

**FM 200 Psychoanalysis, Culture, Society (B Block, Summer 2019)**

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Office Hours: By Appointment

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**Description**

Psychoanalysis, as a theory and a practice, begins with a speculative claim made by Sigmund Freud: that human beings are largely unaware of the passions, desires, motivations, etc., that drive us. This is not to say that we are completely ignorant of our own wishes, but rather that our access to such knowledge about ourselves is often indirect, open to interpretation, available to contemplation or analysis after the fact, especially after we find ourselves repeatedly making the same kinds of mistakes, returning to the same harmful relationships, obsessing about the same past experiences, and so on. Indeed, a key intervention and claim of psychoanalysis is that self-introspection *alone* is rarely a productive solution, because if *I* do not know exactly what I want, then *I*, on my own, may only perpetuate my ignorance in the attempt *to explain myself to myself*. Self-introspection, conceived psychoanalytically, requires another figure – and outsider, a listener, a companion . . . an analyst.

**Required Texts and Materials**

All PDFs and Films on Canvas

**Assignments**

Participation (40%)

This is a small and intensive summer course seminar in psychoanalytic theory and cultural studies. Accordingly, I'm placing significant value on participation. I expect every student to come to class having completed all assigned readings/screenings and well prepared to engage in discussion, pose questions, and participate thoughtfully, whether we are in the classroom or out somewhere in LA. A number of analysts from ICPLA will join us in Week 3, and I likewise expect us all to make good use of the time they are sharing with us by engaging in courteous, lively, and intelligent conversation with each of them.

Reflection Essays (20%)

At the end of Week 1 & 2, you will write a 3 to 4-page reflection on the week's content, relating the psychoanalytic theory to issues of complexity, infrastructure, or other systems of interest to the student. These reflections are intended to provide an opportunity to organize your thoughts on the past week while also beginning to imagine areas for application for the eventual final paper/project

Final Paper/Project (40%)

A 10-12 page paper (or creative project of similar length) in which you engage critically with several key texts and concepts from the course, applied to an area of cultural interest (film, tv, art, society, etc.)

<p><b>Policies</b></p> <p>Grading</p> <p>Attendance</p> <p>Late Work</p> <p>Academic Honesty</p> <p>Accessibility Resources</p>	<p>A – Mastery of the subject matter matched with an original and inventive <u>intervention</u> in the field of psychoanalytic cultural studies</p> <p>B – Mastery of the subject matter</p> <p>C – Basic understanding of the subject matter</p> <p>D – Lack of effort</p> <p>NC – Little to no effort</p> <p>Attendance is required for all class meetings and screenings. I will allow a maximum of 1 absence. Each additional, unexcused absence will result in a 5% reduction of your overall grade.</p> <p>All assignments are due by class time on the day assigned. Any assignment submitted 15 minutes after the deadline will receive a 10% reduction, with an additional 5% reduction for each additional day that it is late.</p> <p>The Honor Council calls on us all to avoid every form of academic misconduct. If you have any doubts about when or how to cite sources, don't guess. Ask Scott or consult credible resources, such as the on-campus Writing Center or online Purdue OWL.</p> <p>If you need accommodations, you must provide appropriate documentation from the Director of Accessibility Resources, Jan Edwards. Jan can help you determine which accommodations and documentation you need. Additionally, if English is not your first language, contact Chelsea Walter, English as a Second Language (ESL) Specialist, for help.</p>
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## COURSE SCHEDULE

### Week 1 – Psychoanalysis and Infrastructure

Mon, June 24	<b>Read:</b> John Riker, "Knowledge in Psychoanalysis" Donald Moss, from <i>At War with the Obvious</i>
Tue, June 25	<b>Read:</b> Sigmund Freud, from <i>The Question of Lay Analysis</i> and <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i>
Wed, June 26	<b>Read:</b> Freud, from <i>Civilization and Its Discontents</i> Shannon Mattern, "Infrastructural Entanglements" <b>Watch:</b> <i>Levitated Mass</i> (Doug Pray, 2013, 90 min)
Thur, June 27	<b>Field Trip:</b> LACMA <b>Read:</b> D.W. Winnicott, "Transitional Objects and Transitional Phenomena" and "Mirror-Role of Mother" Melanie Klein, "The Origins of Transference"
Fri, June 28	NO CLASS

### Week 2 – Transference and Complexity

Mon, July 1	EVENING CLASS <b>Read:</b> Kohut & Wolf, <i>The Disorders of the Self and Their Treatment</i> Kohut, "Forms and Transformations of Narcissism" (optional) Jonathan Lear, "An Interpretation of Transference"
Tue, July 2	<b>Read:</b> Christopher Bollas, from <i>The Mystery of Things</i> Darren Haber, "Yearning for Godot" <b>Field Trip:</b> Dodger Game (7:10pm)
Wed, July 3	<b>Read:</b> Stolorow and Atwood, from <i>Structures of Subjectivity</i> Margy Sperry, "Psychoanalytic Complexity Theory" Carol Mayhew, "Thinking About Change" <b>Field Trip:</b> Hollywood Bowl (6:30pm shuttle)
Thur, July 4	NO CLASS – HAPPY 4th!
Fri, July 5	<b>Read:</b> William Coburn, from <i>Psychoanalytic Complexity</i> <b>Screen:</b> <i>About Time</i> (Dir. Richard Curtis, 2013, 124 min)

### Week 3 – Creativity and Sublimation

Mon, July 8	<b>Read:</b> Daniel Goldin, "Storylines" <b>Analyst:</b> Carol Mayhew Ph.D., Psy.D. (1pm)
Tue, July 9	<b>Read:</b> Frank Sommers, from <i>Self Creation</i> <b>Analyst:</b> Daniel Goldin, L.M.F.T., Psy.D. (1:30pm)
Wed, July 10	<b>Read:</b> Todd McGowan, from <i>Only a Joke Can Save Us</i> <b>Analyst:</b> William Coburn, Ph.D., Psy.D. (10:30am), Darren Haber (1:30pm)
Thur, July 11	<b>Read:</b> TBD <b>Analyst:</b> Margy Sperry, Psy.D., MFT <b>Field Trip:</b> <i>RENT</i> (Pantages Theater, 8pm)
Fri, July 12	NO CLASS

**Week 4**

Mon, July 15

EVENING CLASS

**Read:**

Tue, July 16

Wed, July 17

Thur, July 18

Week 3 -	
<b>Weekend</b>	
<u>Read:</u> John Fiske, "Los Angeles: A Tale of Three Videos"	<u>Analyst:</u>
<b>Monday,</b>	
<u>Read:</u>	<u>Analyst Meeting (1:00 – 2:30pm)</u> Carol Mayhew
<b>Tuesday,</b>	
<u>Read:</u>	<u>Analyst Meeting (1:30 – 3:00pm)</u> Daniel Goldin
<b>Wednesday, April 6 (Reading Day)</b>	
<u>Read:</u>	<u>Analyst Meeting (9:00am – Noon)</u> Penelope Starr-Karlin William Coburn
<b>Thursday, April 7</b>	
<u>Read:</u>	<u>Analyst Meeting:</u> Margy Sperry
<b>Friday, April 8</b>	
<u>Due:</u> Group Research Project Proposals	
Week 4 – Final Project	
<b>Monday, April 11</b>	
<u>Due:</u> Research Outline & Initial Bibliography	
<b>Tuesday, April 12</b>	
Work Day	
<b>Wednesday, April 13</b>	
Final Presentations	