

Religion 255  
Depth Psychologies and Religious Ethics

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Fall, 2009  
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Tues. 5-6 pm, 514 HL  
Wed. 4-5 pm, 514 HL

This course invites you to look at your own dreams, loves, conflicts, moral beliefs and religious practices, and those of people around you, from the perspective of unconscious passions. Drawing on the clinical findings of Freud, Jung, Fromm, Erikson and contemporary psychoanalysts, the course investigates how these clinicians explored the unconscious mind and how it influences our behavior. The guidance these depth psychological theories and modes of self-exploration offer regarding how to live and what to believe are considered alongside their findings about typical psychic disorders.

Evaluation: Grades will be based on (1) two in-class examinations on **Oct 6** and **Oct 29**; (2) the final examination; (3) a 5 page written dream interpretation due **Oct. 20**; (4) class participation, reflection papers and unannounced in-class written assignments. Text messaging, in addition to being rude, dilutes your attention from class participation and will lower your final grade. The final exam is scheduled for Friday, **December 18**: 2:45-4:45.

**Reserve Articles available on Blackboard** – Several articles used in this class are available online under REL 255 on Blackboard.

### **Class Schedule and Reading Assignments**

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|-------|---|---|
| Sept. | 1 | Introduction and Overview   |
| Sept. | 3 | <p><b>Sigmund Freud and the Foundations of Psychoanalysis</b></p> <p>Freud, Sigmund. <i>Interpretation of Dreams</i>, ch. 2 and ch. 6, Sections A (pp. 311-319), B (pp. 340-344) E (pp. 385-395) and I (pp.526-531)</p>   |
| Sept. | 8 | <p><b>Psychoanalytic Theories</b></p> <p>Wallwork, E. "Sigmund Freud: The Psychoanalytic Diagnosis: Infantile Illusion." In Roger Johnson and Ernest Wallwork, et al., <u>Critical Issues in Modern Religion</u>, second edition (1991), ch 5, pp. 118-131.</p> |

- Sept. 10     **Freud’s Analysis of Religion**  
 Wallwork, E. “Sigmund Freud: The Psychoanalytic Diagnosis...,”  
 in Critical Issues, pp. 131-138.
- Sept. 15     Video and Discussion
- Sept. 17     **Freud on Determinism and Responsibility**  
 Wallwork, E. Psychoanalysis and Ethics, ch. 3, pp. 49-58; ch. 4,  
 pp. 75-100.
- Sept. 22     **Freud on Morality and Ethics**  
 Freud, S. *Civilization and Its Discontents*, chs. 2 and 5.  
 “Rabbinic Commentary on the Love Commandment” and “Christian  
 Commentary on the Love Commandment.”
- Sept. 24     **C.G. Jung: On the Unconscious**  
 Storr, A., ed., *The Essential Jung*, pp.13-27, 65-68, 71-74, 84-85.
- Sept. 29     **C.G. Jung: On Religion**  
 Storr, Essential Jung, pp. 87-102, 118-127, 229-249.
- Oct. 1       **A Jungian Ethic**  
 Neumann, Erich, *Depth Psychology and a New Ethic*, chs 4-5, pp. 76-135.
- Oct. 6       **First Exam**
- Oct. 8       **Erich Fromm: Post Freudian Humanistic Psychology**  
 Fromm, Erich *Psychoanalysis and Religion*
- Oct. 13     **Fromm on Character and Religion**  
 Fromm, Erich *Psychoanalysis and Religion*
- Oct. 15     **Frommian Ethics**  
 Fromm, Erich. *The Art of Loving*, ch. 2, parts 2-2, 3d (p.32-53)

- Oct. 20 **Paul Tillich: Theological Existentialism and Psychoanalysis**  
Johnson and Wallwork, *Critical Issues in Modern Religion*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, pp. 364-378.
- Oct. 22 **Dream Papers Due**  
**Tillichian Ethics**  
Tillich, "Being and Love," in Tillich, Paul, *Love, Power and Justice*, ch2 (pp.18-34)
- Oct. 27 **Erik Erikson: Psychoanalytic Ego Psychology**  
Wallwork, "Erik Erikson," in Johnson and Wallwork, *Critical Issues in Modern Religion*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, ch 10, pp 178-191.
- Oct. 29 **Erikson on Psychosocial Development**  
Wallwork, "Erik Erikson," in *Critical Issues*, pp. 183-191 (review).
- Nov. 3 **Second Exam**
- Nov. 5 **Erikson on Religion**  
Wallwork, "Erik Erikson," in *Critical Issues*, 191-203.
- Nov. 10 **Erikson's Religious and Ethical Ideals**  
Wallwork, "Erik Erikson," in *Critical Issues*, ch. 191-210.
- Nov. 12 **Erikson on Gandhi**  
Erik Erikson, Gandhi's Truth, Part III, ch. 1, pp. 229-254.
- Nov. 17 Film: "Professor Erik Erikson, Part II"
- Nov. 19-24 **Religious Groups**  
Freud, S. *Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego*, chs 4-8 and 12
- Nov. 26 **Thanksgiving**

- Dec. 1     **Religious Gurus**  
           S. Kakar, “The Guru as Healer,” in S. Kakar, Analyst and Mystic, ch. 2, pp. 35-54.
- Dec. 3     **“Illusion” in Contemporary Psychoanalysis**  
           Meissner, W.W. “Religion in Psychoanalytic Perspective,” in his Psychoanalysis and Religious Experience,” ch.7, pp. 160-184.
- Dec. 8     **Psychoanalysis and Religion Today**  
           Ernest and Anne Wallwork, “Psychoanalysis and Religion: Current Status of a Historical Antagonism,” in Joseph Smith and Susan Handelman, ed, Psychoanalysis and Religion, ch. 9, pp. 160-169.
- Dec. 10    Review

#### Textbooks Available for Purchase

- Freud, Sigmund. *Interpretation of Dreams*. ISBN 0-380-01000-3
- Freud, S., *Civilization and Its Discontents*. Paper. Ww. Norton. ISBN 0-393-30158-3
- Fromm, Erich. *Psychoanalysis and Religion*. New Haven: Yale University Press. ISBN 0-300-00089-8
- Storr, A., ed., *The Essential Jung*. Princeton University Press, Princeton Paperback. ISBN 0-691-02455-3
- Neumann, Erich, *Depth Psychology and a New Ethic* 06-131777-2 [I don't think this is in print any more.]
- Johnson and Wallwork, *Critical Issues in Modern Religion*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. ISBN 0-13-193996-3

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