

Instructor: Stefan Höppner

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11 am – Noon or by appointment, 218C Craigie Hall

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Sigmund Freud and Friedrich Nietzsche (Revised, January 23, 2014)

Nietzsche (1844-1900) and Freud (1856-1939) have shaped 20th outlook on the world like few other Western thinkers. In this class, we will read and discuss some of their key texts and their impact on general culture from a cultural studies point of view. In addition we will read Sophocles' ancient Greek tragedy King Oedipus, a key text for both authors, but for entirely different reasons, as well as selected texts, songs, and films that bear witness to the impact of both authors. Discussion and readings will be entirely in English, although majors and Graduate students in the Department of Linguistics, Languages, and Literatures German Programs are certainly encouraged to read Nietzsche's and Freud's texts in the original. German majors and graduate students as well as native speakers of German may also submit their essays in that language.

The following texts are available at the U of C bookstore. All of them are required.

1. Freud, Sigmund. *The Freud Reader*. Ed. Peter Gay. London; New York: W.W. Norton, 1989. (FR)
2. Nietzsche, Friedrich. *Thus Spoke Zarathustra: A Book for Everyone and No One*. Trans. R. J. Hollingdale. London: Penguin, 2003. (Z)
3. Nietzsche, Friedrich. *Basic Writings of Nietzsche*. Trans. Walter Kaufmann. Introd. Peter Gay. New York: The Modern Library, 2000. (BW)

Additional texts will be made available via Blackboard. If you read German well enough, you are encouraged to read the main authors in the original. A critical edition of Nietzsche's works is available at <http://www.nietzschesource.org/>. Freud's texts can be found on <http://www.projekt.gutenberg.de/autor/182> and <http://www.textlog.de/sigmund-freud-gesammelte-werke-1893-1939.html>, but both sites are incomplete.

Markings		Grading	
Class participation	30%	A+ = 100-97%	C+ = 70-67%
2 Essays	30%	A = 96-91%	C = 66-62%
Final	40%	A - = 90-86%	C- = 61-58%
		B+ = 85-81%	D+ = 57-54%
		B = 80-76%	D = 53-50%
		B- = 75-71%	F = 49% and below

Participation and attendance: Class discussion is a key factor in this course. Attendance is mandatory; unexcused absences will result in a lower participation grade. The quality of the sessions will depend upon your preparedness and willingness to engage with each other. You must have read and thought about the required readings before coming to class. You will need to read the assigned course material, and attempt to come to a preliminary understanding of the material we will discuss in class. Needless to say, you should own a copy of the course books and print out and mark up any additional readings. Please note that you do not have to have understood everything you have read to make a valuable contribution. Expressing doubts, disagreements, and asking for clarification is a useful way of contributing to discussion. Your class participation mark will be based on the quality rather than the quantity of your contribution. Dominating discussion without listening to others will damage your grade. Also, it is essential that all participants treat each other with respect and courtesy. Students who feel unable to actively engage in classroom discussion must bring their concerns to the instructor's attention early so that an alternative strategy to ensure adequate performance can be sought. Unexplained absences will be penalized up to a loss of a full letter on the final grade. Also, please don't use electronic devices during class, as using them might distract yourself as well as those around you (that, of course, does not include computer use when directed by the instructor).

Essays: You will be required to write two response essays (2-3 pages each, letter-sized paper, Times New Roman font 12 pt, double-spaced) to the texts discussed in this class, or an aspect of these texts. Topics should be discussed with the instructor beforehand, either after class, during office hours, or via e-mail. You will be expected to give your personal opinion on a text, including but not limited to things like your personal attitude towards the argument put forth, its historical context etc. To make sure your impressions are still fresh, please turn in your essay no more than a week after we discussed a specific text. Make sure you spread the essays across term so you don't have to cram during the last few weeks before the final. To avoid the common "Yikes, I haven't finished all my assignments yet" end-of-term pile-up, you may only turn in one essay during the last two weeks of the semester. By turning in an essay, you certify that the work is your own; that you have given proper credit and citation to the work of others; and that you have not committed any other form of plagiarism or academic dishonesty. Any case of plagiarism will result in a failing grade and possible consequences up to expulsion from U of C. For definitions of plagiarism, please see the course calendar. Students are required to complete all assignments in order to receive a passing grade in this course.

