“Jane Austen in Bath” (TX-300A) is a one-credit faculty-led travel seminar focusing on the life of Jane Austen (who lived in Bath between 1801-06) and the creation of two of her novels—Northanger Abbey (1818) and Persuasion (1818)—set in Bath, a seat of culture in eighteenth-century England.

The course will comprise reading of biography and fiction, on-site field trips, a group project, and the creation of an individual Jane Austen analytic booklet focusing on Austen’s life in Bath and the city that informs the creation of these two famous novels. The seminar includes a day trip to visit Jane Austen’s House Museum in Chawton, Hampshire (where she wrote Persuasion), as well as Stonehenge and Lacock, and a free day to explore Bath or other sites in the U.K.

Traveling to Bath, England will bring the world of Jane Austen to life! This ten-day travel seminar will explore a World Heritage city central to Austen’s fiction. Using Bath as a living classroom, students enrolled in this one-credit course will explore the settings of eighteenth-century Bath vital to the characterization and plot of Northanger Abbey (1818) and Persuasion (1818)—including the Pump Room, part of the Roman Bath complex where the genteel went to see and be seen; the magnificent Assembly Rooms, used in the eighteenth century for dancing, card playing, music, and tea drinking; and the Royal Crescent, one of the world’s best architectural landmarks built by John Wood the Younger.

It will be easy to travel back in time as we walk the streets of Bath and view the perfectly preserved Georgian architecture central to Austen and her characters.
SKIDMORE FACULTY

DR. CATHERINE J. GOLDEN is Professor of English at Skidmore College. She received her AB in English at Brown University, her Ed.M. at Harvard University, and her Ph.D. in English at the University of Michigan. At Skidmore, she teaches courses on the nineteenth-century British novel, the Victorian illustrated book, British and American women writers, and expository writing. Her primary research interests are the intersection of Victorian literature and art and Victorian material culture. She has published widely on Victorian culture, illustrated fiction, and British and American women writers, and is the author of *Posting It: The Victorian Revolution in Letter Writing* (2009) and *Images of the Woman Reader in Victorian British and American Fiction* (2003). She is also editor of five other books including, most recently, *Charlotte Perkins Gilman’s The Yellow Wall-Paper: A Sourcebook and Critical Edition* (2004).

ANTICIPATED COSTS

The anticipated fee for the travel seminar to Bath is $2,700 (may fluctuate). This includes Skidmore tuition, round-trip airfare from New York City to London, all ground transportation in England, on-site accommodations in a charming Bed and Breakfast (generally double occupancy), two meals per day, international medical insurance, entrance and performance fees, local guides, cultural excursions, Skidmore faculty on-site, and the support of Skidmore’s OCSE. The fee does not include transportation to and from New York City, passport and visa costs, nor personal expenses. Financial Aid is available for eligible students.

APPLICATION

Applications are available in Off-Campus Study & Exchanges (OCSE) in Starbuck 202, on the OCSE web site, and at the English Department office in Palamountain 313. The application deadline is MARCH 29, 2010. Applicants are required to submit a $250 non-refundable deposit at the time of application to hold their space on the program (100% refundable if not accepted to program). This deposit will be applied to the program fee for accepted students.
“They arrived at Bath. Catherine was all eager delight; — her eyes were here, there, every where, as they approached its fine and striking environs, and afterwards drove through those streets which conducted them to the hotel. She was come to be happy, and she felt happy already.”

— Northanger Abbey, chapter 2