

**Syllabus**  
**PT 162 History of Drive Theory in Freud**  
**W. Hurst Spring 2020**

**Thu. 3:30-5:30**  
**NYGSP: 2 Credits**

**Course Description**

Freud's later papers are studied: the dual drive theory and the repetition compulsion; the division of the psyche into ego, id and superego; the sources of anxiety; the effects of innate destructiveness on the prospects for civilization; interminable analysis; and Freud's final summing-up of the state of analysis in 1939. The continuing influence of these papers on contemporary thought is examined in relation to the current treatment methods and the appreciation of the role of destructive aggression.

**Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- explain the history and development of drive theory in Freud's thought with special focus on his final dual drive theory;
- demonstrate an ability to "read" psychoanalysis "backwards," by discussing how concepts such as "narcissism," "eros," and "death drive" affect the earlier notions of "libido," "self-preservative drives," ego drives," and "object drives";
- conceptualize the significance of the death drive and aggression for the understanding and treatment of narcissistic disorders;
- discuss dual drive theory in relation to two or three post Freudian psychoanalytic "takes" on death in the psychoanalytic encounter as well as in the structuring of the mind.

**Course Requirements**

- **Class attendance:**  
Students are expected to attend all classes. Credit will not be given to students who have more than two absences. When feasible, notification of an intended absence is expected prior to the class that will be missed.
- **Class preparation:** Students will be expected to study the required readings before class and be prepared to discuss them.
- **Class Presentation:** Each student will be assigned a reading for class presentation. This presentation should include the following:
  1. A brief introduction clarifying the focus of the presentation;
  2. definitions of any perhaps unfamiliar theoretical or technical terminology;
  3. explanations of any new concepts from the assigned reading which relates them to the subject matter of the course;
  4. invitations of questions and comments from the class with appropriate responses.
- **12 Written Logs** (approximately 250 words by email), one log to be completed soon after each class meeting and emailed at least a day before the next class meeting.  
A log is a private communication to the instructor enumerating:
  1. thoughts, feelings, and reactions from the previous class regarding course content and observation of class dynamics;
  2. a short critique of the assigned reading for the class;

3. for the final log, a self-evaluation of how you met the course requirements.  
[These logs make clear that you have read and engaged with the readings. Questions and comments from the logs may serve as a springboard for class discussion]
- **A Term Paper** written on a topic of the student's choosing, related to the emergence of Freud's last dual drive theory. This paper should address the question: "Why a death drive?" It should also show some ability to move freely among the areas aimed at in the objectives of the course. The paper should be of a length of at least 5 double-spaced pages, but no more than 8 double-spaced pages. It should be written in APA format.

### **Grading**

Students may receive a Pass (P), Low Pass (LP), Incomplete (I), No Credit (NC). Students are evaluated on the basis of attendance, class participation and the ability to understand, integrate and communicate material from the readings and class discussions. This understanding is demonstrated in classroom discussion, in the assigned class presentation, and by the quality of writing in the logs and in the term paper.

#### **To earn a grade of "Pass," the student**

- Misses no more than two class meetings.
- Demonstrates understanding of the course subject matter in class, including the class presentation.
- Submits 12 logs.
- Demonstrates understanding of the course subject matter in the logs.
- Submits assignments on time.
- Submits a well-developed term paper that meets all criteria requested.

#### **To receive a grade of "Low Pass," the student**

- Misses no more than two class meetings.
- Submits 12 logs.
- Demonstrates one or more of the following:
  - Minimal participation in class
  - Problematic/disruptive participation in class
  - Minimal understanding of the course subject matter in class discussion or presentation.
  - All assignments are completed but some are submitted late.
  - Term paper is incompletely developed, some but not all of criteria are met, and/or relevant psychoanalytic theories are poorly integrated
  - Logs do not regularly address the two stated criteria

#### **To receive a grade of "Incomplete," the student**

- Does not submit acceptable written work by the last class meeting of the semester.

#### **To receive "No Credit," the student**

- Does not submit acceptable written work within 30 days after the end of the semester *or*
- Regularly exhibits disruptive behavior that interferes with the functioning of the class *or*
- Misses more than two classes.

