Psychoanalytic Thought: Freud and Lacan
Tuesday/Thursdays, 2:00-3:20
Wieboldt Hall 408

Instructor: Françoise Meltzer
Email: mltz@uchicago.edu
Office: Harper Memorial East 688
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30 - 5:00 [sign-up sheet outside office door]

Course Assistants: Alexander Wolfson, Sarah McDaniel
Email: alexwolfson@uchicago.edu, sarahmcd@uchicago.edu
Office: Classics 412
Office Hours: Alex: Tuesdays 12:30-2:00, Sarah: Thursdays 3:30-5:30

This course will examine some of the fundamental features of psychoanalysis, concentrating on texts by Sigmund Freud and Jacques Lacan.

Course Requirements:

Mid Term Exam: 35%
Final Exam Topic Proposal: 10%
Final Exam: 55%

Participation: Students should come to class and discussion section having completed the assigned readings and ready to participate actively in class discussion. Attendance in class and for discussion sections will be taken and unexplained missed classes/sections will result in a lowered grade.

Mid Term Exam: In the 6th week of the class there will be a mid term exam. The exam will be in-class and short-answer/essay format.

Final Exam Topic Proposal: On the second class of the 7th week of the quarter you will turn in a one-page proposal, outlining a question that you will write about for your final exam. The question should arise from the class readings and discussions.

Final Exam: On the last day of class, we will have a final exam. You will write on the topic which you proposed in the Final Exam Topic Proposal.

Readings:

Required texts for purchase (available at SemCoop):

Sigmund Freud, Fragments of an Analysis of a Case of Hysteria.
All other readings will be made available as PDFs on the Chalk page for the course.

Course Schedule:

Class 1.1 - January 4, 2018

- Introductions

Freud

Class 2.1 - January 9, 2018

- Oedipus Complex – The Interpretation of Dreams – Selections from Book V
- Sophocles, Oedipus

Class 2.2 - January 11, 2018

- Irma’s Injection and The Work of Condensation – The Interpretation of Dreams – Selections from Book II and VI

Class 3.1 - January 16, 2018

- The Sexual Aberrations from Three Essays on Sexuality

Class 3.2 - January 18, 2018

- Fragments of an Analysis of a Case of Hysteria [Dora]

Class 4.1 - January 23, 2018

- Fragments of an Analysis of a Case of Hysteria [Dora] (Cont.)

Class 4.2 - January 25, 2018

- A Note upon the Mystic Writing-Pad
- Beyond the Pleasure Principle

Class 5.1 - January 30, 2018

- Beyond the Pleasure Principle (Cont.)
- Civilization and its Discontents – Books VI and VII

Class 5.2 - February 1, 2018

- The Uncanny
- E.T.A Hoffmann, The Sandman
Class 6.1 - February 6, 2018

Mid-term Exam

Lacan

Class 6.2 - February 8, 2018

- The Function and Field of Speech and Language in Psychoanalysis

Class 7.1 - February 13, 2018

- The Function and Field of Speech and Language in Psychoanalysis (Cont.)

Class 7.2 - February 15, 2018 [Final Exam Topic Proposal Due]

- Seminar on the Purloined Letter
- Edgar Allan Poe, The Purloined Letter

Class 8.1 - February 20, 2018

- Seminar on the Purloined Letter (Cont.)

Class 8.2 - February 22, 2018

- Mirror Stage
- Aggressivity in Psychoanalysis

Class 9.1 - February 27, 2018

- Freud, Femininity

Class 9.2 - March 1, 2018

- God and Woman’s Jouissance
- A Love Letter

Class 10.1 - March 6, 2018

Final Exam