



Australia's
Global
University



ARTS3039

Jane Austen in Context

Term Three // 2019

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

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The School of the Arts and Media would like to Respectfully Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians, the Bedegal (Kensington campus), Gadigal (City and Art & Design Campuses) and the Ngunnawal people (Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra) of the lands where each campus of UNSW is located.

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

Subject Area: *English*

Jane Austen currently enjoys a cultural popularity rivaling that of Shakespeare. This course aims to take account of the abiding relevance of Austen's work in the early 21st century in two distinct but related ways. On the one hand, it focuses on Austen's juvenilia and novels as social and cultural products of their time. It examines how her works interact self-consciously with contemporary romantic, gothic and sentimental fiction as well as 'converse' with each other to form a dynamic and intellectually challenging body of work. On a more theoretical level, it explores the various components of Austen's literary style that allow her to speak to present-day readers: her use of irony, her ability to illuminate the subtle transformation of character over time, and her unique intermingling of romance and realism. Through these two lenses, the module demonstrates the continuing relevance of Austen's literary and moral worldview.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Speak and write critically about Jane Austen within her cultural, historical and intellectual context
2. Identify and analyse the key features of Austen's literary style
3. Articulate reasons for Austen's continuing relevance and popularity in the early 21st century

Teaching Strategies

Please refer to the information in Moodle

Assessment

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Research Exercise	40%	15/10/2019 05:00 PM	1,3
Long Essay	60%	02/12/2019 05:00 PM	1,2,3

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Research Exercise

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 1,200 words

Details: Research Exercise: 1200-word exercise preparing students for the long essay; feedback provided via Turnitin.

Additional details:

[Henry Tilney]: "If I understand you rightly, you had formed a surmise of such horror as I have hardly words to—Dear Miss Morland, consider the dreadful nature of the suspicions you have entertained. What have you been judging from? Remember the country and the age in which we live. Remember that we are English, that we are Christians. Consult your own understanding, your own sense of the probable, your own observation of what is passing around you—Does our education prepare us for such atrocities? Do our laws connive at them? Could they be perpetrated without being known, in a country like this, where social and literary intercourse is on such a footing, where every man is surrounded by a neighbourhood of voluntary spies, and where roads and newspapers lay everything open? Dearest Miss Morland, what ideas have you been admitting?"

They had reached the end of the gallery; and with tears of shame she ran off to her own room.

Jane Austen, *Northanger Abbey*, ed. Susan Fraiman (New York: Norton, 2004), p. 136.

Use the passage above as a focal point for a critical discussion of how Jane Austen responds to the literary traditions of the Gothic and/or the literature of sensibility in her novel *Northanger Abbey*. Your answer should take the form of an essay and should demonstrate secondary research on Jane Austen's novel and literary context.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 2: Long Essay

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 2,500 words

Details: Long Essay: 2,500-word essay; feedback provided via Turnitin.

Additional details:

This is a 2500-word essay on two or more of Jane Austen's novels (excluding *Northanger Abbey*) that you design in consultation with your tutor. You may also write on one or both of the film adaptations of *Sense and Sensibility* and *Mansfield Park*. You may discuss *Northanger Abbey* in your essay but you may not include it as one of your two (or more) focus texts.

Purpose of assessment exercise: This task invites you to argue a sustained thesis combining two or more different texts/films. It allows you to study in greater detail a particular aspect of Jane Austen's work and literary context that we have examined in the course. Designing your own question enables you to develop your skills as an independent thinker.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 16 September - 20 September	Lecture	Introduction: Jane Austen Faints
	Seminar	Jane Austen's "Love and Freindship" (in <i>Love and Freindship and Other Youthful Writings</i> , ed. Christine Alexander).
Week 2: 23 September - 27 September	Lecture	Parodying the Gothic: Austen's self-consciousness in <i>Northanger Abbey</i>
	Seminar	Jane Austen's <i>Northanger Abbey</i>
Week 3: 30 September - 4 October	Lecture	Intermingling opposites: making sense of sensibility
	Seminar	Jane Austen's <i>Sense and Sensibility</i>
Week 4: 7 October - 11 October	Reading	Reading week: no lecture or seminar this week.
Week 5: 14 October - 18 October	Lecture	Filmic transformations: Ang Lee's <i>Sense and Sensibility</i> (1995)
	Seminar	Ang Lee's film <i>Sense and Sensibility</i> (1995).
	Assessment	Research Exercise due Tuesday 15 October by 5 pm.
Week 6: 21 October - 25 October	Lecture	Austen boy meets Austen girl: irony and recognition in <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
	Seminar	Jane Austen's <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
Week 7: 28 October - 1 November	Lecture	Austen boy meets Austen girl: irony and recognition in <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> (2)
	Seminar	Jane Austen's <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> (cont.)
Week 8: 4 November - 8 November	Lecture	"Spirit is not free": the trouble with Fanny Price (1)
	Seminar	Jane Austen's <i>Mansfield Park</i>
Week 9: 11 November - 15 November	Lecture	"Spirit is not free": the trouble with Fanny Price (2)
	Seminar	Jane Austen's <i>Mansfield Park</i> (cont.)
Week 10: 18 November - 22 November	Lecture	Filmic transformations: Postcolonial possibilities / autobiographical whisperings
	Seminar	Patricia Rozema's film <i>Mansfield Park</i> (1999)

