

**Conversations of the West
Sublimation & Desire**

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11.00-12.15, Silver Building, room # 408
Prof. Eckart Goebel

- 1) Jan 22 (T) Sigmund Freud: *The two Principles of Mental Functioning*
- 2) Jan 24 (R) Sigmund Freud: *The two Principles of Mental Functioning*
- 3) Jan 29 (T) Sigmund Freud: *Civilization and Its Discontents*
- 4) Jan 31 (R) Sigmund Freud: *Civilization and Its Discontents*
- 5) Feb 5 (T) Plato: *The Symposium*
- 6) Feb 7 (R) Plato: *The Symposium*
- 7) Feb 12 (T) *Ecclesiastes* (Qohelet)
- 8) Feb 14 (R) *Ecclesiastes* (Qohelet); *The letter of Paul to the Romans*
- 9) Feb 19 (T) Erik H. Erikson: *Young Man Luther*
- 10) Feb 21 (R) Erik H. Erikson: *Young Man Luther* (1st 5 page paper due)
- 11) Feb 26 (T) Erik. H. Erikson: *Young Man Luther*
- 12) Feb 28 (R) Thomas Hobbes: *Leviathan* (part I and II)
- 13) Mar 4 (T) Thomas Hobbes: *Leviathan* (part I and II)
- 14) Mar 6 (R) Friedrich Schiller: *On Grace and Dignity*
- 15) Mar 11 (T) Friedrich Schiller: *On Grace and Dignity*
- 16) Mar 13 (R) **In-Class Mid Term Exam**
- 17) Mar 18 (T) **no classes (Spring Break)**
- 18) Mar 20 (R) **no classes (Spring Break)**
- 19) Mar 25 (T) Johann Wolfgang Goethe: *The Trilogy of Passion*
- 20) Mar 27 (R) Johann Wolfgang Goethe: *The Trilogy of Passion*
- 21) Apr 1 (T) Thomas Mann: *The Death in Venice*
- 22) Apr 3 (R) Thomas Mann: *The Death in Venice*

- 23) Apr 8 (T) Jean-Paul Sartre: *Being and Nothingness* (p. 471-534)
- 24) Apr 10 (R) Jean-Paul Sartre: *Being and Nothingness* (p. 471-534)
- 25) Apr 15 (T) Ovid: *Metamorphoses* (Theories of Narcissism) **(2nd 5 page paper due)**
- 26) Apr 17 (R) Christopher Lasch: *The Culture of Narcissism* (Foucault-lecture)
- 27) Apr 22 (T) Theodor W. Adorno on Sublimation (no additional reading)
- 28) Apr 24 (R) Herbert Marcuse: *Eros & Civilization*
- 29) Apr 29 (T) Herbert Marcuse: *Eros & Civilization*
- 30) May 1 (R) **IN-CLASS FINAL EXAM**
- 31) May 5 (M) **no classes (Last day of classes)**

Teaching Staff:

Professor Eckart Goebel (eg76@nyu.edu)/ Chair, German Department/ 19 University Place, Room 334; office hours: Mon 10:00-12:00

Preceptors:

Erica Weitzman (ericaweitzman@yahoo.com)
Thomas Stachel (thomas.stachel@nyu.edu)

Readings and Written Requirements:

All texts must be read by the day they are assigned. Please bring books/reading materials to class on assigned day. You are responsible for changes in the syllabus and extra readings that are announced in class.

The written requirements for the course consist in two in-class examinations as well as two 5-page papers, with topics and guidelines to be distributed in advance.

Grading:

Grades will be comprised of the following components

- * Each 5-page paper (x 2) is worth 20% (=40% total)
- * Midterm examination is worth 15%
- * Final examination is worth 20%
- * Attendance and participation is worth 25%

Attendance:

Attendance at all lectures and recitations is mandatory and will be taken every meeting. You are allowed 3 absences (excused or unexcused) from the lectures and 1 (excused or unexcused) from recitations; subsequent absences will adversely affect your grade. For all meetings, please arrive on time; an attendance roster will be circulated shortly after the beginning of each class. If you do not arrive at class in time to sign the attendance sheet, you will be recorded as absent. Additionally, if you are seen to leave the lecture room after signing the attendance roster but before the lecture is over, your name will be struck from the attendance roster for that day. Please speak with your preceptor *before class begins* if you need to dismiss yourself before the end of lecture. Each lecture will offer the possibility for questions and discussion.

Formatting Requirements for Papers:

Length: 5 pages double-spaced

Page Format: All essays are to be typed, double-spaced, with standard margins (1" top/bottom; 1/4" left/right) on 8 1/2 x 11" white paper. Please print on only one side of the sheet.

Standard Font: Times or Times New Roman 12 Point

Page numbers: All papers must include printed page numbers.

Staple Pages: All papers should be bound together with a single staple in the upper left-hand corner. Do not submit papers bound in folders or binders. Do not use paper clips.

No Title Page: A title page is not necessary. Please place all identifying information at the top of the first page of your paper. You can give your paper a title if you wish.

Paper Headings: Please put your name, the name of the course, the time of your recitation (i.e. "8:00 – 9:15", etc.) and the name of your preceptor as well as the due date of the assignment in the upper left-hand corner of the first page. All header information should be single-spaced.

Your heading should look like this:

Your Name

Sublimation & Desire

Section Time (Preceptor's Name) [example: 8:00 – 9:15 (Stachel)]

Due Date: _____

Book Titles and Proper Names: It is standard practice to italicize the titles of books and major dramatic works. Such titles are never placed in quotation marks. The titles of essays and short works of fiction, however, (short stories) must be placed in quotation marks. The Bible must be capitalized but need not be italicized. The various books of the Bible should be italicized: e.g., *Ecclesiastes*.

No essays will be accepted via email; all work must be printed and submitted in class.