

English 221-01: Novel of Manners

CRN 22295

Professor J. Brady
Palmer 305 (office)
843-3906 (office phone)

Spring, 2012
Palmer 206
MWF: 11:00-11:50 a.m.

Reading List:

Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice* (Penguin)
Jane Austen, *Sense and Sensibility* (Penguin)
Henry James, *Washington Square* (Penguin)
Henry James, *Selected Tales* (Penguin)
Thorstein Veblen, *The Theory of the Leisure Class* (Oxford)
Edith Wharton, *The Custom of the Country* (Penguin)
Edith Wharton, *The Buccaneers* (Penguin)

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Thursday: 11:00-11:50, or by appointment through the week

Course Description:

This course is a study of the development of the novel of manners, as reflected in the work of the most important writers identified with the genre, Jane Austen, Henry James, and Edith Wharton. The novels in this course, largely traditional in structure, focus on courtship, gender, class privilege and the economic practices of the leisure class. This course has several principal goals: to introduce students to the conventions of the genre of the novel of manners; to consider the ways in which novelists rework, revise, and even undo their own work over their careers and respond in complex ways to the influence exerted on them by their precursors and contemporaries; to study influential works by major novelists, one English, two American.

This course carries both F2 (Writing Intensive) and F4 (Literary Texts) credit. Members of the class will workshop samples of the first two essays, focusing on issues of revision, on improving clarity of argument, and on uses of textual evidence in formal essay writing, in addition to more technical aspects, including punctuation and grammar.

Attendance Policy:

Late arrivals to class will be counted as an absence and any student who misses or comes late to class more than **four** times in the semester will be asked to withdraw from the course with a grade of F. Please see the new English department policies on attendance and other matters, attached to this document as an appendix, below.

Schedule:

Jan. 11	Introductory remarks
Jan. 13, 18, 20, 23, 25, 27	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> (1813)
Jan. 30, Feb. 1, 3, 6, 8	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> (1811)
Thursday, February 9	Austen essay due, 4 pages
Feb. 10, 13, 15, 17	<i>Washington Square</i> (1880)
February 20, 22, 24	Workshops of first essays
February 27, 29, March 2	<i>Daisy Miller</i> (1878)
March 5, 7, 9	"The Middle Years"; "In the Cage"
Friday, March 9	James essay due, 4 pages
March 12, 14, 16	Spring Break
March 19, 21	Workshops of second essays
March 23	No class; away at conference
March 26, 28, 30, April 2, 4	<i>The Custom of the Country</i> (1913)
April 6	Easter Recess
April 9, 11	Selections from Veblen's <i>Theory of the Leisure Class</i> (1899)
April 13, 16, 18, 20, 23	<i>The Buccaneers</i> (1938)

April 25

Wharton essay due, 6 pages

April 27

Awards Convocation

Method of Evaluation:

Austen essay (4 pages)	20%
James essay (4 pages)	20%
In-class question*	20%
In-class grade	10%
Wharton essay (6 pages)	30%

* Each student will pose one formal question to the class during the semester, speaking from notes only. Your question should be focused, given a context, and its potential significance made clear to your classmates. The question should explore a fresh aspect of the text that you think important to our understanding of the work. Having posed your question, you will then guide class discussion.

** All late essays will be penalized by at least a letter grade and excessive lateness may lead to failure in the course.

Department of English Expectations and Policies

A college course is more than simply a set of assignments; it is an intellectual process, one which requires active engagement from beginning to end in order to achieve its intended results. With this in mind, the Department of English has formulated a number of expectations and the policies that support them. If you have questions about how these policies relate to the syllabus for a particular course, you should address them to the instructor.

Attendance: The success of a course depends to a significant extent upon the presence of students alert and prepared to address the subject under discussion. Unavoidable absences should be discussed with the instructor, ideally before they occur. Excessive absences will result in a lowering of grade, in some cases to an F.

Deadlines: Writing assignments, tests, etc., are carefully scheduled as stages toward the fulfillment of the course's goals and cannot be indefinitely deferred without frustrating those goals. Brief extensions for good reasons may be permissible with the instructor's prior approval; otherwise, late assignments will be penalized and may result in their not being accepted for credit.

Submission of all work: All major assignments are integral to the goals of the course. Failure to complete any major assignment will result in a grade of F for the course.

Intellectual honesty: All work is assumed to be the student's own and produced exclusively for the course in which it is submitted. Papers written for one course, even if revised, are not to be submitted in another without the instructor's prior approval. Borrowing of ideas or language from other sources (including published material, other student papers, the internet or other electronic resources, etc.) must be carefully documented. Students are advised against posting their work on the internet since doing so may lead to suspicion of plagiarism. Students are advised to maintain drafts of their work to verify its originality. Cases of suspected plagiarism will be referred to the Honor Council, and the student if convicted will receive a grade of F in the course in addition to sanctions assigned by the Council. Clear evidence of plagiarism (failure to use quotation marks around verbatim or copied language, failure to adequately paraphrase, and failure to cite the source of quoted, paraphrased, or borrowed text and ideas), regardless of the Council hearing outcome, may likewise result in failure of the course. Carelessness in documenting sources, even if not technically plagiarism, will be penalized as the instructor deems appropriate. If you are uncertain about how or whether to document sources, consult your teacher.