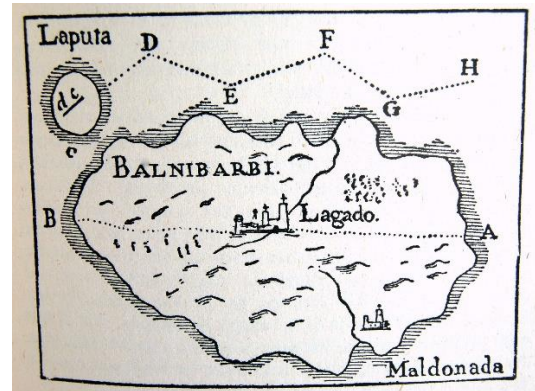


EN4733: Eighteenth Century British Literature and Culture

Spring 2020: TR, 9:30am

Professor: Peter DeGabriele

The (Post)Colonial 18th Century



This course will explore the rise of and resistance to colonialism in 18th century Britain. We will read poetry, novels, and plays, as well as travel writing and political texts. We will look explicitly at representations of British colonial endeavours in the Americas and the Carribean, paying special attention to the rise of the slave trade and the establishment of plantation slavery, as well as early abolitionist writing. We will also look at British representations of the Near East. The class will focus particularly on how British people justified colonialism and created a sense of English or British identity through their engagement with the peoples they would colonise. However, we will see how these representations of colonized peoples as well as British identity itself were challenged and revised throughout the century.

Authors will include Daniel Defoe, Penelope Aubin, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, Jonathan Swift, Olaudah Equiano, and Ottobah Cugnano.