

Psychological Approaches to Literature

- Mon. Aug. 31 – Introductory
Wed. Sept. 2 – Paris, “Pulkheria Alexandrovna and Raskolnikov, My Mother and Me”
Fri. Sept. 4 – Freud, “Screen Memories”
Mon. Sept. 7 – Labor Day.
Wed. Sept. 9 – “Screen Memories”
Fri. Sept. 11 – “Screen Memories,” cont.
Mon. Sept. 14 – Eliot, *Silas Marner*, chs. 1-3
Wed. Sept. 16 – *Silas Marner*, chs. 4-6
Fri. Sept. 18 – *Silas Marner*, chs. 7-9
Mon. Sept. 21 – *Silas Marner*, chs. 10-12
Wed. Sept. 23 – *Silas Marner*, chs. 13-15
Fri. Sept. 25 – *Silas Marner*, chs. 16-18
Mon. Sept. 28 – *Silas Marner*, chs. 19-21
Wed. Sept. 30 – Emery & Keenan, “Breaking the Silence in *Silas Marner*”
Fri. Oct. 2 – Dessner, “The Autobiographical Matrix of *Silas Marner*”
Mon. Oct. 5 – Dessner, “The Autobiographical Matrix of *Silas Marner*,” cont.
Wed. Oct. 7 – Review
Fri. Oct. 9 – Review; TAKE-HOME MIDTERM emailed
Sun., Oct. 11 – MIDTERM DUE 6:00 p.m.
Mon. Oct. 12 – Sophocles, *Oedipus the King*
Wed. Oct. 14 – *Oedipus the King*, cont.
Fri. Oct. 16 – *Oedipus the King*, cont.
Mon. Oct. 19 – Bromberg & Aron, “Disguised Autobiography as Clinical Case Study”
Wed. Oct. 21 – Severn, *The Discovery of the Self*, ch.1
Fri. Oct. 23 – Severn, *The Discovery of the Self*, ch.2
Mon. Oct. 26 – Severn, *The Discovery of the Self*, ch. 3
Wed. Oct. 28 – Severn, *The Discovery of the Self*, ch. 4
Fri. Oct. 30 – Severn, *The Discovery of the Self*, ch. 4, cont.
Mon. Nov. 2 – Severn, *The Discovery of the Self*, ch. 5
Wed. Nov. 4 – Severn, *The Discovery of the Self*, ch. 5, cont.
Fri. Nov. 6 – Severn, *The Discovery of the Self*, ch.6
Mon. Nov. 9 – Severn, *The Discovery of the Self*, ch.7
Wed. Nov. 11 – Veterans Day
Fri. Nov. 13 – Kleinschmidt, “The Angry Act: The Role of Narcissism in Creativity”
Mon. Nov. 16 – Roth, *Portnoy’s Complaint*, “The Most Unforgettable Character I’ve Ever Met”
Wed. Nov. 18 – *Portnoy’s Complaint*, “The Most Unforgettable Character,” cont.
Fri. Nov. 20 – *Portnoy’s Complaint*, “Jewish Blues”
Mon. Nov. 23 – *Portnoy’s Complaint*, ““Cunt Crazy” EARLY PAPER TOPICS DUE
Wed. Nov. 25 – Thanksgiving;
Fri. Nov. 27 – Thanksgiving

Mon. Nov. 30 – *Portnoy's Complaint*, “Cunt Crazy, ” cont.; ALL PAPER TOPICS DUE
Wed. Dec. 2 – *Portnoy's Complaint*, “The Most Prevalent Form of Degradation in Erotic Life”; EARLY PAPERS DUE
Fri. Dec. 4 – *Portnoy's Complaint*, “In Exile”
Mon. Dec. 7 – *Portnoy's Complaint*, “Juice or Gravy?”
Wed. Dec. 9 – Review; ALL PAPERS DUE
Fri. Dec. 11 – TAKE-HOME FINAL emailed
Sun. Dec. 13 – FINAL DUE 6:00 p.m.
Mon. Dec. 14 – EARLY PAPER REWRITES DUE

A Psychoanalytic Diary

I will ask you to keep a weekly diary as part of ENG 4015. Each Monday before the start of class you should submit an entry (one to two double-spaced typed pages) as an email attachment. I will read and comment on them and return to you with my comments at the end of the semester. What you write can be as personal or impersonal as you wish. The following topics are merely suggestions:

- dreams you've had and attempts to interpret them
- “Freudian slips” you've come across
- impressions of the preceding class or responses to the reading
- agreements or disagreements with friends
- parent-child relationships
- attitudes toward sex, love, work, religion, the future
- problems in your life (and possible solutions to them)
- what you like or dislike about the instructor

These diaries will, I hope, stimulate you to make connections between what you learn in class and what you think and do outside of class. Although one of the aims is to encourage self-discovery, you alone will determine how introspective you wish your diaries to be. I'm particularly interested in whether you find the course material relevant to your own life. My primary role in reading your diaries will not be to interpret them, but to support your attempts at self-analysis.

Try to include only what is important. Do not worry about making the diaries into polished essays. You will NOT be graded, and my comments will not be concerned with spelling and grammar, though they ARE a required part of the course and will count toward your class participation. Please NUMBER and DATE each of your entries.

Each Monday I will read a few of them aloud in class. The diaries will always be read anonymously, and there will be no discussion of them afterward. If you do not want me to read your diary, please indicate this on the entry, and I will respect that.

Course Objectives

In honor of the late Professor Bernard Paris, this course will use George Eliot's *Silas Marner* and Karen Horney's *Self-Analysis*, along with Philip Roth's *Portnoy's Complaint*, as the major "case studies" of how our understanding of both literary and psychoanalytic texts is enriched by reading them as disguised autobiography. The primary objective is to enhance students' skills of close reading and critical thinking by exploring the relations between literature and psychoanalysis. The two examinations and required term paper provide occasions for students to demonstrate analytic and writing skills commensurate with an upper-division English course.

Course Requirements & Evaluation Criteria

Your course grade will be based on the following criteria: midterm (25%), final exam (25%), one five-page paper (40%), and class participation (10%). I reserve the right to be more lenient, but these percentages are the norm. The midterm and noncumulative final will be in three parts, consisting of a commentary on five short passages, a close reading of a longer passage, and an essay question on a choice of topics. *Papers must follow the guidelines of the Style Sheet.* At least one week before the papers are due, you must send me an email (*not* an attachment) with a one-paragraph proposal for your topic and setting forth your thesis. I will respond and tell you either to go ahead or ask for further clarification before you proceed. *No outside sources may be used without being specified ahead of time and receiving my permission.* Early papers will be returned with my comments and a grade, and may then be rewritten for a new grade. Each absence over five may result in a lowering of your course grade by one-half a letter. Students are responsible for ordering their own copies of the works by George Eliot, Horney, Sophocles, and Roth. The remaining readings will be distributed electronically.

Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center in the Dean of Students Office provides information and support regarding accommodations for students with disabilities in the classroom. Staff will assist any student who registers as having a disability. Official documentation is required to determine eligibility for appropriate classroom accommodations. For more information about Student Disability Services, see: <http://www.ufl.edu/disability/>