

ENGL3690 - Jane Austen

Course Outline

Course Coordinator Prof Hugh Craig
Room: MC127C, phone: 4921 5173
Email: Hugh.Craig@newcastle.edu.au

Semester Semester 1 – 2005

Unit Weighting 10

Teaching Methods Lecture
Seminar

Brief Course Description

A study of the novels of Jane Austen, with particular regard to their historical context and to their relevance to debates on gender and class in their own time and in the present.

Contact Hours

Seminar for 2 Hours per Week for 13 Weeks
Seminar combines lecture material and group discussion.

Learning Materials/Texts

Northanger Abbey, ed. Susan Fraiman (Norton Critical Edition; Norton: New York, 2004)
Sense and Sensibility, ed. Claudia L. Johnson (Norton Critical Edition; Norton: New York, 2002)
Pride and Prejudice, ed. Donald Gray (Norton Critical Edition; Norton: New York, 2001)
Mansfield Park, ed. Claudia L. Johnson (Norton Critical Edition; Norton: New York, 1998)
Emma, ed. Stephen M. Parrish (Norton Critical Edition; Norton: New York, 2000)
Persuasion, ed. Patricia Meyer Spacks (Norton Critical Edition; Norton: New York, 1995)

These are available as a set from the United Campus Bookshop at a reduced price.

Course Content

An intensive study of the six completed novels by Jane Austen, accompanied by study of contemporary texts that form a literary, cultural, and political context for them. There will also be consideration of the major critical commentaries on the novel, especially as they relate to gender and class. The course will be framed by the question of whether the novels are supportive of a conservative ideology, or (as has been suggested more recently) should be read as incorporating challenges to the status quo.

Assessment Items

Essays / Written Assignments	(1) Four 500-word papers, worth 50% (2) One 2000-word essay, worth 50%
------------------------------	--

Distributed to students week commencing: 21 st February, 2005 CTS Download January 2005
--

Assumed Knowledge

Assumed knowledge for ENGL3690 is 20 units of English at the 1000 level.

Callaghan Campus Timetable

ENGL3690

JANE AUSTEN

Enquiries: School of Language and Media

Semester 1 - 2005

Seminar	Tuesday	18:00 - 20:00	[MC132]
or	Tuesday	09:00 - 11:00	[MC132]

Plagiarism

University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. A student plagiarises if he or she presents the thoughts or works of another as one's own. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

- copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
- using another's ideas without due acknowledgment;
- working with others without permission and presenting the resulting work as though it was completed independently.

Plagiarism is not only related to written works, but also to material such as data, images, music, formulae, websites and computer programs.

Aiding another student to plagiarise is also a violation of the Plagiarism Policy and may invoke a penalty.

For further information on the University policy on plagiarism, please refer to the Policy on Student Academic Integrity at the following link -

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/general/academic_integrity_policy_new.html

The University has established a software plagiarism detection system called Turnitin. When you submit assessment items please be aware that for the purpose of assessing any assessment item the University may -

- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a plagiarism checking service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking).
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

Written Assessment Items

Students may be required to provide written assessment items in electronic form as well as hard copy.

Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date, as advised in the Course Outline, unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension of time for submission of the item. University policy is that an assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension, will be penalised.

Any student:

1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment: or
2. whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment;

must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer on the prescribed form.

Please go to the Policy and the on-line form for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you, at:

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/adm_prog/special_consideration.htm

Changing your Enrolment

The last dates to withdraw without financial or academic penalty (called the HECS Census Dates) are:

For semester 1 courses: 31 March 2005

For semester 2 courses: 31 August 2005

For Trimester 1 courses: 18 February 2005

For Trimester 2 courses: 10 June 2005

For Trimester 3 courses: 23 September 2005.

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of semester and prior to the commencement of the formal exam period. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of semester will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of semester/trimester, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of

semester/trimester must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with the School Office.

To change your enrolment online, please refer to

<http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/change-enrol.html>

Contact Details

School of Language & Media

Office, Room MC1271st floor McMullin building

Phone: 02 4921 5175, 4921 5172.4921 5360, 4921 5155

Email: Language-Media@newcastle.edu.au

Faculty Student Service Offices

Faculty of Science and Information Technology

Room V19 (Mathematics Building)

Phone: 0249 215 562

The Faculty of Education and Arts

Room: GP1-22 (General Purpose Building)

Phone: 0249 215 314

The Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment

Room: EF101 (EF Building)

Phone: 0249 216 065

Architecture and Built Environment

Room: A106 (Architecture Building)

Phone: 0249 215 782

The Faculty of Health

Level 1 (Bowman Building)

Phone: 0249 215 682

The Faculty of Business and Law

Room: SRS130 (Social Sciences Building)

Phone: 0249 215 983

The Dean of Students

Dr Jennifer Archer

phone 492 16723;

fax: 492 16895;

Jennifer.Archer@newcastle.edu.au

Various services are offered by the University Student Support Unit:

<http://www.newcastle.edu.au/intranet/student/support-services/index.html>

Alteration of this Course Outline

No change to this course outline will be permitted after the end of the second week of the term except in exceptional circumstances and with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of any approved changes to this outline.

