

**Prose Fiction (CMLIT 504)**  
**T 2:30-5:30 (430 Burrowes)**

Professor Eric Hayot  
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Office hours: By appointment; I'm on campus daily.  
<http://www.personal.psu.edu/euh2/>

Texts:

- Genette, *Narrative Discourse* (Cornell) (978-0801492594)
- Murasaki, *Tale of Genji* (Penguin Classics; abridged) (978-0143039495)
- Malory, *Le Morte d'Arthur* (Oxford) (978-0199537341)
- Anonymous, *Lazarillo de Tormes* and de Quevedo, *The Swindler* (Penguin Classics) (978-0140449006)
- Al-Hamadhani, *The Maqamat of Badi' al-Zaman al-Hamadhani* (Forgotten Books) (978-1605066981)
- Rabelais, *Gargantua and Pantagruel* (Penguin Classics) (978-0140445503)
- Cervantes, *Don Quixote* (Norton) (978-0393972818)
- Richardson, *Pamela* (Oxford) (978-0199536498)
- Cao Xueqin, *Dream of the Red Chamber*, vol. 1 (Penguin) (978-0140442939)
- Sterne, *Tristram Shandy* (Oxford) (978-0199532896)
- Goethe, *Willhelm Meister's Apprenticeship*, vols. 1 and 2 (Forgotten Books) (978-1440034183 and 978-1440034190)
- Scott, *Ivanhoe* (Oxford) (978-0140436587)
- Sand, *Indiana* (Oxford) (978-0192837974)
- Balzac, *Lost Illusions* (Modern Library) (978-0375757907)
- Flaubert, *Madame Bovary* (Penguin) (978-0140449129)
- Dostoyevsky, *Crime and Punishment* (Oxford) (978-0199536368)
- Machado de Asis, *The Posthumous Memoirs of Brás Cubas* (Oxford) 978-0195101706

In addition to these we will cover a variety of primary and secondary sources, all of which will be available for download as PDF files from my website, at the following URL:  
<http://www.personal.psu.edu/euh2/downloads.html>. You will need a username and password to access the readings. You are responsible for obtaining them, printing them out, and bringing them to class with you.

Course information:

This is a course in the history of prose fiction from the eleventh century to 1880. Among other things it aims to destabilize the category of the “novel,” and to ask whether the structure that would separate the novel from its predecessors can be justified on grounds beyond the ideological. Readings will come from a variety of novelistic (or para-novelistic) forms, including the monogatari, the romance, the picaresque, the xiaoshuo, the maqama, the historical novel, the epistolary novel, the fictional memoir, and the bildungsroman. We will also study theories of narrative and narratology, theories of genre, and theories of literary history. Readings from: Murasaki, Malory, de Quevedo, Al-Hamadhani, Rabelais, Cervantes, Richardson, Cao Xueqin, Sterne, Goethe, Scott, Sand, Balzac, Flaubert, Dostoyevsky, Machado de Asis, and others.



(Note: in order to understand Genette you must read Marcel Proust's *Swann's Way*; do this over the summer.)

Moretti, "The Novel: History and Theory" (PDF)

- Week 2 August 31  
Murasaki, *Tale of Genji* (early 11<sup>th</sup> c)  
Boscaro, "Monogatari," from Moretti, *Novel* v.1 (PDF)
- Week 3 September 7  
Malory, *Le Morte d'Arthur* (1485)  
Hayot, "The World of the Work of Art" (PDF)  
Auerbach, "Figura" (PDF)
- Week 4 September 14  
*The Maqamat of Badi' al-Zaman al-Hamadhani* (11<sup>th</sup> c)  
Anonymous, *Lazarillo de Tormes* (1554), and de Quevedo, *The Swindler* (pub. 1626)  
Rico, "Lazarillo de Tormes," from Moretti, *Novel* v.2 (PDF)
- Week 5 September 21  
Rabelais, *Gargantua and Pantagruel* (1532-54)  
Bakhtin, "The *Bildungsroman* and its Significance..." (PDF)
- Week 6 September 28  
Cervantes, *Don Quixote* (1605)  
Auerbach, from *Mimesis* (PDF)
- Week 7 October 5  
Richardson, *Pamela* (1740)  
Ian Watt, from *The Rise of the Novel* (PDF)
- Week 8 October 12  
Cao, *Dream of the Red Chamber* (1749-59)  
Plaks, "The Novel in Premodern China," from Moretti *Novel* v.1 (PDF)
- Week 9 October 19  
Sterne, *Tristram Shandy* (1759-69)  
Moretti, "Serious Century," from Moretti, *Novel* v.1 (PDF)
- Week 10 October 26  
Goethe, *Willhelm Meister's Apprenticeship*, vols. 1 and 2 (1795-96)  
Miner, from *Comparative Poetics* (PDF)
- Week 11 November 2  
Scott, *Ivanhoe* (1819)  
Moretti, from *Graphs, Maps, Trees* (PDF)
- Week 12 November 9  
Balzac, *Lost Illusions* (1837-43)

Woloch, "Minor Characters," from Moretti *Novel* v.2 (PDF)

Week 13

November 16

George Sand, *Indiana* (1832)

Flaubert, *Madame Bovary* (1857)

--- Thanksgiving Break Nov 22-28 ---

Week 14

November 30

Dostoyevsky, *Crime and Punishment* (1866)

Todd, "The Ruse of the Russian Novel," in Moretti *Novel* v.1 (PDF)

Week 15

December 7

Machado de Assis, *The Posthumous Memoirs of Brás Cubas* (1880)

Schwarz, "The Posthumous Memoirs of Brás Cubas," from Moretti *Novel* v.1 (PDF)