

JANE AGAIN

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Cine-GT1803: Metadata for Moving Image Collections  
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As this list came together, my first thought was, “Oh no, not another Jane Austen project.” But who can resist an author who was so wittily observant about the times she lived in and the behavior of her peers? Her works still resonate today and are endlessly adapted for screen and television. Sequels have been written and even a zombie version of “Pride and Prejudice” managed to get published. Her works are timeless and enduring because she accurately pinpoints the follies of the human condition. Her characters ring as true today as they did over 200 years ago.

My fascination with Jane Austen began in my undergraduate days at NYU. During my final semester in my senior year, I had been hoping to get into a medieval history course. Having gotten locked out of that and just about every other choice I’d selected, I ended up signing up for my very last choice, “The 19<sup>th</sup> Century English Novel”. It ended up being one of the best classes I had ever taken. After my introduction to *Emma*, I read all of Austen’s works. This passion also extended to Dickens, Thackeray, Eliot and any other author of that period I could get my hands on. To this day, I still reread Austen’s novels on a regular basis—to the extent that my exasperated husband has been heard to mutter, “Not again!”

This exercise will focus on three of her works that are in my collection—*Emma*, *Pride and Prejudice*, and *Sense and Sensibility*. Respectively, the book, the 1995 BBC/PBS series and the Ang Lee/Emma Thompson film adaptation.

The qualities that best reflect Jane Austen and her work are more descriptive than administrative, so the elements chosen for my wish list will be as much as the standards chosen will allow.

Emma

Dublin Core seems to be a logical choice for cataloging a written work. Dublin Core doubles is not only a structure standard but is descriptive as well. The metadata that needs to be captured is straightforward and Dublin Core, with its fifteen basic elements and added qualifiers is a good fit. Dublin Core's set of elements are all optional and repeatable and there is no specific order in the presentation of the elements (though this author prefers a little order). The ten qualities that were chosen are:

<b>Wish List</b>	<b>Dublin Core</b>
Title	title
Author	creator
Plot summary	description
Subjects	subject
Publisher	publisher
Commentary	contributor
Language	language
Format	format
Genre	type
Publication Date	date

Pride and Prejudice and Sense and Sensibility

Though originally formatted for library use, MODS 3.5 seems to possess sufficient granularity for cataloging audiovisual content. Like Dublin Core, it's a structure standard that also includes descriptive metadata. Elements such as

physicalDescription allow the cataloger to enter a description of the carrier the content is on. The ten qualities chosen for these two works are:

<b>Wish List</b>	<b>MODS</b>
Title	<titleInfo> / <title>
Director	<name> / <namePart> / <role> / <roleTerm>
Writer	<name> / <namePart> / <role> / <roleTerm>
Actors	<name> / <namePart> / <role> / <roleTerm>
Genre	<genre>
Format	<physicalDescription> / <extent> / <form>
Subject	<subject> / <topic> / <genre> / <geographic>
Adaptation	<relatedItem>
Additional Notes	<notes>
Publisher	<originInfo> / <place> / <publisher> / <dateIssued>
Plot Summary	<abstract>

In choosing a controlled vocabulary for all three records, I decided consistency was the best course to take across the collection. I decided upon Library of Congress Authorities for both books and film for their simplicity and ease of use.