



## DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

### COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2011

#### EN 4101A A3 (MAJOR AUTHORS—JANE AUSTEN) 3 (3-0-0) 45 HOURS

**INSTRUCTOR:** George Hanna

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**OFFICE:** C419

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**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesdays, 3-4:30 pm and Wednesdays, 10-11:25 am

Office hours are as posted or by appointment; posted hours, however, remain subject to change. If you have classes during my regular office hours, contact me to arrange a meeting at a mutually convenient time.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/ COREQUISITE:** Six credits of first year English

#### REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

1. Jane Austen, *Sense and Sensibility* (1811). Eds. Tony Tanner and Ross Ballaster. Toronto: Penguin, 2003.
2. *The Annotated Pride and Prejudice* (1813). Ed. David M. Shaphard. New York: Anchor Books/ Random House, 2004.
3. *Mansfield Park* (1814). Ed Kathryn Sutherland. Toronto: Penguin, 2003.
4. *Emma* (1815). Ed. Fiona Stafford. Toronto: Penguin, 2003.
5. *The Annotated Persuasion* (1817). Ed. David M. Shaphard. New York: Anchor Books/ Random House, 2010.

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** A variable-content seminar on major authors such as Dickens, Faulkner, Hemingway, Lawrence, Austen and the Brontes. Students may take different writer-versions of this course.

During the Winter 2011 term, EN 4101A A3 examines five of the major novels of Jane Austen.

**NOTE:** Providing that you undertake a different author each time, you may take EN 4101 for credit as often as you wish.

**CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS:**

EN 4101A A3 consists of three hours of instructional time each week.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** Lecture / Class Participation and Discussion / Group Oral Presentations

**EXTENDED COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

With its variable course content, EN 4101 (Major Authors Series) gives students an opportunity to study great writers more intensively than would otherwise be possible. English 4101A A3 is a seminar on five major Jane Austen novels. As recent film and television adaptations of these novels indicate, Austen holds an important place in English literature, yet also remains popular with the general public. What makes Jane Austen such a great writer? Arguably the first real modern novelist—with her penetrating analysis of character and unconscious motive; her grasp of the economics of courtship rituals; her detached, ironic perspective; and her masterly control of language—Austen transcends her own era. To some skeptics or detractors, Austen, a spinster novelist, wrote light-hearted romances with conventional happy endings; to more appreciative readers, critics, and scholars, "Jane Austen might have said, with Henry James, 'I have the imagination of disaster—and see life as ferocious and sinister'" (A. Walton Litz, *Jane Austen: A Study of Her Artistic Development*. New York: Oxford UP, 1965, p. 65). By examining five major works, with a look at relevant film and biographical studies, this seminar will assess the scale of Jane Austen's achievement.

**OBJECTIVES:**

The primary objective of EN 4101A A3 is to deepen students' appreciation of Jane Austen as a master prose stylist and a major author in the English literary tradition. Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Employ grammar, diction and syntax more effectively in writing;
- Write a brief take-home essay on an assigned topic;
- Research, plan, compose, edit, and document two major academic papers;
- Research, plan, execute and participate in an effective group oral presentation.
- Acquire a more sophisticated grasp of the evolution of Austen' fiction from her two early novels to the three woks of her mature period.

## TRANSFERABILITY:

**Transfers** University of Alberta \*  
**To:** University of Calgary \*  
University of Lethbridge  
Athabasca University  
Augustana Faculty, University of Alberta \*  
Concordia University College  
King's University College

\* An asterisk (\*) beside any transfer institution indicates important transfer information. Consult the Alberta Transfer Guide.

\* A Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability—particularly since all transfer arrangements are subject to change.

## GRADING CRITERIA:

Brief Take-Home Essay	10%
First Major Paper	30%
Second Major Paper	30%
Group Oral Presentation	20%
Oral Participation	10%
Total	100%

Grades will be assigned on the Letter Grading System.

**EXAMINATIONS:** There is ***no final exam*** in this course.

### EVALUATION & ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES

- A brief Take-Home writing assignment will be distributed Thurs., **January 20**.  
Minimum length: 500 words (about 2 typed pages).  
Weighting: **10%** of the course grade. Due Thurs., January 27.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Major Essay Due Thurs., February 17: Weighting: **30%** of the course grade.  
2000-2500 word paper (about 8-10 typed pages)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Major Essay Due Tues., March 29: Weighting: **30%** of the course grade.  
2000-2500 word essay (about 8-10 typed pages)

Group Oral Presentations: **20%** [5-6 students per group, according to interest and class size]. **Date: Tues., April 12.**

Oral Participation—Weighting: **10%** of the course grade. Twice weekly.

**EXAMINATIONS:** There is ***no final exam*** in EN 4101A A3.

## GRADES

Grande Prairie Regional College uses the alpha grading system and the following approved letter codes for all programs and courses offered by the College. All final grades will be reported to the Registrar's Office using alpha grades. Alpha grades will be converted to four-point equivalence for the calculation of grade point averages.

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A <sup>+</sup>	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	83 – 89	
A <sup>-</sup>	3.7	80 – 82	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B <sup>+</sup>	3.3	76 – 79	
B	3.0	72 – 75	GOOD
B <sup>-</sup>	2.7	69 – 71	
C <sup>+</sup>	2.3	66 – 68	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 65	
C <sup>-</sup>	1.7	59 – 62	
D <sup>+</sup>	1.3	55 – 58	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

All assignments must be word-processed or typewritten. It is particularly important to save a copy of any written work handed in for credit or grading. Equally important, students must submit a **hard (printed) copy** *and* also send the instructor a **digital copy** as an email attachment.

1. Essays are due on the dates indicated.
  - Students who submit essays after the deadline are normally penalized at the rate of one Alpha letter grade per calendar day.
  - However, any student experiencing difficulty meeting an essay deadline should contact the instructor to determine if there are reasonable grounds for granting an extension.
  - Essays submitted more than one week late may not be accepted.
2. Extensions are *always* granted in cases of sickness, providing the student can produce a note from a doctor.
3. *Subject to time constraints*, rewrites are allowed on *the first major* essay assignment. Staple or paper clip the graded essay (showing the original grade and the instructor's comments) to the back of the rewritten paper and follow other instructions as provided.
4. Regular attendance is critical to success in EN 4101 (Austen). Should a student miss a class, it is the student's responsibility to acquire the material missed and to complete the assigned readings outside of class.

## NOTE ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

Please refer to pages 48-49 of the 2010-11 GPRC calendar regarding plagiarism, cheating and the resultant penalties. These are serious issues and will be dealt with severely. Keep in mind that your instructor employs electronic plagiarism detection services.

## ATTENDANCE

Excessive absenteeism—defined as **two or more unexcused absences** per term—may adversely affect your grade.

## COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Required Reading</u>
January 6, 2011	Course Outline Overview of Course Introduction to Jane Austen	
January 11 & 13	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> (1811)	

January 18 & 20	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i>	
January 25 & 27	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> (1813)	
February 1 & 3	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>	
February 8 & 10	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>	
February 15 & 17	<i>Mansfield Park</i> (1814)	
March 1 & 3	<i>Mansfield Park</i>	
March 8 & 10	<i>Mansfield Park</i>	
March 15 & 17	<i>Emma</i> (1815)	
March 22 & 24	<i>Emma</i>	
March 29 & 31	<i>Persuasion</i> (1817)	
April 5 & 7	<i>Persuasion</i>	
April 12	Group Oral Presentations	End of Course