

*The 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Common*  
Contributor Guidelines for Blog Posts

The Blog Posts on *The 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Common* are more informal than the Scholarly Digests and are not necessarily based on peer-reviewed, published scholarship. In a Blog Post a scholar may discuss an aspect of contemporary culture in light of eighteenth-century studies. Or you may use the blog as a forum to try a new idea out on a nonacademic audience. You might weigh in on a critical controversy in the field (as long as this is made accessible and interesting to a general reader). You might discuss a film, play, or work of historical fiction with 18<sup>th</sup>-century connections. You might write brief descriptions of material in university or museum holdings – perhaps an interesting book, painting, etc. As with the Scholarly Digests, the language must be accessible and the subject compelling to a general reader.

- **Length:** approximately 1200 words. Make sure the opening 2-3 sentences are especially compelling; these may be used as a teaser for the full post.
- **Image:** Select a relevant (long)18<sup>th</sup>-century image to accompany your text that we can use in a thumbnail, on social media, etc. Some good sources for images that we can legally use on our site include the Yale Center for British Art and the British Library. Provide a link to the image on the Submission Data Form.
- **Audience:** Imagine your smart, literate, intellectually curious, *nonacademic* friends as our site readers (in fact, please tell them about our site!). This is *not* aimed at graduate or undergraduate students or at other scholars of eighteenth-century studies.
- **Contexts:** Use hyperlinks in your text to lead readers to relevant contexts: scholarly author pages, definitions of terms, images under copyright, YouTube videos, podcasts, objects in 18thConnect.org, museum collections, etc.
- **Citing Sources:** Whenever possible, use hyperlinks for quotations so that clicking on the quoted text takes readers directly to its source in the HATHI Trust Digital Library (preferred), Google Books, academic journal (if available online and not subscriber-only access), Project Gutenberg, Eighteenth-Century Book Tracker, or 18<sup>th</sup>Connect.org. If it is not possible to link to the original source of the quotation, please use MLA in-text (parenthetical) citations with a list of Works Cited at the end of your submission (see guide to MLA citation at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/>).
- **For Further Reading (optional):** Please provide a short list of additional primary or secondary material relevant to your piece for our readers' exploration; include hyperlinks if available online.

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