CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
University Honors Program
One University Drive
Orange, CA  92866

COURSE SYLLABUS

HON 349          Spring 2013
Discontented Culture: Fantasy, Intimacy & The Talking Cure

Catalog Description:
Prerequisite: acceptance to the University Honors Program, or consent of instructor. Our lives are constantly engaged with negotiating conflict between our inner self and outer world. Why does trauma hold our cultural and individual attentions so readily? Why is talking and hearing about ourselves so seductive? We use 3 core psychoanalytic concepts as a methodology for cultural analysis against examples from popular culture (film, novels, music) - to ultimately ask are we contented only through our discontent? (Offered as needed.) 3 credits.

Honors Program Learning Outcomes:
Upon completing a course in the University Honors Program students will have:

a. Obtained a starting point for integrative exploration of the development of cultures and intellectual achievements through a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives;

b. Sharpened their ability to critically analyze and synthesize a broad range of knowledge through the study of primary texts and through engagement in active learning with fellow students, faculty, and texts (broadly understood);

c. Understood how to apply more integrative and interdisciplinary forms of understanding in the advancement of knowledge and in addressing complex challenges shaping the world;

d. Developed effective communication skills, specifically in the areas of written and oral exposition and analysis.

Course Learning Objectives:
Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify and discuss core psychoanalytical concepts from disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives as they consider the relationship of contentment and its representation within popular media and culture;

2. Analyze the foundational scientific method of psychoanalysis via selected primary texts of psychoanalysis;
3. Apply a critical interpretation of the psychoanalytic method as cultural methodology, emphasizing its philosophical attributes for visual and textual analysis;

4. Reflexively evaluate personal dream journals and deliver a psychoanalytic reading of popular media and/or culture;

5. Write a critically informed research paper that presents a specific and independent consideration of the interrelationship between psychoanalysis and culture.

**Content:**
This course is interested in exploring two key tenets of psychoanalysis. The first is a questioning of psychoanalysis’s relationship to culture - and to this end, I will introduce you to the basic premises of psychoanalysis. At the most basic level, we ask ‘what are the consequences from the negotiations between our inner and outer lives?’ The second will present you with a set of skills that allows you to adopt different viewpoint on socio-cultural aspects of life, being able to recognize the psychoanalytic elements of subjectivity and culture. To realize these aims here, you will need to read.

**Current Required Texts:**


**Instructional strategies:**

- Seminars, small group teaching, mini-lectures to establish a context and conceptual framework for course material.

- Visual Presentations: Short clips/sites from the web, films, and time-based media will be used.

**Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Progress Paper 20%. This assignment is aligned to Course Learning Objectives (CLO) 1 & 2.
2. Oral Presentation (in pairs) 25%. This assignment is aligned to CLOs 2, 3, 4
3. Collection of Essays, including 1 reflective personal dream analysis 25%. This assignment is aligned to CLOs 3, 4, 5.
4. Research Paper 30%. This assignment is aligned to CLOs 1-5.

Grading
A  95-100      C+    77-79
A-  90-94       C    74-76
B+  87-89       C-    70-73
B   84-86      D+    67-69
B-  80-83      D    64-66
      D-    60-63

**Assessment**
These assignments will be assessed with reference to
· your understanding of the topic
· your research (and its accurate citation), if appropriate to the question
· your argument, analysis and/or frame of reference
· your presentation, including written expression.

**Chapman University Academic Integrity Policy:**
The course syllabus should include the following statement:
Chapman University is a community of scholars which emphasizes the mutual responsibility of all members to seek knowledge honestly and in good faith. Students are responsible for doing their own work, and academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated anywhere in the university

**Students with Disabilities Policy:**
The course syllabus should include the following statement:
In compliance with ADA guidelines, students who have any condition, either permanent or temporary, that might affect their ability to perform in this class are encouraged to inform the instructor at the beginning of the term. The University, through the Center for Academic Success, will work with the appropriate faculty member who is asked to provide the accommodations for a student in determining what accommodations are suitable based on the documentation and the individual student needs. The granting of any accommodation will not be retroactive and cannot jeopardize the academic standards or integrity of the course.

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Prepared by: Kelli Fuery, January 2013

Last revised: Kelli Fuery, January 2013