Web Address for Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/cw_ugrad/awards.htm

Web Address for Rules Governing Postgraduate Academic Awards

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/cw_pgrad/cppcrule.htm

STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS

The University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness.

If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies, please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.

Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register please contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 49 21 5766, or via email at: **student-disability@newcastle.edu.au**.

As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester.

For more information related to confidentiality and documentation please visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website at:

www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability

Semester Dates

Semester 1

Semester 1 commences	Monday 21 February to Friday 8 April 2005
Semester 1 recess	Monday 11 April - Monday 25 April 2005
Semester 1 resumes	Tuesday 26 April 2005 Semester 1 concludes Friday 10 June 2005
Mid Year Examinations	Tuesday 14 June - Friday 1 July 2005

Semester 2

Semester 2 commences	Monday 18 July to Friday 23 September 2005
Semester 2 recess	Monday 26 September - Friday 7 October 2005
Semester 2 resumes	Monday 10 October 2005
Semester 2 concludes	Friday 4 November 2005
End of Year Examinations	Monday 7 November - Friday 25 November 2005

Mailing Address

School of Language and Media
The University of Newcastle
Callaghan NSW 2308

Phone: 4921 5175

Email: Language-Media@newcastle.edu.au

Web site: www.newcastle.edu.au/school/lang-media

Contact Details

The Faculty Student Services Office:

GP1-22, General Purpose Building,

phone 02 4921 5314, fax 02 4921 6997, email education-arts@newcastle.edu.au

The Dean of Students is Dr Jennifer Archer.

Various services are offered by the University Student Support Unit:

<http://www.newcastle.edu.au/intranet/student/support-services/index.html>

Changing your Enrolment

HECS Census Dates (last dates to withdraw without financial or academic penalty): First Semester, 31 March; Second Semester, 31 August. Last Dates to withdraw without academic penalty: First Semester, 10 June; Second Semester, 4 November.

To change your enrolment online, please refer to
<http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/change-enrol.html>

Frequently Asked Questions

PENALTIES FOR LATE ESSAYS

In courses offered by the School of Language and Media, penalties for late essays will be 2% of the maximum mark per working day, with the weekend to be counted as a single day. Applications for extensions should go to the Course Coordinator.

WHEN DO MY CLASSES START?

Seminars and Lecturers normally start in week one of semester. (Check timetable.) Tutorials commence week 2 of semester. Film screenings start week 2 of semester.

WHERE AND HOW DO I HAND IN ASSIGNMENTS?

All essays are to be placed **in the assignment box outside school office, and will be returned in class** by the lecturer. Remaining essays will be left in the office for collection.

Please attach a cover sheet with the correct colour for your discipline, available from the School Office. Plagiarism declaration must be signed at bottom of cover sheet. Fasten pages with a single staple in the upper left-hand corner.

Assignments may be sent by ordinary mail or express envelope, but are not to be faxed or emailed. Please address your assignments to **School of Language and Media, The University of Newcastle, Callaghan 2308**. We will accept the essay from the date it was mailed, so make sure that the envelope is clearly postmarked. If the postmark is illegible, we will assume it was sent the previous day.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I CAN'T SUBMIT AN ASSIGNMENT ON TIME?

Any student:

1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment: or
2. whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment;

-- must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer on the prescribed form.

Please go to the Policy and the on-line form for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you, at:

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/adm_prog/special_consideration.htm

WHAT HAPPENS TO ESSAYS FROM PAST SEMESTERS?

All essays not collected by twelve months will be destroyed.

HOW AND WHEN CAN I COLLECT THE END-OF-SEMESTER ESSAYS?

Final Semester one essays will be available from the office **AFTER 11 JULY 2005** (or can be mailed to you by leaving a stamped, self-addressed envelope at the School Office).

WHAT HAPPENS IF I CANNOT ATTEND A SEMINAR?

Information for students will be specified in individual Course Outlines.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I CAN'T MAKE IT TO A SEMINAR ON TIME OR HAVE TO LEAVE EARLY?

Information for students will be specified in individual Course Outlines.

HOW CAN I APPLY FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION?

Any student:

1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment: or
2. whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment;

-- must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer on the prescribed form.

Please go to the Policy and the on-line form for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you, at:

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/adm_prog/special_consider.htm

WHERE CAN I FIND THE "GUIDELINES ON ESSAY-WRITING" FOR ENGLISH?

The guidelines relate to the content, design and layout of essays and bibliographies in the discipline of English. They will be added to the course notes for each literature course in the discipline.

IS THERE AN ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENT FOR ENGLISH COURSES?

There is an attendance requirement because English courses are taught in seminar form, with an emphasis on student participation

ENGL3690 Jane Austen Semester 1, 2005

CONTACT DETAILS

Course coordinator and lecturer: Hugh Craig, School of Language and Media

Room Mc127C, email hugh.craig@newcastle.edu.au, phone 0249215175.

I am on campus most days but often at meetings, so for consultations on the course please make an appointment through any of the staff in the School of Language and Media office.

