Description: This course aims to give students an in-depth understanding of the fundamental concepts, vocabulary and theories of Sigmund Freud, the so-called “Father of Psychoanalysis.” We will read closely a wide range of texts by Freud, covering the earliest incarnations of Freudian psychoanalysis to its final formulations, including concepts of the subject, drive theory, the “talking cure,” transference, dream interpretation, and more. Our sights will also be set on the ways in which psychoanalytic thought has, from its very beginnings, been in fruitful dialogue with the humanities, broadly speaking—most specifically, literature, philosophy, and the arts, although we will also consider its relevance as a clinical practice. Texts will include: *Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality*, *Beyond the Pleasure Principle*, *Totem and Taboo*, *The Ego and the Id*, *Leonardo da Vinci and a Memory of His Childhood*, and a selection of his shorter papers.

Course Requirements:
3 Papers, 5-7 pages each 60% (20% each)
Presentations 30% (15% each)
Attendance and Participation 10%

Presentations: each student will present twice a semester, once during the first half, once during the second half. Students are to choose a particularly representative, interesting, difficult, or etc. passage from the assigned texts to read in class, and offer a 2-3 page intellectual and analytic reaction of their own as well. Why this choice? The presenting students must hand in their reaction papers for grading.

- Participation is a vital part of this class, and therefore also your grade. If you have a very difficult time talking in class come to see me during office hours EARLY in the semester so we can talk about what we can do.
- No laptops in class. Exceptions will be announced.

Unexcused absences will negatively impact your grade. Late papers will be accepted, but progressively penalized for tardiness.
Course Objectives: To give students a thorough and rigorous introduction to Sigmund Freud’s psychoanalytic “philosophy.”

Statement on Plagiarism
Plagiarism means: presenting as your own someone else’s words, ideas, opinions, and/or argument. You must be sure to cite your sources, include a bibliography, and use quotation marks when you incorporate another person’s words or language verbatim. This includes buying a paper! Cases of suspected plagiarism will be referred to the Dean for disciplinary action(s).

Students are required to bring a copy of the assigned readings to class.

Required Books:

All by Sigmund Freud.

Required Articles: all on NYU Classes
Josef Breuer and Sigmund Freud, *Studies on Hysteria (1893-1895),* selections
All by Sigmund Freud
“Constructions in Analysis”
“The Dynamics of the Transference”
“General Remarks on Hysterical Attacks”
*Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego,* selections
“The Loss of Reality in Neurosis and Psychosis”
“Neurosis and Psychosis”
“On Narcissism”
*The Psychopathology of Everyday Life,* selections
“Remarks Upon the Theory and Practice of Dream Interpretation”
“Some Additional Notes upon Dream-Interpretation as a Whole”
“The Uncanny”
Schedule

Introduction

September 7, Wednesday: Introduction.

September 12, Monday: Freudian Slips

Sexuality

September 14, Wednesday: Perversion

September 19, Monday: Infantile Sexuality
Readings: Freud, “Infantile Sexuality,” in *Three Essays on Sexuality* (1905)

September 21, Wednesday: Puberty
Readings, Freud, “Transformations of Puberty,” and “Summary,” in *Three Essays on Sexuality* (1905)

Drive Theory or Freud as Biologist

September 26, Monday: The Death Drive I
Readings: *Beyond the Pleasure Principle*.

September 28, Wednesday: The Death Drive II
Readings: Finish *Beyond the Pleasure Principle* (1920)

October 3, Monday: The Psyche 1: Id, Ego, Superego

October 5, Wednesday: The Psyche 2: More on the Drives
Readings: Finish *The Ego and the Id*.

Paper One Due: Sunday, October 9, by midnight, by email.

October 10, Monday: no classes, Columbus Day

Freud as Anthropologist

October 12, Wednesday: The Origins of Taboo
Readings: *Totem and Taboo*, (1913) 4-124.
October 17, Monday: Totemism, the Oedipus Complex, Phylogenetics
Readings: Finish *Totem and Taboo.*

**Psychoanalysis and Mythology**

October 19, Wednesday: Dreams
Readings: “Remarks Upon the Theory and Practice of Dream Interpretation” (1923); “Some Additional Notes upon Dream-Interpretation as a Whole” (1925) (both on NYU Classes)

October 24, Monday: Narcissism
Readings *On Narcissism,” (1914) (NYU Classes)*

**Psychoanalysis and the Arts/Literature**

October 26, Wednesday: Literature
Readings: *Writings on Art and Literature,* “Psychopathic Characters on Stage,” “Dostoevsky and Parricide,” and “Medusa’s Head.” (book)

October 31, Monday: Fairy Tales and Moses
Readings: *Writings on Art and Literature,* “The Occurrence in Dreams of Material from Fairy Tales,” and *Leonardo da Vinci,* pp. 8-45. (both books)

November 2, Wednesday: Art

**Paper Two Due: Sunday, November 6, by midnight, by email.**

**Freud as Sociologist**

November 7, Monday: Group Dynamics
Readings: *Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego* (1921) pp 46-97. NYU Classes)

**Freudian Symbolism: The Symptom**

November 9, Wednesday: Hysteria, Neurosis, Psychosis
Readings: “General Remarks on Hysterical Attacks” (1909) (NYU classes); I-V in *Inhibitions, Symptoms and Anxiety* (1926) (book)

November 14, Monday: Symptoms, Anxiety 2
Readings: Finish *Inhibitions, Symptoms and Anxiety*

November 16, Wednesday: Psychosis versus Neurosis
Readings: “Neurosis and Psychosis” (1924), “The Loss of Reality in Neurosis and Psychosis” (1924) (Both on NYU Classes)

November 21, Monday: The Return of the Repressed
Readings: “The Uncanny” (1919) (NYU Classes)
No Class November 23, Wednesday: Thanksgiving Break

Psychoanalysis
November 28, Monday: Technique - transference
Readings: "The Dynamics of the Transference" (1912). (NYU Classes)

November 30, Wednesday: Technique – constructs
Readings: “Constructions in Analysis” (1937) (NYU Classes)

December 5, Monday: A Case Study – The Rat Man
Readings: Notes Upon a Case of Obsessional Neurosis (1909) 1-36.

December 7, Wednesday: A Case Study Continued
Readings: Finish Notes Upon a Case of Obsessional Neurosis

December 12, Monday: Review
Readings: An Outline of Psychoanalysis (half) (1940) (book)

December 13, TUESDAY – SPECIAL SCHEDULING
Readings: Finish An Outline of Psychoanalysis

December 14, Wednesday
Japanese food feast
No new readings, come to eat!

Final Paper Due: Sunday December 18 by midnight, by email.