

Jane Austen's England Syllabus 2008-2009

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. 10: *Sense and Sensibility* Vol. 1

Introductions, English history backdrop

Week 2, Sept. 17: *Sense and Sensibility* Vol. 2-3

Neoclassicism and Romanticism

Week 3, Sept. 24: *Cecilia* Vol. I-III

London

Week 4, Oct. 1: *Cecilia* Vol. IV-V

Gambling, duels, and other regency vices

Week 5, Oct. 8: *Pride and Prejudice* Vol. 1

Money and inheritance law

Week 6, Oct. 15: *Pride and Prejudice* Vol. 2-3

Social class structure

Week 7, Oct. 22: *The Vicar of Wakefield*

Creative Assignment #1 Due

Week 8, Oct. 29: *Minor Works: Juvenilia*

Epistlery novels

Week 9, Nov. 5: *Minor Works: Lady Susan*

Great houses

Week 10, Nov. 12: *Presenting Miss Jane Austen*

Picture tour of Austen's homes

Week 11, Nov. 19: selections of Samuel Johnson

Etiquette

THANKSGIVING BREAK, Nov. 26 (No Class)

Week 12, Dec. 3: *Mansfield Park* Vol. 1

The Church

Week 13, Dec. 10: *Mansfield Park* Vol. 2-3

Fashion

Week 14, Dec. 17: *Emma* Vol. 1

Food

CHRISTMAS BREAK, Dec. 23 and 30 (No Class)

Week 15, Jan. 7: *Emma* Vol. 2-3

Balls and dancing

Week 16, Jan. 14: First Semester Wrap-Up, **EXAM (Timed In-Class Essay)**

Creative Assignment #2 due

Second Semester

Week 17, Jan. 21: Project Conferences

Week 18, Jan. 28: *The Romance of the Forest*

Gothic literature

Week 19, Feb. 4: *The Romance of the Forest*

Education

Week 20, Feb. 11: *Northanger Abbey* Vol. 1

Bath

Week 21, Feb. 18: *Northanger Abbey* Vol. 2

Architecture and landscaping

Week 22, Feb. 25: selections of William Cowper poetry

The Royal Family

Week 23, March 4: *Persuasion* Vol. 1

The Military and Napoleon

Week 24, March 11: *Persuasion* Vol. 2

Medicine

Week 25, March 18: *Minor Works: Sections III-VII*

Research paper due

Week 26, March 25: Selected letters

Games and recreation

Week 27, Apr. 1: *Wives and Daughters*

Elizabeth Gaskell

Week 28, Apr. 8: *Wives and Daughters*

Victorian England

SPRING BREAK, Apr. 15 (No Class)

Week 29, Apr. 22: *Jane Eyre*

Charlotte Brontë and her sisters

Week 30, Apr. 29: *Jane Eyre*

Research presentations

Week 31, May 6: *The Warden*

Anthony Trollope and mass media

Week 32, May 13: *The Warden*

Research presentations

Week 33, May 20: Wrap-Up, **FINAL EXAM (Timed In-Class Essay)**