

As if! Jane Austen's Emma, Clueless, and the Art of Self-Delusion

One Credit | UF Honors UnCommon Reads

Spring 2026 | IDH2930 | Class Number 26532

Instructor:

- [Lisa Campbell](#), Learning and Engagement Librarian
- Email: lisacampbell@uflib.ufl.edu (best form of contact)
- Phone: 352-294-0476
- Office: Library West 516
- Office hours: Fridays 1-3 PM or by appointment

Meetings:

- Fridays Period 3 (9:35 – 10:25 am)
- Location: Honors Village 114

Course Description:

This course explores Jane Austen's witty classic novel *Emma* and its iconic adaptation *Clueless* (1995) to examine how self-delusion, or being delulu, shapes character psychology, narrative irony, and social critique. From matchmaking mishaps to misguided makeovers, students will analyze themes such as romantic idealism, class mobility, and personal growth across both texts. Beginning with a screening of Amy Heckerling's *Clueless*, the course continues with a close reading of *Emma*, alongside weekly discussions and a creative final project that reimagines or responds to the course's central themes.

Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze how self-deception functions in *Emma* and *Clueless*, shaping character development, narrative irony, and social critique.
- Express informed interpretations of key themes through discussion and writing, demonstrating clarity and engagement with course texts.
- Create a final project that critically and creatively responds to the course's central ideas, showing synthesis and original insight.

Course Texts:

- *Emma* by Jane Austen
 - [eBook version available via the libraries](#) (unlimited user access)
 - [Print versions in Library West](#) (limited number)
 - [Print versions for purchase from the Lynx](#) (15% off with code UNCMN2026)
- *Clueless* (1995) by Amy Heckerling (provided in-class)

Course Assignments:

- **Discussion Leaders:**

You will be assigned to a pair of students. Each group will lead the class discussion for the chapters assigned that week. In addition to using the questions provided, your group will create 2–3 new questions to help guide the conversation. As Discussion Leaders, you are responsible for keeping the discussion moving, encouraging participation, and helping the class explore the key ideas in the readings.

- **Discussion Participant:**

All students are expected to take part in weekly discussions, even when they are not serving as a Discussion Leader. As a participant, you should come prepared by completing the assigned readings, responding to the leader's questions, and contributing thoughtful comments that help build the conversation.

- **Final Project:** Create a zine exploring one major theme from the course (e.g., romantic idealism, class mobility, friendship, personal growth, etc.). Use a mix of short reflections, quotes from Emma and/or Clueless, visuals, and pop culture references to show how self-deception shapes characters and stories. You may design your zine digitally or make it by hand using collage, drawings, photos, or other creative materials.

Course Schedule:

Week	Date	Meeting Location	Assigned Reading
1	1/16/26	Honors Village 114	Syllabus
2	1/23/26	Library West 212	(in-class viewing of Clueless)
3	1/30/26	Library West 212	(in-class viewing of Clueless)
4	2/6/26	Honors Village 114	Volume 1: Chapters 1-6
5	2/13/26	Honors Village 114	Chapters 7-12
6	2/20/26	Honors Village 114	Chapters 13-18
7	2/27/26	Honors Village 114	Volume 2: Chapters 1-6 (chs. 19-24)
8	3/6/26	Honors Village 114	Chapters 7-12 (chs. 25-30)
9	3/13/26	Honors Village 114	Chapters 13-18 (chs. 31-36)
10	3/20/26	Spring Break – No Class	
11	3/27/26	Honors Village 114	Volume 3: Chapters 1-6 (chs. 37-42)
12	4/3/26	Honors Village 114	Chapters 7-12 (chs. 43-48)
13	4/10/26	Honors Village 114	Chapters 13-19 (chs. 49-55)
14	4/17/26	Honors Village 114	Final project due

Course Grades:

Assignment	Points	Percentage
Discussion Participation	4 points each, 40 points total	40%
Discussion Leader	20 points	20%
Final Project	30 points	30%
Reflection	10 points	10%
Total	100 points total	100%

Grading Policy:

Point Range	Letter Grade
94-100	A
90-93.9	A-
87-89.9	B+
83-86.9	B
80-82.9	B-
77-79.9	C+
73-76.9	C
70-72.9	C-
67-69.9	D+
63-66.9	D
60-62.9	D-
< 60	E

Grades and grade points are consistent with current [university grading policies](#). A minimum grade of B is required to earn Academic points towards Honors Completion Requirements. Once you have earned your final grade in this course, please upload the course information and final grade from your Unofficial Transcript into your Honors Canvas Cohort: Honors Requirements module to earn Honors Milestone / Completion credit.

Assignments will be graded with rubrics, and they can be used to better understand what is expected of you for an assignment. Review the rubrics in Canvas before submission to ensure that you've met the criteria of the assignment.

The assignments should be completed independently, but it's ok to ask questions. Purdue OWL provide information on [safe practices to avoid plagiarism](#).

Late Work

To ensure that the class progresses together, and to allow for timely feedback, I ask that you strive to complete work by the due date. If you need more time for an assignment, **please reach out to me and let me know**. I am willing to provide extra time if needed. All due dates will be listed in Canvas.

Attendance

This class adheres to the [attendance policies](#) as outlined by the University of Florida. Students are expected to attend all class sessions. If you know that you will need to miss a class, please let me know as soon as possible.

Communication

I encourage you to reach out to me if you have any questions. Although I cannot provide an immediate response, I plan to respond to messages in one business day. I plan to provide feedback on assignments within two weeks, except for the two video recording assignments which may take longer.

Discussion Ground Rules

Each week you will be posting to a discussion board. Please consider the following ground rules while posting:

- Respect others' rights to hold opinions and beliefs that differ from your own. When you disagree, challenge or criticize the idea, not the person.
- Support your statements by identifying personal experiences, including evidence, and/or providing your rationale.
- Share responsibility for including all voices in the discussion.
- Recognize that we are all still learning. Be willing to change your perspective and make space for others to do the same.

AI Policy

Some AI: Generative AI tools may be used to enhance some assignments in this course. Assignment instructions will differentiate between distinct human and AI tasks.

Any work that is done using generative AI must be cited in your submission.

- [Please review the Guidance for Students](#)

[Academic Resources and Policies](#)

Honors Program Contact Information:

- Honors Program, Honors Village Building 4 (our new location starting in late fall 2025), 352-392-1519
- Quick questions for an Honors advisor? Email advisor@honors.ufl.edu
- Need an Honors advising appointment? Schedule via Microsoft Bookings: <https://bit.ly/UFHonorsAdvising>
- Honors Program Event Calendar: <https://www.honors.ufl.edu/news--events/calendar-of-events/>