Learning, Conversation, and Politics: The Republic of Letters in the 18th Century

This seminar will address the subversive undertones of the genteel sociability of the Enlightenment. In trying to answer the perennial question: ‘do books make revolutions?’ we will address a related pertinent question: do social gatherings (salons, coffee-houses, readings rooms, academies, clubs) make revolutions?

HST 496/HST 742
Professor Doina Harsanyi
Tuesday / 6:30-9:20 p.m.