

BTP2BR_T_23 Freud and Literature

Spring 2025

Bényei Tamás
Room 119
Wed. 10.00-11.40

Office hours: Tue 12.00, Wed 12.30

Requirements: the success of the seminars will greatly depend on your contributions; it is essential, therefore, that participants read the assigned material (the quantity of which will be kept at a very reasonable level) and contribute to the discussion. Since there is no end-term test, seminar participation will be a very important factor in the grades.

Familiarity with the texts (fictional and critical) will be tested at the beginning of each seminar. Failure to prepare for the seminar will count as absence: thus, **if you fail more than three such tests, your seminar is a failure**, and there will be **no opportunity** to make up for these occasions. This system is meant to encourage you NOT to come to the seminar if you haven't read the text. Thus, theoretically, you may miss three classes, or miss one class and fail to read the material for two classes, or not miss any classes but fail to prepare for three seminars, etc.

Please note that, in the case of this particular course, class attendance is extremely important, as the material discussed in the seminars is always based upon the material of the previous classes, and those who are not familiar with that material are very likely to lose the thread.

Students in their final year can decide whether they want to write an end-term test or a home essay. First-year students will submit a home essay

Home essay deadline: 23 May (Fri), 23.59

Length: 2,500-3,000 words. Only typewritten essays will be accepted. Essays must be written in the form of a research paper: use of secondary material and scholarly documentation, conforming to the MLA Style Sheet, is essential. Failure to meet any of these requirements will result in the reduction of the grade. Plagiarism and academic dishonesty (including the use of AI) will be treated according to the code of ethics of IEAS and the University of Debrecen.

NB. The required texts are all available on the eLearning platform (as well as in the course packets designed for this course)

NB. Students should note that the linguistic quality of their performance will have a major impact on their final grade.

Schedule

We ek	Date	Topic
1	19 Febr	The cultural significance and origins of psychoanalysis: hysteria (students are expected to attend this class: things essential in order to understand what will follow will be discussed here)
2	26 Febr	Hysteria and literature Elizabeth Gaskell: "Cousin Phyllis" (CP2)
3	5 March	The psychoanalytic conception of the psyche: the two models from Freud's <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i> (p. 378-83) (CP 2) Freud: "The Ego and the Id," chapters 1-2 (p. 351-366), the beginning of Ch. 3 (pp. 367-369 (CP 2) R. L. Stevenson: "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde"

4	12 March	Dreams: The “Royal Road” to the unconscious Freud: “The Method of Dream Interpretation” (the “Irma dream”; Chapter 2 of <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i> , p. 10-33) (CP 2) Csáth Géza: “A béka” (xerox) <i>Recommended:</i> from Meredith M. Skura: from “Literature as Dream” (p. 125-148) (CP 1)
5	19 March	Transference, repetition, remembering Freud: “The Dynamics of Transference” (p. 99-108) (CP 2) Freud: “Observations on Transference Love” (p. 159–171) Henry James: <i>The Turn of the Screw</i>
6	26 March	The uncanny/1 E.T.A. Hoffmann: “The Sandman” Freud: “The Uncanny”
7	2 April	The uncanny/2 E.T.A. Hoffmann: “The Sandman” Freud: “The Uncanny”
8	9 April	SPRING BREAK - CONSULTATION WEEK
9	16 April	Fantasy and literature Charles Dickens: <i>Great Expectations</i> /1 <i>Recommended:</i> Laplanche and Pontalis: “Fantasy and the Origins of Sexuality” Peter Brooks: “The Idea of a Psychoanalytic Literary Criticism”
10	23 April	Fathers, laws, narratives Charles Dickens: <i>Great Expectations</i> /2
11	30 April	The Lacanian subject and the gaze E. A. Poe: “The Purloined Letter”
12	7 May	END OF TERM FOR STUDENTS IN THEIR FINAL YEAR No class
13	14 May	Mourning and melancholia Freud: “Mourning and Melancholia” Edgar Allan Poe: “The Fall of the House of Usher”, Ligeia”
14	21 May	Essay week (deadline: 23 May, Fri, 23.59)

Narcissism

Freud: „On Narcissism”

Ovid: “Narcissus and Echo” (from *Metamorphoses*)

Recommended reading: (* = available in the Department Library)

