

LITERATURE AND PSYCHOLOGY
COLI 211B-04
SPRING 2006

TR 11:40 am-1:05 pm
Instructor: Hivren Demir-Atay
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Office hours: R 2:00-4:00 pm (LNG 204)

Course Description:

Investigates the mutual relationship between literature and psychology with a focus on psychoanalytic literary theory. Examines how literature and psychoanalysis inform and offset each other through a study of seminal literary texts as well as theoretical writings. Concentrates on, but is not limited to Sigmund Freud's work in the preparation of theoretical background. Themes such as daydreaming, hysteria, neurosis, psychosis, detection and diagnosis are addressed. Basic objective of the course is to raise provoking questions about literature and psychoanalysis, and to provide a background for reflecting on these questions in a critical perspective.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Participation			20 %
1st Response Paper	(2-3 pages)		10 %
2nd Response Paper	(2-3 pages)		10 %
Short Response	(1 page)		5 %
1st Paper	(4-5 pages)	draft 5% + revised version % 15	20 %
2nd Paper	(4-5 pages)	draft 5% + revised version % 15	20 %
Final Paper	(2-3 pages)		15 %

Attendance and Participation: This course needs your attendance and participation to make both the lectures and the discussions effective. You are required to attend all classes. If you have a reason for not coming to class, you are supposed to inform me about it. Because this is a discussion course you are expected to come to class having read the assignments.

Response Papers: In the response papers you are expected to point out and argue one/some important aspect(s) of the text that we will be discussing in class. You will give the response papers before the discussion; for that reason you are just expected to read the text carefully and discuss it making meaningful references to the previous classes. For response papers, the basic criteria for grading will be your effort, energy, creativity, comprehension and its relevance to our topics as well as the quality of your writing.

Short Response: I will give you a question about the text that we will be discussing in class. You will answer it in a one-page paper.

Papers: You are required to write two papers. I will give you several questions in advance. You will choose one and answer it in a well-organized essay. You are expected to reflect on the question and create your own comment using the concepts we elaborated in class. Sophistication and uniqueness will be the main criteria in the evaluation of your papers. After reading your drafts, I will hand them back to you for revision.

Final Paper: You will answer one of the questions that I will hand out no later than April 27th. Final paper questions will focus on the subjects of the last month. In your finals you are expected to show your interest and involvement in Literature and Psychology with your sophisticated arguments and well-organized compositions. You will not be asked to bring draft for the final papers, but you can ask your questions whenever you want.

Schedule and Readings:

Introduction to Literature, Psychoanalysis, and Freud

Week 1- Jan. 24 Jan. 26	Introduction to course Maupassant “The Signal”; Freud “Katharina”
Week 2- Jan. 31 Feb. 2	Freud “Creative Writers and Daydreaming”; <i>Young Doctor Freud: Part I</i> (documentary) <i>Young Doctor Freud: Part II</i>

Literature as a Dream Work: Freud the Archeologist

Week 3- Feb. 7 Feb. 9	Freud “On Dreams”; Hemingway “The Hills like White Elephants”, “Out of Season” Kafka “A Country Doctor”
Week 4 - Feb. 14 Feb. 16	Freud “The Ego and the Id”; Capote “Miriam” Gogol “The Overcoat” (1st response paper)
Week 5- Feb. 21 Feb. 23	Freud “The Uncanny”; Hoffmann “The Sand-Man” Cortázar “House Taken Over”, “Bestiary”
Week 6- Feb. 28 Mar. 2	Freud “Leonardo Da Vinci and a Memory of His Childhood” Poe “The Tell-Tale Heart” Guest Speaker : Kaya Akyildiz (1st paper-draft)

Creating Fictions of the Life: From Neurosis to Psychosis

Week 7- Mar. 7 Mar. 9	Freud, “The Loss of Reality in Neurosis and Psychosis”; Gilman “The Yellow Wallpaper” Beckett “First Love”
Week 8- Mar. 14 Mar. 16	no class no class

- Week 9- Mar. 21 Highsmith “The Empty Birdhouse” **(1st paper-final version)**
 Mar. 23 Freud “Mourning and Melancholia”; Proust “A Young Girl’s Confession”
- Week 10- Mar. 28 Chekhov “A Boring Story” **(short response)**
 Mar. 30 Plath “Daddy”; Rose “Daddy”
- Week 11- Apr. 4 Zweig “The Royal Game”
 Apr. 6 Zweig “The Royal Game” **(2nd response paper)**
- Week 12- Apr. 11 **2nd paper-draft (Peer Review)**
 Apr. 13 no class
- Week 13- Apr. 18 Nietzsche “The Will to Power as Society and Individual”; Dostoevsky *Notes from the Underground* Part 1 **(2nd paper-final version)**
 Apr. 20 Freud “Dostoevsky and Parricide”; Dostoevsky *Notes from the Underground* 2

Master-Slave / Analyst-Analysand: Freud the Detective

- Week 14- Apr. 25 Freud “Dora”; Doyle “A Scandal in Bohemia”
 Apr. 27 Hegel “Independence and Dependence of Self-Consciousness: Lordship and Bondage”; H.D. “The Master”
- Week 15- May 2 Poe “The Purloined Letter”; Lacan “Seminar on the Purloined Letter”
 May 4 Polanski *Chinatown* (film)
- Week 16- May 9 Polanski *Chinatown*; Felman “Psychoanalysis and Education: Teaching Terminable and Interminable”
 May 11 course evaluation **(final paper)**

the texts available in the bookstore:

Freud, *The Freud Reader* (“Katharina”, “On Dreams”, “Creative Writers and Day-Dreaming”, “The Ego and the Id”, “Dora”, “Mourning and Melancholia”, “Leonardo Da Vinci”)

Freud, *Writings on Art and Literature* (“The Uncanny”, “Dostoevsky and Parricide”)

Gogol, *The Overcoat and Other Short Stories* (“The Overcoat”)

Zweig, *The Royal Game and Other Stories* (“The Royal Game”)

Dostoevsky, *The Best Short Stories of Fyodor Dostoevsky* (“Notes from the Underground”)

Kafka, *Metamorphosis and Other Stories* (“The Country Doctor” –also available on e-reserve-)

Proust, *Complete Stories* (“A Young Girl’s Confession” –also available on e-reserve-)

Capote, *Complete Stories* (“Miriam” –also available on e-reserve-)

the text to be downloaded:

Doyle, “A Scandal in Bohemia”

Other texts are available on e-reserve

