

LSHV 367 01
 Professor Ruf
 Fall 2018

Syllabus

Description

In the last two hundred years, Europeans and Americans have frequently used the notion of alienation in conceiving of themselves. In fact, we might characterize these two centuries as a time in which, paradoxically enough, humans' identity has been integrally linked with being, in some sense, 'strange.' The course will attempt to make sense of the many links and tensions between alienation and self-identity -- or strangeness and the self -- by examining strong voices in the development of the contemporary identity. While we will discuss all of the works in class, primary responsibility for composing a theory of the complex relationship between alienation and identity will rest upon the participants in the course. All written assignments will offer opportunities to articulate and develop those theories, as will class discussion and class presentations. The course will culminate in an examination of the artist Lucas Samaras for his modeling of the strange self.

Readings

Ralph Waldo Emerson, Divinity School Address and "Circles" (available on Blackboard)
 Friedrich Nietzsche, The Gay Science (Random, 1974) ISBN 0394719859 (selections, book to be purchased)

J.B. Pontalis, Love of Beginnings (Free Association Books, 1993) ISBN: 185343129X
 (selections, book to be purchased)

Virginia Woolf, To the Lighthouse (Harvest, 1989) ISBN: 0156907399 (book to be purchased)

Schedule

Class 1 (9/5)	Introduction and Theory: Selves Pluralistic and Strange The Common Sense Self of Mechanics, Medicine, and Technology PowerPoint presentation: Selves in Art (Vermeer, Casper David Friedrich, Picasso, Cindy Sherman, Lucas Samaras, Edward Hopper, Chuck Close)
Class 2 (9/12)	Emerson, The Divinity School Address
Class 3 (9/19)	Emerson, "Circles"
Class 4 (9/26)	Nietzsche, <u>The Gay Science</u> (paper #1 due) Reading: sections 1-4, 11-14, 19, 21, 23, 38, 43, 46, 48, 54-56, 57-58
Class 5 (10/3)	Nietzsche, <u>The Gay Science</u>

	Reading: sections 76, 107, 108-143, 276-285, 301, 340-41, 343-47, 370-71, 381-83
Class 6 (10/10)	Nietzsche
	Readings: Any sections not completed in previous classes
Class 7 (10/17)	Woolf, <u>To the Lighthouse</u> (paper #2 due)
	Reading: pp. 3 – 124
Class 8 (10/24)	Woolf, <u>To the Lighthouse</u>
	Reading: pp. 125 – end
Class 9 (10/31)	Woolf, <u>To the Lighthouse</u>
Class 10 (11/7)	Pontalis (paper #3 due)
	Reading: Chapters 1 – 5
Class 11 (11/14)	Pontalis
	Reading: Chapters 6, 7
Class 12 (11/21)	No Class (Thanksgiving)
Class 13 (11/28)	Pontalis
	Reading: Chapters 10 - 12
Class 14 (12/5)	Cindy Sherman (images available on Blackboard)
Dec. 19	Final Exam (take home: final exam question to be available on Blackboard at 6:30 pm and the completed exam is due by 9:30 pm)

Course Requirements

1. Class attendance (presence at the first class meeting is mandatory. Absences are not expected and more than one excused absence may result in the withdrawal of the student from the course. More than two absences would usually result in withdrawal from the course as sufficient contact hours would not be met to warrant the award of credit or grade.)
2. All readings
3. Three papers (5 pages long), taking a position on the most definitive element in the nature of the self, due after reading and discussing Emerson, Nietzsche, and Woolf
4. Final exam analyzing the photographs of Cindy Sherman for the “self” that is evident in them and tracing connections to the selves discussed in class during the semester. The exam is a take-home to be taken the evening of Dec. 19, between 6:30 and 9:30 pm. The question will be available via Blackboard that evening.

Grading

Short papers: 1/6 of final grade each
Class participation: 1/6 of final grade
Final Exam: 2/6 of final grade

Disabilities

If you are a student with a documented disability who requires accommodations or if you think you may have a disability and want to inquire about accommodations, please contact the Academic Resource Center at 202-687-8354 or arc@georgetown.edu.

