

Grande Prairie Regional College
English 4101
Jane Austen's Novels on Film

3(3-0-0)
Fall 2008

Instructor: Dr. Kazem Mashkournia

Office: B301

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Office Hours: Wednesday: 10:00-11:30

Or by appointment

Section: Tuesday and Thursday: 11:30-12:50

Prerequisite: 6 credits of junior English.

Course Description:

This course will study film adaptations of all six of Jane Austen's novels. Five of Austen's novels have been made into commercially successful and well regarded films (Pride and Prejudice, Persuasion, sense and Sensibility, Emma, and Mansfield Park); the sixth novel, Northanger Abbey has been adapted for television in an iconoclastic version that is available on video. Most of these film adaptations have been made since 1996.

The course will study the Jane Austen's novels as novels, concentrating on important critical issues such as plot, character, theme, point of view, symbol, setting, language as well as larger issues of gender, genre, and context. The novels also raise interesting issues about Jane Austen's development, since three of the novels come from her early period and three from her later years (Sense and Sensibility and Pride and Prejudice were composed when she was 19 to 21, Emma and Persuasion when she was 39 to 41).

OBJECTIVE

This course will tackle a series of questions about the film adaptations of Jane Austen's novels:

- What is cinematic about Jane Austen's novels?
- What are the special satisfactions and perils of screen adaptations of classic novels?
- What qualities do such adaptations share with all films, and in ---
- What ways do they differ from most movies?
- Which films are the most successful as films?
- What cinematic equivalents do they find for Jane Austen's narrative techniques?
- In what ways do they improve upon the novels?
- What special possibilities and inherent disadvantages are there in TV mini-series adaptations?

REQUIRED TEXT

The Complete Novels of Jane Austen

TERM WORKS ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

First Essay	20%
Second Essay	20%
Class Participation	10%
Presentations	20%
Final Exam	30%

Guideline for percentage conversion

Alpha Grade		Percentage Conversion
A+	4.0	95-100
A	4.0	90-94
A-	3.7	85-89
B+	3.3	80-84
B	3.0	75-79
B-	2.7	70-74
C+	2.3	67-69
C	2.0	64-66
C-	1.7	60-63
D+	1.3	55-59
D	1.0	50-54

Tentative class schedule

Sept.	04	Introduction
Sept.	09-11	<u>Pride and Prejudice</u>
Sept.	11-16	
Sept.	18-23-25	
Sept.30-Oct.	02-07-09	<u>Sense and Sensibility</u>
FIRST ESSAY DUE Oct.09		
Oct.	14-16-21-23	<u>Northanger Abbey</u>
Oct.	28-30-Nov.04-06	<u>Mansfield Park</u>
Nov.	11-13-18-20	<u>Emma</u>
Second Essay Due Nov.20		
Nov.	25-27 Dec.02-04	<u>Persuasion</u>