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Jane Austen. *Northanger Abbey* (1817)

Jane Austen. *Sense and Sensibility* (1811)

Jane Austen. *Pride and Prejudice* (1813)

Jane Austen. *Mansfield Park* (1814)

Any edition of the novels is acceptable, but the Norton Critical Edition, which contains useful critical and contextual sources, is preferred.

Jane Austen. *Love and Freindship and Other Youthful Writings*. Ed. Christine Alexander. London: Penguin, 2015. Available from the UNSW bookshop.

Ang Lee (Director). 1995. *Sense and Sensibility*. [Film]. Columbia Pictures. Available to screen from the UNSW

Library: <http://er1.library.unsw.edu.au/er/cgi-bin/eraccess.cgi?url=https://edutv.informit.com.au/watch-screen.php?videoID=784276>

Patricia Rozema (Director). 1999. *Mansfield Park*. [Film]. MGM. N.B. You are expected to see this film in your own time. It is available from the library.

Recommended Resources

The Norton Critical Editions of the Austen novels contain a wealth of useful critical material. Todd also provides a selection of further reading at the end of her book. Here is a selection of useful secondary material in the UNSW library.

Gard, Roger. *Jane Austen's Novels: The Art of Clarity*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1992. S 823.7/AUS/C-61

Harding, D.W. "Regulated Hatred: an Aspect of the Work of Jane Austen", *Scrutiny. A Quarterly Review* 8:4 (1940): 346-62. Reprinted in *Jane Austen: a Collection of Critical Essays*, ed. B.C. Southam. S 823.7/AUS/C-22

Jenkyns, Richard. *A Fine Brush on Ivory: An Appreciation of Jane Austen*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. S 823.7/AUS/C-9

Johnson, Claudia. *Jane Austen: Women, Politics and the Novel*. London: Chicago University Press, 1988. S 823.7/AUS/C-67

Lascelles, Mary. *Jane Austen and her Art*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1939. S 823.7/AUS/C-3

Lee, Hermione. "Jane Austen Faints" in *Body Parts: Essayson Life Writing*. London: Pimlico, 2008.

Miller, D.A. *Jane Austen, or the Secret of Style*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2003.

Mudrick, Marvin. *Jane Austen: Irony as Defence and Discovery*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1952. S 823.7/AUS/C-20

Park, You-me and Rajeswari Sunder Rajan, eds. *The Postcolonial Jane Austen*. London: Routledge, 2000. S 823.7/AUS/C-92

Said, Edward W. "Jane Austen and Empire," in *Culture and Imperialism*. New York: Knopf, 1993. S 809.93358/22 A

Southam, B.C., ed. *Critical Essays on Jane Austen*. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1968. S 823.7/AUS/C-66

Tanner, Tony. *Jane Austen*. Houndmills: Macmillan, 1986.

Todd, Janet. *The Cambridge Introduction to Jane Austen*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. S 823.7/AUS/C-102

Trilling, Lionel. "Mansfield Park" in *Jane Austen: a Collection of Critical Essays*, ed. Ian Watt. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall, 1966. S 823.7/AUS/C-22

Watt, Ian, ed. *Jane Austen: a Collection of Critical Essays*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall, 1966. S 823.7/AUS/C-22

Wiltshire, John. *Jane Austen and the Body*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992.

Course Evaluation and Development

In response to previous student feedback, the course now includes two filmic adaptations of Jane Austen's novels: Ang Lee's 1995 film *Sense and Sensibility* and Patricia Rozema's 1999 film *Mansfield Park*. To balance the introduction of another filmic text, Austen's *Persuasion* has been excluded from this iteration of the course. Informal feedback will be sought throughout the semester to moderate student's engagement with the course material in both lecture and seminar formats, and to adapt teaching methods where necessary. Students will also be encouraged to fill out myExperience surveys at the end of the course so that further improvements may be made.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

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Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au. Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/>). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.

<http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise>

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

<https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

Image Credit

Osin, R. (2005). *Pride and Prejudice*. [image] Available at: <https://www.romanosin.com/> [Accessed 24 Jul. 2019].

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