Freud: *Álomfejtés; Bevezető előadások; A halálösztön és az életösztönök*.
J. Laplanche - J.-B. Pontalis: *A pszichoanalízis szótára*. Budapest: Akadémiai, 1994
*Bókay Antal - Erős Ferenc (szerk.): *Pszichoanalízis és irodalomtudomány*. Budapest: Filum, 1998
Bókay Antal: “Nietzsche és Freud”. *Replika* 19-20 (1995 december) 55-67.
Füredi János és Buda Béla (szerk.): *Múzsák a díványon (Pszichoterápia és kultúra)*. Magyar Pszichiátriai Társaság, 1992.
Szummer Csaba és Erős Ferenc (szerk.): *Filozófusok Freudról*. Bp: Cserépfalvi, 1993.
Szummer Csaba: *Freud nyelvjátéka*. Bp: Cserépfalvi -MTA Pszichológiai Intézet, 1993.
Csabai Márta - Erős Ferenc (szerk.): *Freud titokzatos tárgya: Pszichoanalízis és női szexualitás*. Bp: Új Mandátum, 1997.
Issues of the Hungarian journal *Thalassa* (Journal of the Hungarian Psychoanalytical Society)
Elizabeth Wright: *Psychoanalytic Criticism*. London: Routledge, 1984.
Paul Ricoeur: *Freud and Philosophy*. New Haven: Yale UP, 1970.

Samuel Weber. *The Legend of Freud*. Minneapolis: U of Minnesota P, 1982.

Brooks-Davies, Douglas. *Oedipal Hamlet*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1989.

*Maud Ellmann (ed.): *Psychoanalytic Literary Criticism*. London: Longman, 1994.

*Leo Bersani: *The Freudian Body: Psychoanalysis and Art*. New York: Columbia UP, 1986. (main library)

*Leonard Tennenhouse (ed.): *The Practice of Psychoanalytic Criticism*. Detroit: Wayne State UP, 1976.

Daniel Gunn: *Psychoanalysis and Fiction*. Cambridge UP, 1988.

Lukacher, Ned. *Primal Scenes: Literature, Philosophy, Psychoanalysis*. Ithaca: Cornell UP, 1986.

Meredith Anne Skura: *The Literary Use of the Psychoanalytic Process*. New Haven: Yale UP, 1981.

Hertz, Neil. *The End of the Line: Essays on Psychoanalysis and the Sublime*. NY: Columbia UP, 1985.

*Peter Brooks: *Reading for the Plot*. New York: Vintage, 1985.

---. *Psychoanalysis and Storytelling*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1994.

Malcolm Bowie: *Freud, Proust and Lacan: Theory as Fiction*. Cambridge UP, 1987.

D. H. Lawrence: *Fantasia of the Unconscious – Psychoanalysis and the Unconscious* [1932]. Penguin, 1974.

Edith Kurzweil and William Phillips (eds.): *Literature and Psychoanalysis*. New York: Columbia UP, 1983.

Shlomith Rimmon-Kenan (ed.): *Discourse in Psychoanalysis and Literature*. London: Routledge, 1987.

Shoshana Felman: *Madness and Literature: Literature/Philosophy/Psychoanalysis*. Ithaca: Cornell UP, 1985.

*Teresa Brennan (ed.): *Between Feminism and Psychoanalysis*. Routledge, 1989.

Lisa Appignanesi - John Forrester: *Freud's Women*. London: Virago, 1993.

Benjamin, Jessica: *The Bonds of Love: Psychoanalysis, Feminism, and the Problem of Domination*

Katherine Cummings. *Telling Tales: The Hysteric's Seduction in Fiction and Theory*. Stanford UP, 1991.

Nancy J. Chodorow: *Feminism and Psychoanalytic Theory*. New Haven: Yale UP, 1989.

*Charles Bernheimer and Claire Kahane (eds.): *In Dora's Case*. New York: Columbia UP, 1985.

Joseph H. Smith and Humphrey Morris (eds.): *Telling Facts: History and Narration in Psychoanalysis*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 1992.

John Forrester: *The Seductions of Psychoanalysis: Freud, Lacan, Derrida*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1990.

---. *Language and the Origins of Psychoanalysis*. London: Macmillan, 1980.

---. *Dispatches from the Freud War: Psychoanalysis and Its Passions*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard UP, 1997.

Harvie Ferguson: *The Lure of Dreams: Sigmund Freud and the Construction of Modernity*. London: Routledge, 1996.

Linda Ruth Williams: *Critical Desire: Psychoanalysis and the Literary Subject*. London: Edward Arnold, 1995.

Kylie Valentine: *Psychoanalysis, Psychiatry, and Modernist Literature*. London: Palgrave, 2003.

*Royle, Nicholas. *The Uncanny*. London: Routledge, 2003.

Leclaire, Serge. *Psychoanalyzing*. Stanford UP, 1998.

Borch-Jacobsen, Mikkel. *The Freudian Subject*. Stanford UP, 1988.

Moller, Lis. *The Freudian Reading*. Philadelphie: U of Pennsylvania P, 1991.

Ragland, Ellie. *From Freud to Lacan: Essays on the Pleasures of Death*. London: Routledge, 1995.