

Jane Austen's England Syllabus 2010-2011

Please note that this is a schedule of our discussions of these works. I strongly advise reading ahead, especially considering the length of some of these assignments.

First Semester

Week 1, Sept. 8: *Sense and Sensibility* Vol. 1

Introductions, English history backdrop

Week 2, Sept. 15: *Sense and Sensibility* Vol. 2-3

Neoclassicism and Romanticism

Week 3, Sept. 22: *Cecilia* Vol. I-III

London

Week 4, Sept 29: *Cecilia* Vol. IV-V

Gambling, duels, and other regency vices

Week 5, Oct. 6: *Pride and Prejudice* Vol. 1

Money and inheritance law

Week 6, Oct. 13: *Pride and Prejudice* Vol. 2-3

Social class structure—the upper classes

Week 7, Oct. 20: *The Vicar of Wakefield*

The lower “maintaining” classes

Week 8, Oct. 27: *Minor Works: Juvenilia*

Creative Assignment #1 Due; Epistolary novels

Week 9, Nov. 3: *Minor Works: Lady Susan*

Great houses

Week 10, Nov. 10: *Presenting Miss Jane Austen*

Picture tour of Austen's homes; Jane Austen's Family

Week 11, Nov. 17: selections of Samuel Johnson

Etiquette

THANKSGIVING BREAK, Nov. 24 (No Class)

Week 12, Dec. 1: *Mansfield Park* Vol. 1

The Church

Week 13, Dec. 8: *Mansfield Park* Vol. 2-3

Fashion

Week 14, Dec. 15: *Emma* Vol. 1

Food

CHRISTMAS BREAK, Dec. 22 and 29 (No Class)

Week 15, Jan. 5: *Emma* Vol. 2-3

Balls and dancing

Week 16, Jan. 12: First Semester Wrap-Up, **EXAM (Timed In-Class Essay)**

Creative Assignment #2 due

Second Semester

Week 17, Jan. 19: Project Conferences

Week 18, Jan. 26: *The Romance of the Forest*

Gothic literature

Week 19, Feb. 2: *The Romance of the Forest*

Education

Week 20, Feb. 9: *Northanger Abbey* Vol. 1

Bath

Week 21, Feb. 16: *Northanger Abbey* Vol. 2

Architecture and landscaping

Week 22, Feb. 23: selections of William Cowper poetry

The Royal Family

Week 23, March 2: *Persuasion* Vol. 1

The Military and Napoleon

SPRING BREAK, March 9 (No Class)

Week 24, March 16: *Persuasion* Vol. 2

Medicine

Week 25, March 23: *Minor Works: Sections III-VII*

Research paper due

Week 26, March 30: Selected letters

Games and recreation

Week 27, Apr. 6: *Wives and Daughters*

Elizabeth Gaskell

Week 28, Apr. 13: *Wives and Daughters*

Victorian England

Week 29, Apr. 20: *Jane Eyre*

Charlotte Brontë and her sisters

Week 30, Apr. 27: *Jane Eyre*

Research presentations

Week 31, May 4: *The Warden*

Anthony Trollope and mass media

Week 32, May 11: *The Warden*

Research presentations

Week 33, May 18: Wrap-Up, **FINAL EXAM (Timed In-Class Essay)**