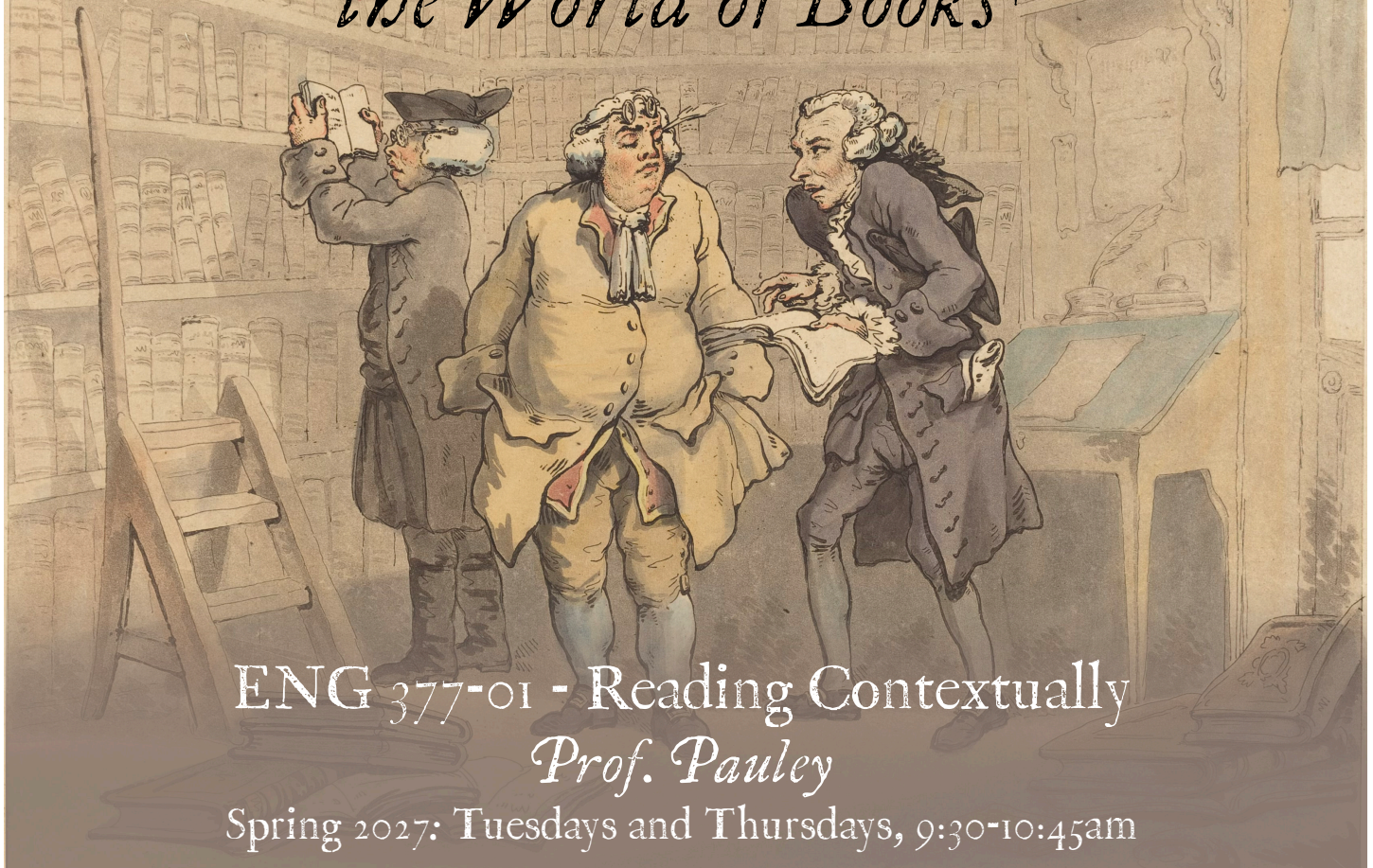


Early 18th-Century Literature and the World of Books†



ENG 377-01 - Reading Contextually
Prof. Pauley

Spring 2027: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-10:45am

Who gets published? Who gets paid? What counts as serious art, and what's (popular) "trash"?

Long before they became "classics," eighteenth-century poems, plays, and novels were *books* circulating in a marketplace of print. Authors sought the favor of a variety of readers (and buyers) with a variety of needs and tastes—some fine, some cheap; some dignified and respectable, others decidedly *not*.

We'll look at how eighteenth-century literature was written and published to understand the world that shaped it (and how it shaped the world). We'll read these works in their original dress—using scans of their earliest editions (no textbooks to buy). After a few weeks' orientation, the rest of the reading list will be shaped by student research: this is a class you'll help design.

This is a course in the English major core sequence. **Prerequisite:** ENG 277.

† Poets and Publishers and Pirates—*oh my!*