilbert White. Requirements: *weekly analytical commentaries, a presentation, a short close-reading paper (5-7 pp.), a longer research paper (12-15 pp.), and, of course, profound discussion.

August 29

At Home and Abroad: readings from Gaston Bachelard, Lord Chesterfield

THE TOWN HOUSE

*September 3

Eliza Haywood, *Fantomina* (1724) [Collab: Resources]

September 5

Daniel Defoe, *Roxana* (1724)

*September 10

Roxana **Dance**

September 12

Roxana

THE COUNTRY HOUSE

September 17

Jane Austen, *Lady Susan* (1795)

*September 19

Alexander Pope, *Epistle to Burlington* (1731); George Bickham, *The Beauties of Stow* (1753), *A Short Account of the Principal Seats and Gardens* (1763) [Collab]

*September 24 Humphry Repton, from *Fragments on the Theory and Practice of Landscape Gardening* (1816) and the Red Books [Collab]

September 26 Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice* (1813), Vol. I

October 1 *Pride and Prejudice*, Vol. II **Domestic Interiors**

*October 3 *Pride and Prejudice*, Vol. III

October 8 **Reading Day**

October 10 John Clare, "The Lodge House" [1819] [Collab] **1st Paper Due**

MY OWN BACK YARD

October 15 William Cowper, from his *Correspondence* and *The Task* [Collab]

*October 17 Gilbert White, *Natural History of Selbourne* (1789) [Collab] **Pets**

LONDON

*October 22 James Boswell, *London Journal 1762-1763*

October 24 *London Journal*

October 29 Frances Burney, *Evelina* (1778), Vol. I

*October 31 *Evelina*, Vol. II, Letters I-XV **Music**

November 5 *Evelina*, Vol. II, Letters XVI-XXX

*November 7 *Evelina*, Vol. III

TRAVELLING

*November 12 Oliver Goldsmith, *She Stoops to Conquer* (1773) (performance)

November 14 Discussion of Goldsmith; John Bunyan, *The Pilgrim's Progress* (1678), to p. 53 ('O world of wonders!' song)

November 19 *The Pilgrim's Progress* (to the end of Part I, p. 126)

*November 21 **Thanksgiving**

*November 26 Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, *The Turkish Embassy Letters* (1716-18)

The Grand Tour

November 28 Lord Chesterfield, from *Letters to His Son* (1747) [Collab]

AT SEA

*December 3 Defoe, *A General History of the Pyrates* (1724), Ch. VII (John Rackham, Mary Read, Anne Bonny) [Collab] **Pirates**; William Bligh & Edward Christian, *The Bounty Mutiny* (1787): "A Narrative of the Mutiny" (to p. 66)

December 5 Last Day of Class; **FINAL PAPER DUE**