Ovid’s story of Echo and Narcissus from the *Metamorphoses* portrays the dangers of refusing to heed the call of the Other. This class takes Ovid’s story as a model for investigating what constitutes our idea of the Self and how that Self is shaped in relation to the Other – questions considered by psychologists, writers, philosophers, filmmakers and literary critics.

**Requirements:**

- **Attendance, diligent reading and active participation in all class discussions**
  
  You are required to attend every class and arrive on time. This class works as a group as we analyze the reading material, thus it is necessary that every member of the class remains engaged in discussions and keeps up with all assignments. While some students may have difficulty speaking up, the learning process works best when you articulate your thoughts and your classmates can learn from your insights. If you need to miss a class, please speak with me beforehand or certainly after. *More than two unexcused absences will result in a lower grade.* Please ensure that **cell phones and computers are turned off during class. If not, I will ask you to leave class and your grade will be affected.**

- **Written Reflections**
  
  Bring to class 3 main points or questions based on the day’s assignment, written *neatly* on an index card (no paper scraps). I will collect index cards at the beginning of each class.

- **Papers**
  
  One short paper, a mid-term and final paper, **due on time.** For every day late, the paper will be lowered a half grade (A to A-, etc.). If you have an extenuating circumstance for which you need an extension, please speak with me beforehand.

- **Presentation:**
  
  You will select one day during the semester during which you will present a **short** (5-10 minute) synopsis of the readings along with questions for discussion.

**Books:** will be sold in class on Monday, Sept 12 and available at Bluestockings Bookstore (172 Allen Street between Stanton and Rivington, 212.777.6028, [www.bluestockings.com](http://www.bluestockings.com))

- Ovid, *The Metamorphoses*
- Sarah Ruhl, *The Clean House and Other Plays*
- James Joyce, *Dubliners* (contains the story “The Dead”)
- Virginia Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*
- Toni Morrison, *Beloved*
- E. M. Forster, *A Passage to India*

**Readings Packet:** Available at NYU Bookstore

**Films:** Can be viewed at Avery Fisher Hall in Bobst Library or on your computer (netflix, etc.)
September 7: Introduction

12: Ovid’s story of Echo and Narcissus
    ✷ **written assignment due:** 2 page *analysis* of one idea or phrase from Ovid’s story

14: Hollander

19: Levinas (I will distribute beforehand)
21: Blanchot (packet)

26: Ruhl, *Eurydice*
28: Freud

October 3: Winnicott, Benjamin
5: Hitchcock’s *Spellbound*

10: **No class,** Columbus Day holiday
12: Kohut

17: Lacan,
19: “The Dead” Come to class prepared to apply a specific theory we’ve read to “The Dead”

24: Lawrence
26: *Sunset Boulevard*  ✷ **Midterm paper due, 5 pages**

31: Nouvet
November 2: *Mrs. Dalloway,* first half

7: keep reading *Mrs. Dalloway,* Caruth
9: finish *Mrs. Dalloway*

14: Brison
16: Greenberg, Spivak (on Echo)

21: *Ravishing of Lol Stein,* first half
23: *Ravishing of Lol Stein,* second half

28: Morrison, *Beloved,* first half
30: Finish discussing *Beloved*

December 5: Said
7: Forster, *A Passage to India,* first half

12: *A Passage to India,* second half
14: wrap up & party  ✷ **Final paper due, 5 pages**