

HUMANITIES SEMINARS PROGRAM

August 2014
Fridays 9:00 to noon
Dorothy Rubel Room

Three by Austen: *Sense and Sensibility*, *Pride and Prejudice*, and *Emma*

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TEXTS: *Emma* (Dover Thrift Edition); *Pride and Prejudice* (Dover Thrift Edition); and *Sense and Sensibility* (Dover Thrift Edition).

These are the editions I shall use and refer to by page number, and I recommend them strongly. Having them will facilitate locating the passages that we shall focus on in class; not having them will make following discussion relatively more difficult. They may be ordered from the *Dover Thrift Editions* website and purchased for around \$4.00 each. You may also use <http://amazon.com> and of course the University Bookstore.

PROCEDURES: We shall read the novels together, by which I mean proceed with analysis, interpretation, and discussion of the narratives. I shall assume that the novel will have been read before class and predicate my comments upon seminarians' knowledge of the texts. I should estimate that the assignments will require 10 to 12 hours of reading per week.

In class we shall focus on selected passages. Questions are welcomed with the proviso I make to all my students: That they center on focused issues growing out of the text and eschew reference to personal experiences.

CALENDAR:

1 August: Introduction to the novel as a literary form; discussion of Austen's life and the publication and critical history of the novels.

8 August: *Sense and Sensibility*.

15 August: *Pride and Prejudice*.

22 August: *Emma*.

29 August: *Emma*.