



**ÇANKAYA UNIVERSITY**  
**Faculty of Science and Letters**  
**Department of English Language and Literature**  
**2025-2026 Academic Year – Fall Semester**  
**ELL 381 18<sup>th</sup> Century Literature (303-06)**  
**Course Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Özge Üstündağ Güvenç, PhD.  
**Course Hours:** 13.20 – 16.10 Tuesday **Class:** RA 06  
**Office Hours:** 13.00 – 14.00 Thursday  
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**Course Description**

The eighteenth century, the “Age of Enlightenment,” is a period of conceptual and political revolutions, and presents a rich variety of diverse texts and international interactions in fields from literature, music, and philosophy to economics, politics, and the natural sciences. This course will enable students to engage with aspects of the local and international significance of these revolutions in thought and society, as well as their implications for developments over the next two centuries and up to the present. From the perspective of English literature, topics covered may range from the mock-heroics and satires of Pope and Swift, the poetry of Gray and Young, the essays of Addison and Steele, and the literary criticism of Samuel Johnson, to the development of the novel by such writers as Defoe, Fielding and Richardson, and the origins of the gothic in Walpole, Radcliffe and Lewis. Other areas of focus might include the arguments of European rationalist philosophers, the evolution of classical musical genres, or developments in science and cross-cultural currents and influences from or in Europe, the Americas, and other regions.

**Requirements**

As the course aims to discuss various aspects of the “Age of Enlightenment,” in its socio-cultural, intellectual, and political contexts, course activities will be based on analyzing literary, artistic, and philosophical works. Therefore, for each class, students are expected to:

1. Read the assigned text(s) for that week
2. Bring the text with them, ready to discuss it in class
3. Bring a pen, pencil, and paper to be able to take notes
4. Actively participate in class activities and discussions
5. Attend all classes. (The students who do not attend the classes regularly may fail the course with an NA grade and have to repeat the course. The absenteeism limit for this course is 9 hours.)

**!! Unethical use of AI technology will be treated as plagiarism and will be subject to academic penalties.**

**Course Materials**

Abrams, M. H., et al., eds. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature: The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century*. 10th ed., W. W. Norton & Company, 2018.  
Watt, Ian. *The Rise of the Novel*. U of California P, 1964.  
Defoe, Daniel. *Moll Flanders*. Barnes & Noble Classics, 2005.

### Course Objectives

To study a variety of texts from the period, in terms both of their intrinsic interest and of their influences on later periods;

To engage in interpreting selected texts from the period in relation to broader transhistorical developments, and to develop knowledge and critical sophistication in analyzing these texts and producing scholarly written work on them.

### Evaluation

ASSESSMENT TOOL	QUANTITY	PERCENTAGE
Midterm Exam	1	% 25
Final Exam	1	% 40
Class Participation	14	% 5
Response Paper	2	% 10
Argumentative Essay	1	% 20

### Weekly Schedule

Weeks	Content
<b>Week 1</b> 29 Sep. – 3 Oct.	Course Introduction – <b>Syllabus</b> <b>Introduction to the 18th Century</b>
<b>Week 2</b> 6 – 10 Oct.	<b>Periodical Essay</b> Selections from <i>The Spectator</i> and <i>The Tatler</i> Richard Steele – [The Spectator's Club] Joseph Addison – [The Aims of the <i>Spectator</i> ] Joseph Addison – [The Royal Exchange]
<b>Week 3</b> 13 – 17 Oct.	<b>Diary and Essay</b> Samuel Pepys, from <i>The Diary</i> , "The Great Fire" and "The Great Plague" Mary Astell, From <i>Some Reflections upon Marriage</i> William Hogarth, <i>Marriage à la Mode</i>
<b>Week 4</b> 20 – 24 Oct.	<b>Mock Epic</b> Alexander Pope, "The Rape of the Lock"
<b>Week 5</b> 27 – 31 Oct.	<b>NO CLASS</b> (28 – 29 October, Republic Day)
<b>Week 6</b> 3 – 7 Nov.	<b>Introduction to Novel</b> Ian Watt, <i>The Rise of the Novel</i> Chapter I – Realism and The Novel Form Chapter II – The Reading Public and the Rise of the Novel
<b>Week 7</b> 10 – 14 Nov.	<b>MIDTERM WEEK</b>

<b>Week 8</b> 17 – 21 Nov.	Aphra Behn, <i>Oroonoko, or, The Royal Slave</i> (Part I)
<b>Week 9</b> 24 – 28 Nov.	Aphra Behn, <i>Oroonoko, or, The Royal Slave</i> (Part II) – Response Paper 1
<b>Week 10</b> 1 – 5 Dec.	Jonathan Swift, from <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> “A Voyage to Lilliput” – Chapters 1-4
<b>Week 11</b> 8 – 12 Dec.	Jonathan Swift, from <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> “A Voyage to Lilliput” – Chapters 5-8 (Response Paper 2)
<b>Week 12</b> 15 – 19 Dec.	Daniel Defoe, <i>Moll Flanders</i>
<b>Week 13</b> 22 – 26 Dec.	Daniel Defoe, <i>Moll Flanders</i>
<b>Week 14</b> 29 Dec. – 2 Jan.	Daniel Defoe, <i>Moll Flanders</i> (Argumentative Essay)
<b>Week 15</b> 5 – 9 Jan.	<b>FINAL WEEK</b>
<b>Week 16</b> 12 – 16 Jan.	<b>FINAL WEEK</b>

**I WISH US ALL A GREAT SEMESTER**