

Syllabus
PT 159 Unconscious Fantasy
J. Wade Fall 2018

Thu. 5:30-7:30
CMPS: 30 Clock Hours
NYGSP: 2 Credits

Course Description

Unconscious fantasy as it operates between drive pressure and reality is studied. Manifestations of unconscious fantasy are explored through literature, myth, clinical material, in the somatic realm and in seemingly “rational” thought. Readings will include the theoretical controversies that have grown up around this concept, which is basic to psychoanalytic thinking.

Objectives

The student will be able to:

- compare and contrast various psychoanalytic perspectives on unconscious fantasy;
- examine the relationship of unconscious fantasy to transference, resistance and the creative process;
- explore the ways in which sex and aggression are expressed in unconscious fantasy; and
- identify the language of the unconscious as it appears in myths, dreams, works of art and in psychic symptoms.

Course Requirements

- Class logs should be sent as an email to mswadejennifer@gmail.com
- A final paper that explores a particular question or area of interest sparked by class content.

Methods of Evaluation

- Participation in discussions and class process
- Logs that contribute significantly to the student’s learning
- Final paper

Students will need to purchase the book *The infinite question* (Bollas) for Classes 9-11. A copy will also be on reserve.

To access full text documents from the PEP links, you’ll need to first log into your PEP account.

Assigned Readings

Class 1

Likierman, M. (2001). ‘Figures wholly divorced from reality’– The departure from Freud. In *Melanie Klein: Her work in context* (pp. 65-84). London, England: Continuum.

Likierman, M. (2001). ‘This unreal reality’– Klein’s concept of phantasy. In *Melanie Klein: Her work in context* (pp. 136-143). London, England: Continuum.

Class 2

Weiss, H. (2017). Unconscious phantasy as a structural principle and organizer of mental life: The evolution of a concept from Freud to Klein and some of her successors. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 98, 799-819.
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/1745-8315.12587> (will work on campus only)

Class 3

Segal, H. (1957). Notes on symbol formation. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 38, 391-397.
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=ijp.038.0391a>

Ogden, T.H. (2011). Reading Susan Isaacs: Toward a radically revised theory of thinking. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 92, 925-942.
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=ijp.092.0925a>

Class 4

Eigen, M. (1975-76). The differentiation of an androgynous imago. *Psychoanalytic Review*, 62, 601-613.
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=psar.062.0601a>

Ogden, T. (1985). On potential space. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 66, 129-141.
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=ijp.066.0129a>

Class 5

Geltner, P. (2005). Countertransference in projective identification and sadomasochistic states. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 30(1), 73-91.
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=mppsa.030a.0073a>

McDougall, J. (1995). Sexuality and the creative process. In *The many faces of Eros* (pp. 53-68). New York, NY: W. W. Norton.

Class 6

Lear, J. (2002). Jumping from the couch. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 83, 583-595.
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=ijp.083.0583a>

Meadow, P. W. (2000). Creating psychic change in analysis. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 25, 3-22.
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=mppsa.025.0003a>

Class 7

Trosman, H. (1990). Transformations of unconscious fantasy in art. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 38, 47-59.
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=apa.038.0047a>

Class 8

Eigen, M. (1981). Comments on snakes symbolism and mind-body relations. *American Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 41, 73-79.
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=ajp.041.0073a>

McDougall, J. (1995). From the silence of soma to the words of the psyche. In *The many faces of Eros* (pp. 153-167). New York, NY: W. W. Norton.

Class 9

Bollas, C. (2009). *The infinite question* (pp. 19-32, next read 156-160, then read 33-54). New York, NY: Routledge.

Class 10

Bollas, C. (2009). *The infinite question* (pp. 161-166, then read 55-74). New York, NY: Routledge.

Zerbe, K. J. (1985). "Your feet's too big": An inquiry into psychological and symbolic meanings of the foot. *Psychoanalytic Review*, 72, 301-314.

<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=psar.072.0301a>

Class 11

Bollas, C. (2009). *The infinite question* (pp. 167-178, then read 75-118, 119-138). New York, NY: Routledge.

Class 12

Ogden, T. H. (1999). 'The music of what happens' in poetry and psychoanalysis. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 80, 979-994.

<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=ijp.080.0979a>

Additional Readings and Resources

- Freud, S. (1955). The uncanny. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 17, pp. 217-252). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1919)
- Freud, S. (1964). Dreams and occultism. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 22, pp. 31-56). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1933)
- Freud, S. (1958). The occurrence in dreams of material from fairy tales. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 12, pp. 279-287). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1913)
- Freud, S. (1961). Dreams. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 15, pp. 83-233). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1916)
- Freud, S. (1960). Psychopathology of everyday life. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 6, pp. 1-239). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1901)
- Laquercia, T. (1998). Symbolic imagery: An aspect of un verbalized communication. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 23, 23-33.
- Laquercia, T. (2005). Listening with the intuitive ear. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 30, 60-72.
- Lecours, S., & Bouchard, M.-A. (1997). Dimensions of mentalization: Outlining levels of psychic transformation. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 78, 855-875.
- Levy, S. T., & Inderbitzin, L. B. (2001). Fantasy and psychoanalytic discourse. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 82, 795-804.
- Lombardi, R. (2002). Primitive mental states and the body: A personal view of Armando B. Ferrari's Concrete Original Object. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 83, 363-381.
- Lyon, K. A. (2003). Unconscious fantasy: Its scientific status and clinical utility. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 51, 957-967.
- McDougall, J. (1991). Scenes from psychic life. In *Theaters of the mind* (pp. 40-64). New York, NY: Brunner Mazel.
- Mitrani, J. (1996). Toward an understanding of unmentalized experience. In *A framework for the imaginary* (pp. 205-247). Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson.
- Rothman, R. (2011). When the body does the talking. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 36, 4-28.
- Shapiro, T., & Inderbitzin, L. B. (1989). Unconscious fantasy. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 37, 823-835.