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 10 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 5: Introduction

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

17: No class – Rosh Hashana
19: Blanchot (packet)

24: Ruhl, *Eurydice*
26: No class – Yom Kippur

October 1: Freud
3: Winnicott, Benjamin

8: **No class,** Columbus Day holiday – watch Hitchcock’s *Spellbound*
10: Kohut and *Spellbound*

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

22: Lawrence ❖ **Midterm paper due, 5 pages**
24: *Sunset Boulevard*

29: Nouvet
31: *Mrs. Dalloway,* first half

November 5: keep reading *Mrs. Dalloway,* Caruth
7: finish *Mrs. Dalloway*

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

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

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

December 3: Said
5: Forster, *A Passage to India,* first half

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