Final: The Final Examination (90 minutes) will be scheduled by the Registrar during April 19-30, 2013. Requests for pre-assignment of examinations to special dates for whatever cause or reason cannot be accommodated (sorry, it's the Registrar's decision, not mine). Similarly, changes in the dates of scheduled examinations cannot be approved. No exceptions will be made to the Examinations Timetable. Detailed information on the structure and content of the final will be given in class, probably no later than early March.

Syllabus

	Tuesday	Thursday
Week 1 January 9	NO CLASS (Block Week)	Introduction
Week 2 January 14/16	Friedrich Nietzsche / Some Key Concepts and a few short texts	Friedrich Nietzsche – <i>Ecce Homo</i> (BW 657-714)
Week 3 January 21/23	Friedrich Nietzsche – <i>Ecce Homo</i> (BW 715-791)	Sophocles – <i>King Oedipus</i> (Blackboard)
Week 4 January 28/30	Friedrich Nietzsche - <i>The Birth of Tragedy</i> , Translator's Introduction, Sections 1-6 (BW 3-13, 33-56)	Friedrich Nietzsche – <i>The Birth of Tragedy</i> , Sections 7-10 (BW 56-76)
Week 5 February 4/6	Friedrich Nietzsche – <i>The Birth of Tragedy</i> , Sections 11-15 (BW 76-98)	Friedrich Nietzsche – <i>The Birth of Tragedy</i> , Sections 16-25 (BW 98-144)
Week 6 February 11/13	Friedrich Nietzsche – Changing Views on <i>The Birth of Tragedy</i> (BW 31-32, 17-27, 726-729)	Friedrich Nietzsche – <i>The Case of Wagner</i> (BW 609-653)
Week 7 February 18/20	NO CLASS (Reading Week)	NO CLASS (Reading Week)
Week 8 February 25/27	Friedrich Nietzsche – <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra</i> : Introduction and Prologue (Z 9-53)	Friedrich Nietzsche – <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra I</i> (Z 54-104)
Week 9 March 4/6	Friedrich Nietzsche – <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra II</i> (Z 105-169)	Friedrich Nietzsche – <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra III</i> (Z 171-247)
Week 10 March 11/13	Friedrich Nietzsche – <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra IV</i> (Z 249-336)	Stanley Kubrick – <i>2001: A Space Odyssey</i> as a Nietzsche adaptation
Week 11 March 18/20	Sigmund Freud – <i>An Autobiographical Study</i> (FR 3-41)	Sigmund Freud – <i>Five Lectures on Psychoanalysis</i> , p. 1-13 (Blackboard)
Week 12 March 25/27	Sigmund Freud – <i>Five Lectures on Psychoanalysis</i> , p. 13-31 (Blackboard)	Sigmund Freud – <i>On Dreams</i> (FR 142-172)
Week 13 April 1/3	Sigmund Freud – <i>Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality</i> (FR 239-293)	Sigmund Freud – <i>Totem and Taboo</i> (FR 481-513)
Week 14 April 8/10	Sigmund Freud – <i>Civilization and its Discontents</i> (FR 722-772)	Sigmund Freud in Pop Songs / Woody Allen – <i>Oedipus Wrecks</i> (from <i>New York Stories</i>)
Week 15 or 16 (April 17-29)	Final exam: Time and date to be announced	

Note: All Nietzsche texts as well all Freud texts except one can be found in the required books. Freud's *Five Lectures on Psychoanalysis* and Sophocles' *King Oedipus* are available through Blackboard; *2001: A Space Odyssey* and *New York Stories* will be available on Reserve at TFDL from March 1 to April 30.