

The 18th-Century Common
Contributor Guidelines for Scholarly Digests

Our goal with a Scholarly Digest post is for a scholar to present an aspect of her published work in language that makes it accessible and 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)18th-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.
- **Scope:** We recommend that you focus on *one aspect* of your published work, rather than trying to summarize it in its entirety. At the same time as you narrow the focus, however, you must also make connections to bigger ideas than you are likely to be used to addressing in your scholarly work. Why is this work significant? Are there links between your work and other critical issues in eighteenth-century scholarship or in contemporary culture?
- **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 18thConnect.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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