### **Academic Honesty:**

All students are expected to respect the highest standards of academic integrity. The Graduate School considers it a violation of the requirements of intellectual responsibility to submit work that is not one's own or otherwise to subvert the conditions under which academic work is performed by oneself or by others. Violation may lead to failing a course, academic probation, or in repeated cases, suspension or expulsion.

## Texts

Freud, S. (various). J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vols. 14, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 23). London, England: Hogarth Press.

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

## Assigned Readings

### Class 1

Freud, S. (1916). On transience. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 14, pp. 303-307). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1915)

<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=se.014.0000a>

Pinsky, E. (2017). Physic himself must fade. In *Death and fallibility in the psychoanalytic encounter* (pp. 6-25). Oxford, UK: Routledge.

### Class 2

Cooper, S. H. (2016). Ruin and beauty II: The analyst's experience and resistance to grief and sense of limitation in the analytic process. *An analyst's experience of the depressive position: The melancholic errand of psychoanalysis* (pp. 29-45). Oxford, UK: Routledge.

Freud, S. (1957). Mourning and melancholia. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 14, pp. 239-258). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1915)

<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=se.014.0000a>

### Class 3

Freud, S. (1930). *Civilization and its discontents*, Parts VI and VII. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 21, pp. 117-133). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1930)

<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=se.021.0000a>

Green, A. (1999). Masochism(s) and narcissism. In *The work of the negative* (A. Weller, Trans.) (pp. 102-115). London, England: Free Association Books.

### Class 4

Freud, S. (1955). Beyond the pleasure principle (Parts I-V). In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 18, pp. 7-43). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1920)

<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=se.018.0000a>

May, U. (2018). Thinking up the death drive. In *Freud at work: On the history of psychoanalytic theory and practice, with an analysis of Freud's patient record books* (B. Mathes, Trans.) (pp. 167-181). London, England: Routledge.

### Class 5

Freud, S. (1955). Beyond the pleasure principle (Parts VI-VII). In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 18, pp. 44-64). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1920)

<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=se.018.0000a>

Hurst, W. (2014). The repetition compulsion, the repetition automatism; the insistence of the signifying chain. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 39, 38-55.

<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=mpsa.039.0038a>

### Class 6

- Freud, S. (1961). The ego and the id (Parts I-III). In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 19, pp. 12-39). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1923)  
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=se.019.0000a>
- Spotnitz, H. (1985). Discovering new truths: How to channel destructivity. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 10, 5-12.  
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=mps.010.0005a>

### Class 7

- Freud, S. (1961). The ego and the id (Parts IV-V). In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 19, pp. 40-59). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1923)  
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=se.019.0000a>
- Van Haute, P. (2002). The symbolic and the imaginary. In *Against adaptation: Lacan's "subversion" of the subject, a close reading* (P. Crowe and M. Vanker, Trans.) (pp. 79-100). New York, NY: Other Press.

### Class 8

- Freud, S. (1959). Inhibitions, symptoms, and anxiety. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 20, pp. 78-131). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1925-26)  
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=se.020.0000a>
- Mawson, C. (2019). Anxiety, communication and the mind: Freud's work of the specific action. In *Psychoanalysis and anxiety: From knowing to being* (pp. 35-42). London, England: Routledge,

### Class 9

- Freud, S. (1959). Inhibitions, symptoms, and anxiety. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 20, pp. 132-175). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1925-26).  
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=se.020.0000a>
- Mawson, C. (2019). Melanie Klein: The primary projective process and two forms of anxiety. In *Psychoanalysis and anxiety: From knowing to being* (pp. 43-57). London, England: Routledge.

### Class 10

- Bion, W. R. (2014). *The Brazilian lectures*. In C. Mawson (Ed.), *The complete works of W. R. Bion* (Vol. 7, pp. 7-16). London, England: Karnac. (Original work published 1973)
- Freud, S. (1964). An outline of psycho-analysis (Part I). In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 23, pp. 144-171). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1940)  
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=se.023.0000a>

## Class 11

- Freud, S. (1964). An outline of psycho-analysis (Parts II and III). In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 23, pp. 172-207). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1940)  
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=se.023.0000a>
- Green, A. (2005). Opening the way for a renewal of the theory: Subject line and object line. In *Key ideas for a contemporary psychoanalysis: Misrecognition and recognition of the unconscious* (A. Weller, Trans.) (pp. 111-124). London, England: Routledge.

