

**Lecture
Reading Theory**

**Wed. 14.00-15.45
Prof. Elisabeth Bronfen**

(1./ 18.2) Introduction: Walter Benjamin and the writing of modernity
--* “Die Aufgabe des Übersetzers”, “Über den Begriff der Geschichte”, “Denkbilder”,
“Der Erzähler” (in *Illuminationen*)

SIGMUND FREUD: PSYCHOANALYSIS, GENDER AND CULTURAL THEORY

(2./ 25.2) Psychoanalytic hermeneutics
--* “Über Deckerinnerungen” (GW 1), “Der Dichter und das Phantasieren” (GW 7),
“Der Familienroman des Neurotikers” (GW 7), “Zeitgemässes über Krieg und Tod”
(GW 10), “Das Motiv der Kästchenwahl” (GW 10), “Notiz über den Wunderblock”
(GW 14), “Die Verneinung” (GW 14)

(3./ 4.3) Hysteria and Dreamwork
-- *Studien zur Hysterie* (GW 1)
-- *Die Traumdeutung* (GW 2)

(4./11.3) Uncanny doubling of life and death
-- * “Das Unheimliche” (GW 12), “Jenseits des Lustprinzips” (GW 13)

(5./18.3) Culture and its barbarisms
-- *Das Unbehagen in der Kultur* (GW 14)

ROLAND BARTHES: FROM STRUCTURALISM TO POSTSTRUCTURALISM

(6./ 25.3) * “Introduction to the Structural Analysis of Narratives” (in *Barthes Reader*)

(7./1.4) Mythologies of culture
-- *Mythologies*, * “Myth Today”

(8./15.4) *SZ*: reading and writing for pleasure

(9./22.4) Life Writing: *Camera Lucida* and *The Preparation of the Novel*

(10./ 29.4) Class Exam

THE FEMINIST INTERVENTION

(11./ 6.5) Julia Kristeva: Maternity sublime and horrible
--* “Motherhood according to Giovanni Bellini” (in *Desire in Language*), “Stabat
Mater” (in *Tales of Love*) and “Powers of Horror” (in *Portable Kristeva*)

(12./ 13.5) Shoshana Felman: Rereading sexual difference
-- *"Textuality and the Riddle of Bisexuality: Balzac", "The Girl with the Golden Eyes", and "Competing Pregnancies: The Dream from which Psychoanalysis Proceeds"
(in *Felman Reader*)

(13./20.5) Barbara Johnson: Literary monstrosities
-- *"My Monster/ My Self", "The Last Man" (in *A Life with Mary Shelley*)

(14./ 27.5) Judith Butler: Reiterating sexual difference
-- *Introduction and chapter one in *Bodies that Matter*

All * texts are available on OLAT.

Bibliography

- Barthes, Roland. (1957). *Mythologies*. Hill and Wang 1972.
-- (1970). *S/Z*. Hill and Wang 1974.
-- (1980). *Camera Lucida*. Hill and Wang 1981.
-- (2003). *The Preparation of the Novel*. Columbia University Press 2011.
- Benjamin, Walter (1955). *Illuminationen. Ausgewählte Schriften*. Suhrkamp Verlag 1977.
- Butler, Judith. *Bodies that Matter*. Routledge 1993.
- Feuerstein, Melissa et. al. (eds.). *The Barbara Johnson Reader. The Surprise of Otherness*. Duke University Press 2014.
- Freud, Sigmund (1895). *Studien zur Hysterie. Gesammelte Werke* 1. S. Fischer Verlag 1952.
-- (1900). *Die Traumdeutung. Gesammelte Werke* 2. S. Fischer Verlag 1942.
-- (1919). "Das Unheimliche". *Gesammelte Werke* 12. S. Fischer Verlag 1947.
-- (1920). "Jenseits des Lustprinzips". *Gesammelte Werke* 13. S. Fischer Verlag 1940.
-- (1930). *Das Unbehagen in der Kultur. Gesammelte Werke* 14. S. Fischer Verlag 1948.
- Johnson, Barbara. *A Life with Mary Shelley*. Stanford University Press 2014.
- Kristeva, Julia. *Desire in Language. A Semiotic Approach to Literature and Art*. New York: Columbia University Press 1980.
-- *Tales of Love*. Columbia University Press 1987.
- Oliver, Kelly (ed.) *The Portable Kristeva*. Columbia University Press 1997.
- Sontag, Susan (ed.) *A Barthes Reader*. Hill and Wang 1982.
- Sun, Emily et. al. (eds.) *The Claims of Literature. A Shoshana Felman Reader*. University Press 2007.