

JANE AUSTEN, NOVELS AND FILMS

Dianne Sadoff

Course Information

Tuesdays from 1:30–3:30 p.m. for eight weeks beginning October 1 through November 19.

In-Person — Lecture/Discussion — Maximum 18

Course Description

We'll read (or reread) Austen's *Northanger Abbey*, *Pride and Prejudice*, and *Mansfield Park*. We'll trace Austen's take on "the disinherited daughter," a story she inherited from eighteenth-century predecessors and updated for the Regency. We'll ask how the novels address and seek to resolve anxieties about the entailed paternal estate, the financial precarity of daughters, and the necessity of marriage. Thus, our work will be literary and historical, as we consider how the history of marriage—and Austen's own feelings about wedding—shaped these narratives.

When we add cinema to our work, we'll ask how Andrew Davies' *Northanger Abbey* (2007), Simon Langton's *Pride and Prejudice* (1995), and Patricia Rozema's *Mansfield Park* (1999) updated Austen for the contemporary moment, and how the films engaged twentieth- and twenty-first century audiences. Does it matter whether you've read the novel when you see the film? Why do we love—or hate—film adaptations? We'll ask how screenwriters change a novel's story, how directors cast their films and photograph their stars, and whether updating disgusts or delights us. During our classes, we'll also watch selected film clips and talk about them.

Reading and Edition List

Please buy the editions I list here, so we will all be "on the same page" in discussions. I'll order; they will be shelved immediately behind the Labyrinth checkout counter.

Please purchase DVDs or stream films; Princeton Public Library owns all.

- Jane Austen, *Northanger Abbey* (Oxford World's Classics), \$6.95.
- Jane Austen, *Pride & Prejudice*, 3rd ed. (Oxford World's Classics), \$5.95.
- Jane Austen, *Mansfield Park*, new ed. (Oxford World's Classics), \$7.95.

Course Schedule

Weeks	Assignment
Oct 1	Introduction: Names, Faces, Interests • Read: <i>Northanger Abbey</i>, vol. 1 • Consult: Maps & Moretti, Graphs, Maps, Trees (Dropbox)
Oct 8	Read: <i>Northanger Abbey</i> , vol. 2 Screen: <i>Northanger Abbey</i> (Andrew Davies, 2007)
Oct 15	Read: <i>Pride & Prejudice</i> , vol. 1
Oct 22	Read: <i>Pride & Prejudice</i> , vol. 2
Oct 29	Read: <i>Pride & Prejudice</i> , vol. 3 Screen: <i>Pride & Prejudice</i> (Simon Langton/Andrew Davies, 1995)
Nov 5	Read: <i>Mansfield Park</i> , vol. 1 Consult: <i>Mansfield Genealogy</i> (dropbox)
Nov 12	Read: <i>Mansfield Park</i> , vol. 2
Nov 19	Read: <i>Mansfield Park</i> , vol. 3 Screen: <i>Mansfield Park</i> (Patricia Rozema, 1999)