



Reading Group 2024-25

We read texts by or about women writers of the (very) long eighteenth century, many of which are in the Chawton House collection. Our reading group meetings are informal, with all levels of education and knowledge welcome.

Session Details

From September 2024, we will continue to hold two reading groups on the third Monday of each month, facilitated by Kim Simpson (Deputy Director, Chawton House): one onsite at Chawton House (12pm in the Billiards Room), and one online (3.30/4pm). The group usually runs for an hour and a half, and details of timings and Zoom joining details are sent out one week in advance. An online sign-up sheet is available for members. To join the mailing list, please email kim.simpson@chawtonhouse.org

Subs

For those joining in person, the £3 fee includes tea/coffee and cake, and we'd encourage our online participants to donate if possible. For those wanting to pay online, [please use this site](#). You can either pay as you go for individual sessions, or pay for the year (suggested donation: £30 for onsite, £10 for online).

Schedule

September 30th, 2024

Frances Burney, *The Witlings* (1779)

<https://www.pseudopodium.org/repress/witlings/index.html>

* Short

October 21st, 2024

Ann Radcliffe, *The Mysteries of Udolpho* (1794)

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/3268/3268-h/3268-h.htm>

*** Long

November 18th, 2024

Deirdre Le Faye, *Jane Austen's Outlandish Cousin: The Life and Letters of Eliza de Feuillide* (2002)

Available on Amazon <£10

**Mid-length

December 16th, 2024

Jane Austen, *Sense and Sensibility* (1811)

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/161/161-h/161-h.htm>

***Long

January 20th, 2025

Mary Robinson, *The Natural Daughter* (1799)

Vol.1: https://archive.org/details/bim_eighteenth-century_the-natural-daughter-wi_robinson-mary_1799_1

Vol. 2: https://archive.org/details/bim_eighteenth-century_the-natural-daughter-wi_robinson-mary_1799_2/mode/2up

***Long

February 17th, 2025

Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, *Turkish Embassy Letters* (1763)

<https://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/17520/pg17520-images.html>

**Mid-Length

March 17th, 2025

Charlotte Brontë, *Shirley* (1849)

<https://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/30486/pg30486-images.html>

***Long

April 14th, 2025

Susan Ferrier, *Marriage* (1818)

<https://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/12669/pg12669-images.html>

***Long

May 19th, 2025

Charlotte Smith, *The Old Manor House* (1783)

<https://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/smith/manor/manor.html>

***Long

June 16th, 2025

Emma Clery, *Jane Austen: The Banker's Sister* (2017)

Available on Amazon (c. £20)

***Long