

JANE AUSTEN 2: NOVELS AND FILMS

We'll read (or reread) Austen's *Northanger Abbey*, *Pride and Prejudice*, and *Mansfield Park*. We'll again 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. How does the reader's perspective on Austen's stories change, when he or she becomes a spectator? 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.

Please buy the editions I list here, so we will all be "on the same page" in discussions. I'll ask Labyrinth to order them; they will be shelved immediately behind the checkout counter. (Still pandemic bound? Labyrinth is doing curbside pick-up & delivery.)

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.

Reading Schedule:

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| Tues., Sept 22: | Introduction: Names, Faces, Interests Read: <i>Northanger Abbey</i> , vol. 1 |
| Tues., Sept 29: | Read: <i>Northanger Abbey</i> , vol. 2 Screen: <i>Northanger Abbey</i> (Andrew Davies, 2007) |
| Tues., Oct.6: | Read: <i>Pride & Prejudice</i> , vol. 1 |
| Tues., Oct. 13: | Read: <i>Pride & Prejudice</i> , vol. 2 |
| Tues., Oct. 20: | Read: <i>Pride & Prejudice</i> , vol. 3 Screen: <i>Pride & Prejudice</i> (Simon Langton/Andrew Davies, 1995) |
| Tues., Oct 27 : | Read: <i>Mansfield Park</i> , vol. 1 |

Tues., Nov. 3: **Read:** *Mansfield Park*, vol. 2

Tues., Nov. 10: **Read:** *Mansfield Park*, vol. 3
 Screen: *Mansfield Park* (Patricia Rozema, 1999)

Leader: Dianne Sadoff is professor emerita of English and former director of Cinema Studies at Rutgers University; she has also taught at Antioch College, Colby College, the University of Southern Maine, and Miami University of Ohio.

Tuesdays: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., 8 weeks: September 22 through November 10

Maximum: 20 seats