Turnitin.com

Students acknowledge that by taking this course all required papers can be submitted for a Textual Similarity Review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the terms of use agreement posted on the Turnitin.com site.

Extreme weather, Emergencies, and Instructional Continuity

During inclement weather or other emergencies on a day when we are scheduled to meet face-to-face, check the university's Web site or call (202) 687-7669 for information on whether the university is open. If the university is open, this class will meet. If the university is closed, this class will meet through distance means such as online videoconferencing; check your e-mail for a message from me on how we will proceed in that situation. Due dates for written assignments submitted through Blackboard will not be changed due to campus closings.

The university recently has acquired the capability to send text messages and recorded messages about emergencies to cell phones and other mobile devices. Sign up on MyAccess.

Georgetown Honor System

All students are expected to follow Georgetown's honor code unconditionally. We assume you have read the honor code material located at <http://scs.georgetown.edu/academic-affairs/honor-code>, and in particular have read the following documents: Honor Council Pamphlet, What is Plagiarism, Sanctioning Guidelines, and Expedited Sanctioning Process. Papers in this course will all be submitted to turnitin.com for checking.

Submitting material in fulfillment of the requirements of this course means that you have abided by the Georgetown honor pledge:

In the pursuit of the high ideals and rigorous standards of academic life, I commit myself to respect and uphold the Georgetown Honor System: To be honest in any academic endeavor, and to conduct myself honorably, as a responsible member of the Georgetown community, as we live and work together.

Plagiarism

In accord with university policy, all incidents of suspected plagiarism or other Honor Code violations will be reported to the Honor Council without fail.

If the Honor Council finds that a student has plagiarized or has violated the Honor Code in any other way, the student may receive a grade of F for the course.

Policy Accommodating Students' Religious Observances

The following is university policy:

Georgetown University promotes respect for all religions. Any student who is unable to attend classes or to participate in any examination, presentation, or assignment on a given day because of the observance of a major religious holiday or related travel shall be excused and provided with the opportunity to make up, without unreasonable burden, any work that has been missed for this reason and shall not in any other way be penalized for the absence or rescheduled work. Students will remain responsible for all assigned work. Students should notify professors in writing at the beginning of the semester of religious observances that conflict with their classes.

Title IX at Georgetown

<https://titleix.georgetown.edu/>

Sexual Misconduct

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 ("Title IX") prohibits discrimination based on sex in any educational programs, which includes sexual harassment or any acts of sexual misconduct. Title IX requires the University, upon becoming aware of any incident of sexual harassment and misconduct to respond appropriately to protect and maintain the safety of the University community, including students, faculty, and staff.

Georgetown University prohibits sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, and stalking.

Discrimination based on sex, including sexual misconduct and discrimination based on pregnancy or parenting status, subverts the University's mission and threatens permanent damage to the educational experience, careers, and well-being of students, faculty, and staff.

Please know that as a faculty member I am committed to supporting survivors of sexual misconduct, including relationship violence and sexual assault. However, University policy also requires me to report any disclosures about sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator, whose role is to coordinate the University's response to sexual misconduct.

Georgetown has a number of fully confidential professional resources who can provide support and assistance to survivors of sexual assault and other forms of sexual misconduct. These resources include:

Jen Schweer, MA, LPC

Associate Director of Health Education Services for Sexual
Assault Response and Prevention
(202) 687-0323
jls242@georgetown.edu

Erica Shirley

Trauma Specialist
Counseling and Psychiatric Services
(CAPS)
(202) 687-6985
els54@georgetown.edu

More information about campus resources and reporting sexual misconduct can be found at:
<https://sexualassault.georgetown.edu/get-help>.

Pregnancy Adjustments and Accommodations

Georgetown University is committed to creating an accessible and inclusive environment for pregnant and parenting students. Students may request adjustments based on general pregnancy needs or accommodations based on a pregnancy-related complication. Specific adjustments will be handled on a case by case basis and will depend on medical need and academic requirements. Students seeking a pregnancy adjustment or accommodation should follow the process laid out at: <https://titleix.georgetown.edu/student-pregnancy>.

office: 113 New North
phone: (202) 687-6233 (o)

e-mail: rufb@georgetown.edu
Office hours: by appointment