## Class 12

- Freud, S. (1964). Analysis terminable and interminable. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 23, pp. 216-253). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1937)  
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=se.023.0000a>
- Lear, J. (2017). Eros and development. In *Wisdom won from illness: Essays in philosophy and psychoanalysis* (pp. 175-190). Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

## Additional Readings

- Anzieu, D. (2016). *The skin ego* (N. Segal, Trans.). London, England: Routledge. (Originally published in French 1995).
- Bion, W. R. (2006). Notes on the theory of schizophrenia. In *Second thoughts* (pp. 23-35). London, England: Karnac.
- Bion, W. R. (2006). Development of schizophrenic thought. In *Second thoughts* (pp. 36-42). London, England: Karnac.
- Bion, W. R. (2006). Differentiation of the psychotic from the non-psychotic personalities. In *Second thoughts* (pp. 43-64). London, England: Karnac.
- Bion, W. R. (2006). Attacks on linking. In *Second thoughts* (pp. 93-109). London and New York: Karnac.
- Cooper, S. H. (2016). The melancholic errand of psychoanalysis: Exploring the analyst's "good enough" experiences of repetition. In *An analyst's experience of the depressive position: The melancholic errand of psychoanalysis* (pp. 46-60). Oxford, UK: Routledge.
- Falcão, L. (2015). Death drive, destructive drive and the deobjectalizing function in the analytic process. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 96, 459-476.
- Freud, S. (1961). The economic problem of masochism (Part XI, Addenda A, B, and C). In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 19, pp. 157-170). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1924)
- Freud, S. (1957). Thoughts for the times on war and death. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 14, pp. 273-300). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1915)
- Green, A. (2010). The death drive: Meaning, objections, substitutes. In *Reading French psychoanalysis* (A. Weller, Trans.) (pp. 496-515). London, England: Routledge.
- Green, A. (2018). *The chains of eros* (L. Thurston, Trans.). Oxford, UK: Routledge. (Originally published in French 1997.)
- Hurst, W. J. (1999). *A man of many losses: A study of fantasy, loss, and illusion*. Unpublished manuscript.
- Lacan, J. Freud, Hegel, and the machine. In *The seminar of Jacques Lacan. Book II: The ego in Freud's theory and in the technique of psychoanalysis, 1954-1955* (S. Tomaselli, Trans.) (pp. 64-76). New York, NY: Norton,

- Lacan, J. (2006). The mirror stage as formative of the *I* function as revealed in psychoanalytic experience. In *Écrits* (B. Fink, Trans.) (pp. 75-81). New York, NY: Norton, (Originally published in French, 1966.)
- Lacan, J. (2006). The subversion of the subject and the dialectic of desire in the Freudian unconscious. In *Écrits* (B. Fink, Trans.) (pp. 671-702). New York, NY: Norton. (Originally published in French 1966.)
- Loewald, H. W. (1972). Freud's conception of the negative therapeutic reaction, with comments on instinct theory. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 20, 235-245.
- Loewald, H. W. (1973). On internalization. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 54, 9-17.
- May, U. (2018). How the concept of narcissism came into being. In *Freud at work: On the history of psychoanalytic theory and practice, with an analysis of Freud's patient record books* (D. Winter, Trans.) (pp. 3-39). London, England: Routledge.
- Meadow, P. W. (2000). Creating psychic change in analysis. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 25, 3-22.
- Meadow, P. W. (1996). Object relations in a drive theory model. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 21, 155-172.
- Sternbach, O. (1975). Aggression, the death drive and the problem of sadomasochism: A reinterpretation of Freud's second drive theory. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 56, 321-333.
- Yovell, Y. (2008). Is there a drive to love? *Neuropsychoanalysis*, 10, 117-144.