JANE AUSTEN: HER LIFE, WORLD, AND FINAL NOVELS

OSHER 434-001

DATES: Mondays, 3/31/14 – 5/5/14
TIMES: 9:30 – 11:00 AM
LOCATION: Tenth East Senior Center, 237 S. 1000 E., SLC
INSTRUCTOR: Aspen Anderson

Course Overview

This course will explore Jane Austen's life, novels, and the world she lived in. Each week an introductory lecture will be followed by a discussion of her novels. This course will focus on her final novels: Emma and Persuasion. Lectures will focus on her life and the historical and literary context of her books. Recommended outside classwork includes reading her novels and watching movie adaptations. This syllabus is subject to change.

Materials:

Highly Recommended:

Emma (any edition)
Persuasion (any edition)

Optional:

Movies:

Ciaran Hinds/Amanda Root's Persuasion
BBC Persuasion, 2009
Gwyneth Paltrow's Emma
BBC Emma, 2009

Week 1 – Introduction
Assigned Reading: Begin Emma
Jane Austen: Her life in context. Overview/Introduction
Literary Context: The art of Caricature

Week 2 – Emma
Assigned Reading – Emma
Historical Context: Marie-Antone Careme, Entertaining, Adoption, Governesses, Societal Levels, Elegant Extracts
**Week 3 – Emma**  
Assigned Reading: Emma  
Historical Context: The Grand Tour, The Year Without Summer, Seaside Resorts  
Discussion of Emma

**Week 4 – Emma/Persuasion**  
Assigned Reading: Finish Emma, Begin Persuasion  
Cultural Context: Fashion and Dancing, possible Special guest presenter, Kimberli Grant, Old Glory Vintage Dancers

**Week 5 – Persuasion**  
Assigned Reading: Persuasion  
Historical Context: Wars with France: The Navy, Prize Money, and Advancement

**Week 6 – Persuasion**  
Assigned Reading: Persuasion  
Historical Context: Bath, Tidbits  
Discussion of Persuasion