The Journal in the City
WRTNG-UG 1324

Summer 2013

Syllabus
Victoria A. Blythe

TOPIC

July 09
11
16
18

Introduction to the Course
Theories of the Journal
Meta-Writing
Journal Workshop
The Journal as Meta-Text
Journal Workshop

READING

Woolf (x)
Stein, Nin (x)
Blanchot (x)
Barthes (x), Kafka

23
25

Writing: The Subject
Meta-Session
Writing: Psyche as Text
Project #1

30

The Urban Muse
The Café Scene

Aug. 01

Topographies
Meta-Session

06
08

Itineraries
The Flâneur
Psyche in the City
Meta-Session

06
08

Benjamin
Sartre (x)
de Beauvoir
Calvino (x)

Baudelaire (x)

Rilke, Ginsberg

13
15

Reflections
Journal Workshop
Meta-Reflections
Project #3

Duras (x)

Cavafy (x) et al.
Books to Acquire:
Ril ke, *The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge*
Kafka, *Diaries 1910-1913*
Ginsberg, *Early Journals*

Required Reading:
See syllabus.
Items on syllabus marked (x) will be given to you in class
to be read in class and discussed.

Writing Projects:
Meta-Journal
In-Class Writing Exercises
Projects (see syllabus)

Elements of the Course:
Attendance
Participation in class
Workshops, Meta-Sessions
Completion of work on time
Reading assignments
Maintain Meta-Journal
Maintain a folio of your work and class material

Class Participation Requirements:
Bring your folio and Meta-journal to class.
Bring the appropriate reading material to class.
Bring paper & pencil or pen to class.

Contact Data:
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            845.679.6641  Home, weekends

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Course Policies:

Attendance:
Attendance is crucial. We will pursue a policy of collegiality which requires the presence of each to provide commentary, critique and response to the work of his colleagues. One unexcused absence will be permitted per semester. Students will be expected to arrive on time for class.

Submission of Written Work:
All written work will be expected on time in printed format. See syllabus for Project Protocols and due dates.

Incomplete Grade Request:
Should an INC. become necessary it must be requested prior to the last class, in writing, in conformance with Gallatin regulations.

Evaluation & Grading:
Evaluation will depend upon the quality of the work submitted and its relevance to the protocols of each assignment as well as the level of participation in class discussion and contribution to writing workshops. See also “Requirements of the Course,” supra.

Plagiarism:
Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Original work is expected. The parameters of quotation, citation and reference will be observed. (Consult MLA guide). Plagiarism will have an adverse effect on student evaluation to the extent of failure. For policy in full see: http://www.gallatin.nyu.edu/academics/policies/policy/integrity.htm/
“The Journal in the City”

Barthes, Roland. “Deliberation” in A Barthes Reader, 1982. (See also
Baudelaire, Charles. The Parisian Prowler. Tr. Ed. K. Kaplan, Athens: The University of
“One Way Street”
“Moscow”
“On Some Motifs in Baudelaire”
“Franz Kafka”
“Some Reflections on Kafka”
“The Return of the Flâneur”
“Paris Diary”
all in Walter Benjamin: Selected Writings, Vol. 2, Part 2,
(see also Wolin, Richard. Walter Benjamin: An Aesthetic of Redemption. New York: Columbia
University Press, 1982. and
Broderson, Momrane. Walter

Blanchot, Maurice. The Space of Literature. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press,
1982.
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“The City as Protagonist, in The Uses of Literature, New York:
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The Avignon Quintet. London: Faber & Faber, 1992
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Nin, Anais.  *Cities of the Interior*, 1959
Yeats, Wm.B.  "Byzantium;"  
Literary journalists have long been inspired by the urban muse. Paris, London, Berlin, Prague and New York have nurtured such noted journalists as Rilke, Woolf, Kafka, Walter Benjamin and Allen Ginsberg. As we look into the journals of these intriguing writers we will immerse ourselves in the New York City milieu, asking what is the impact of the city on the text, as well as examining the effect of the city on our own journals. As writers how do we interact with the city? Whom do we become in our journals in the city? We will keep and develop literary journals for the duration of the course: New York City Journals.