

Professor Michael Levine
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Spring 19, TTh 4:30-5:50
German 01: 470:247 [index 22055]
Comparative Literature 01:195:247
[index 22056]
Scott Hall 220
3 Credits

Psy Fi: Literature and Psychoanalysis

Description: Origins and major concepts of psychoanalysis explored through a close analysis of Freud's writings with a particular focus on their literary dimension. The course seeks not simply to apply Freud to literature but also to see how psychoanalytic thinking itself might be enriched and expanded by our approaching it through works of art, literature and cinema. Thus, in addition to readings of Freud's writings on dreams, infantile sexuality, trauma, and the unconscious, we will study films by Hitchcock, a wide range of literary texts from German, French, Anglo-American and Latin American traditions, and critical essays by Deleuze, Zizek, Bronfen, Felman, Weber, Ronell and others. In English. No prerequisites. **Course fulfills the Core requirements AHo & AHp**

Required Texts: Books to be purchased at RU Bookstore

1. *The Freud Reader*, ed. Peter Gay Freud Reader 9780393314038
2. Muller and Richardson, *The Purloined Poe* 9780801832932
3. Bettelheim, *Freud and Man's Soul* 9780394710365
4. Deleuze *Masochism: Coldness and Cruelty in Venus in Fur* 9780942299557
5. Shakespeare, *Hamlet* 9780743477123
6. Critchley and Webster, *Stay, Illusion!* 9780307950482
7. Bechdel, *Are You my Mother?* 9780618982509

All other readings are available on Sakai at:

<https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal/site/7cd2776b-ca21-4c09-831a-20a33caa69bf/tool/d508167d-8d35-4739-b728-049a5e14dd40>

Recommended:

1. J. Laplanche and J.B. Pontalis, *The Language of Psychoanalysis*
2. Peter Gay, *Freud: A Life for our Time*
3. Jeffrey M. Masson, ed., *The Complete Letters of Sigmund Freud to Wilhelm Fliess (1887-1904)*

Grade:

Class Presentation	10%
3 6-7-page papers	30% each

Grading Scale:

92-100=A; 87-91=B+; 81-86=B; 77-80=C+; 70-76=C; 65-69=D; 0-64=F

Attendance:

All students must attend regularly and arrive prepared. Those who miss more than two class sessions without a compelling excuse (a doctor's or college dean's note, for instance) should expect a one-step reduction in the course grade (i.e. an A becomes a B+, a B+ becomes a B). Three late arrivals count as one absence. Note: It is the responsibility of the students who have been absent (for any reason) to find out what they have missed and obtain materials that may have been handed out. Students who miss class are expected to write a 1-page response paper on the reading assigned for that day.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is an extremely serious matter, and can lead to a student's failing the course and being referred to his or her dean for disciplinary action. When referring to ideas other than your own, always acknowledge your sources clearly and completely, whether you are quoting or paraphrasing. Please see the University's policies on academic integrity at <http://teachx.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>, and discuss with me any questions you may have about this and related issues.

Course Schedule

Abbreviations *FR Freud Reader*

Jan 22T	Introduction to the course Recording of Freud's BBC Radio address (December 1938) (transcript in class) http://www.thepeoplehistory.com/1938.html
Jan 24Th	Literature and Psychoanalysis Felman, "To Open the Question" (Sakai) Bettelheim, <i>Freud and Man's Soul</i>
Jan 29T	Conrad, "The Secret Sharer" (Sakai) Johnson and Garber, "Secret Sharing: Reading Conrad Psychoanalytically" (Sakai)
Jan 31Th	Freud, <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i> in <i>FR</i> Felman, "Competing Pregnancies" (Sakai)
Febr 5T	Freud, <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i> Felman, "Competing Pregnancies"
Febr 7Th	Freud, the Dream Navel and Film Hitchcock, <i>Psycho</i> (available on Amazon Prime and YouTube) Bronfen, "Navel Inversions" in <i>The Knotted Subject</i> (Sakai)
Febr 12T	Poe, Lacan and Structuralist Approaches to Psychoanalysis Poe, "The Purloined Letter" in <i>The Purloined Poe</i> Lacan, "Seminar on 'The Purloined Letter'" in <i>The Purloined Poe</i>

- Febr 14Th Poe, Derrida and Post-structuralist Approaches to Psychoanalysis
Lacan, "Seminar on 'The Purloined Letter'"
Derrida, "The Factor of Truth" in *The Purloined Poe*
- Febr 19T Lacan, Derrida and Poe (cont.)
- Febr 21Th Freud, *Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality* in FR
FIRST 6-7-PAGE PAPER DUE
- Febr 26T *Three Essays* (cont.)
- Febr 28Th "Fragment of an Analysis of a Case of Hysteria" ("Dora") in FR 172-239
- Mar 5T Hertz, "Dora's Secrets, Freud's Techniques" (Sakai)
- Mar 7Th No Class (Menninghaus Lecture)
- Mar 12T Freud, *A Childhood Memory of Leonardo da Vinci*
Bass, "History of a Mistranslation" (rec.)
- Mar 14Th Freud, *A Childhood Memory of Leonardo da Vinci*
Bass, "History of a Mistranslation" (rec.)
SECOND 6-7-PAGE PAPER DUE
- Spring Break (March 16 - March 24)*
- Mar 26T Freud, *A Case of Obsessional Neurosis* (The Rat Man)
Ronell, "The Suppository Subject"
- Mar 28Th Freud, The Rat Man (cont.)
Ronell, "The Suppository Subject"
- Apr 2T Freud, "Remembering, Repeating, Working Through" (Sakai)
"The Dynamics of Transference" (Sakai)
- Apr 4Th Sacher-Masoch, *Venus in Fur*
Deleuze, *Masochism*
- Apr 9T Deleuze, *Masochism*
- Apr 11Th Deleuze, *Masochism*
Polanski, *Venus in Fur* (film rec.)
- Apr 16T Shakespeare, *Hamlet*
- Apr 18Th Critchley and Webster, *Stay, Illusion!*

Apr 23T Critchley and Webster, *Stay, Illusion!*

Apr 25Th Bechdel, *Are You my Mother?*

Apr 30T Bechdel, *Are You my Mother?*

May 2Th Jung, *On Synchronicity*
Derrida, "My Chances/Mes Chances" (rec.) (Sakai)

May 9Th **FINAL 6-7-PAGE PAPER DUE**