TEXTS

Northanger Abbey, ed. Susan Fraiman (Norton Critical Edition; Norton: New York, 2004)

Sense and Sensibility, ed. Claudia L. Johnson (Norton Critical Edition; Norton: New York, 2002)

Pride and Prejudice, ed. Donald Gray (Norton Critical Edition; Norton: New York, 2001)

Mansfield Park, ed. Claudia L. Johnson (Norton Critical Edition; Norton: New York, 1998)

Emma, ed. Stephen M. Parrish (Norton Critical Edition; Norton: New York, 2000)

Persuasion, ed. Patricia Meyer Spacks (Norton Critical Edition; Norton: New York, 1995)

These are available as a set from the United Campus Bookshop at a reduced price.

SESSION DATES AND PAPER TOPICS

NB You need to present four papers. They are due at the beginning of the class. Bear in mind that you will not be permitted to write again on the novels you have chosen for your papers in the final essay. Page numbers are those of the Norton Critical editions. Word limit is 500. Since the assignment is not over 500 words, you do not need to submit your seminar papers in this course to Turnitin.

22 February **Introduction** (no paper)

1 March *Northanger Abbey*

Explain the ironies of the narrator's final question as to whether the novel "recommend[s] parental tyranny" or "reward[s] filial disobedience" (174).

8 March *Sense and Sensibility*

Define "sense" and "sensitivity" in early nineteenth-century terms, drawing both on the first five chapters of the novel and on other sources such as the Oxford English Dictionary.

15 March *Sense and Sensibility (2)*

Discuss Elinor's reactions to Willoughby's visit to the Palmers' house, as described in vol. III, ch. 8 and the first two paragraphs of the following chapter (pp. 224-36).

22 March *Pride and Prejudice*

Describe the marriage of Mr and Mrs Bennet, especially as it is revealed in the early chapters (vol. I, chs 1-14, pp. 3-47). In what ways are they presented as deficient as parents?

29 March *Pride and Prejudice (2)*

How does the relationship of Lydia and Wickham reflect on that between Elizabeth and Darcy?

5 April *Mansfield Park*

Discuss the actions and dialogue of Henry and Mary Crawford during the visit to Sotherton in vol. I, chs. 8 to 10 (pp. 54-76). What does the attentive reader learn about their characters in this section?

26 April *Mansfield Park (2)*

Vol. III, chs. 7 and 8 (pp. 254-67) portray Fanny's return to her family in Portsmouth. Describe her reactions, and the light this section casts on the nature of the household at Mansfield Park.

3 May *Emma*

Discuss the conversation between Emma and Mr Knightley, and Emma's reflections on it, in vol. I, ch. 8 (pp. 36-44). What are the implications of their disagreement?

10 May *Emma (2)*

What are the most significant developments during the excursion to Donwell Abbey in vol. III, ch. 6 (230-40)?

17 May *Persuasion*

Discuss the portrait of Sir Walter Elliot given in the first chapter of the novel (pp. 3-8). Does Sir Walter strike you as a representative figure, i.e. a representative of some class or group, or as an individual one?

24 May *Persuasion* (2)

What context does ch. 23 (pp. 152-65) give for Wentworth's declaration of love?

31 May **Conclusion** (no paper)

ESSAY

Due 12 noon, Thursday 16 June. 2,000 words.

Write on one of these topics. Do not write again on the novels you chose for your seminar papers. The essay should be submitted in hard copy, with a Turnitin digital receipt number.

1. Choose two scenes from each of two novels in which domestic routines and objects are prominent. What relationship between fiction and lived reality is implied? What relationship is there between the presentation of the domestic and the larger themes of the novels?
2. Discuss the importance of the activity of reading and references to specific literary works in two of the novels.
3. Hoeveler in *Gothic Feminism* (p. 142) says "Austen was as attracted to the potential evil in life as she was compelled finally to deny its power and allure." Discuss, in relation to two of the novels.
4. Discuss the generalisations about the contrasted preferences and behaviours of women and men in two of the novels. Which if any of these generalisations are borne out by the action of the novel in which they are made?
5. Discuss the part played in the action by young female characters other than the heroine in any two of the novels.
6. Is Jane Austen's narrator gendered female? (Discuss two novels in your essay.)
7. Gilbert and Gubar summarise the action of Austen novels as ". . . the taming of . . . a rebellious, imaginative girl who is amorously mastered by a sensible man" (in Lodge, *Emma: A Casebook*, pp. 203-4). How well does this apply to any two of the novels?
8. Discuss the importance to the action of illness, and its metaphorical implications, in any two of Austen's novels.
9. Discuss the claim that Austen aims to counteract the dangerous attraction of Romantic individualism, be it political, cultural, or 'sentimental,' in relation to two of the novels.
10. Discuss the importance of the French Revolution to any two Austen novels.

11. Compare two filmed versions of the same Austen novel. What interpretations do they offer of the original text, and of the historical period in which they are set?

12. Discuss the analysis of what Fraiman in the Norton *Northanger Abbey* (p. ix) calls “the condition of women – their difficulties, desires, abilities, and rights” in any two of the novels, which may or may not include *Northanger Abbey*.

NOTES: