

PACIFICA GRADUATE INSTITUTE

Depth Psychology Program
PhD I Fall 2001

Introduction to Depth Psychology DP 730
Instructor: Dr. Christine Downing

Office Hours: By appointment

COURSE SYLLABUS

A. Course Description

Psyche, logos, and depth were perhaps first brought together by Heraclitus when he wrote that “you could not find the ends of the soul though you traveled every way, so deep is its logos.” In this course we will consider as fully as we can the associations and images evoked by this recognition that the psyche has “depth. We will begin by looking at the roots of depth psychology in the mythology and the language of archaic and classical Greece and in shamanic healing traditions. We will then look at how Freud’s deep immersion in classical culture shaped his discovery of an unconscious dimension of the human soul whose most compelling analogue is Hades, the Greek underworld. This marks the beginning of “depth psychology” in the modern “scientific” sense. Jung’s “confrontation with the unconscious” led him to his own way of exploring and naming this “depth.” To my mind the most important continuation of these early twentieth century explorations is that undertaken by James Hillman. Our study of Freud, Jung, and Hillman is intended to help us remember that an engagement with the depth of the soul is a never-ending journey. .

In our first meeting we will spend the morning looking at depth psychology’s connections to Greek mythology and shamanic healing and then in the afternoon will begin to talk about Freud in a way designed to prepare you to recognize the “depth psychological” dimensions of his thinking when you start reading some of his own writing in preparation for our second meeting.

During our second session we will continue to talk about Freud but will also turn to the relation between Freud and Jung as a way of contextualizing your reading of Jung’s autobiography.

Our final session will begin with more discussion of Jung and then move on to archetypal psychology and the work of James Hillman. We will also consider my conviction that a psychology that is truly a “depth” psychology will always need to move *beyond* psychology.

Books to Purchase:

Ellenberger, Henri. F. *The Discovery of the Unconscious: The History and Evolution of Dynamic Psychiatry*. New York: Basic Books, 1981.

Bettelheim, Bruno. *Freud and Man's Soul*. NY: Vintage Books, 1984.

Jung, Carl Gustav, *Memories, Dreams, Reflections*. New York: Random House, 1989.

Hillman, James, *The Dream and the Underworld*. New York: HarperCollins, 1979.

B. Class Schedule and Readings

Session 1:

THE ROOTS OF DEPTH PSYCHOLOGY

REQUIRED READING:

Ellenberger, *The Discovery of the Unconscious*, at least ch. 1 (but chs. 2-5 are also relevant)

Bettelheim, *Freud and Man's Soul*

Required Xeroxed Materials:

Downing, Christine, "Journeys to the Underworld," *MythoSphere* 1:2, pp. 175-193..

Downing, Christine. "Sigmund Freud and the Greek Mythological Tradition." *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*. 43/1., pp. 1-14.

Downing, Christine, "Sigmund Freud's Mythology of Soul" in Dennis Slattery and Lionel Corbett, eds. , *Depth Psychology: Meditations in the Field*. Einsiedeln: Daimon Verlag, 2000, pp. 59-72.

Session 2:

FREUD AND JUNG

REQUIRED READING:

Ellenberger, *The Discovery of the Unconscious* , chs. 7, 9

Required Xeroxed Materials:

Freud, Sigmund. "The Question of Lay Analysis " in James Strachey, ed., *The Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*. London, Hogarth Press, 1953-1974, Vol. XX, pp. 183-258...

Freud, Sigmund. "Mourning and Melancholia," in James Strachey, ed., *The Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*. London, Hogarth Press, 1953-1974, Vol. XIV, pp. 243-258..

Freud, Sigmund. "Our Attitude Toward Death," in James Strachey, ed., *The Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*. London, Hogarth Press, 1953-1974, Vol. XIV, pp. 289-302..

Freud, Sigmund. "On Transcience," in James Strachey, ed., *The Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*. London, Hogarth Press, 1953-1974, Vol. XIV, pp. 305-307.

Downing, Christine, "ReVisioning Autobiography: The Bequest of Freud and Jung." *Soundings*, Summer 1077, pp. 210-228.

Session 3:
JUNG AND HILLMAN

REQUIRED READING:

Jung, *Memories, Dreams, Reflections*, Prologue and chs. 1,2, 5, 6, 10

Hillman, James, *The Dream and the Underworld*.

Required Xeroxed Materials:

Downing, Christine, "Beyond Psychology," paper presented at the "Psychology at the Threshold" Conference, to be included in volume of collected papers from the Conference edited by Dennis Slattery and Lionel Corbett

C. Course Requirements:

A well-written 10-15 page paper relating to a theme relevant to the focus of the course. You may discuss your proposed topic with the instructor on campus or by e-mail (crsrvr@orcasonline.com.)

Please include the course and group number on the paper *and* on the outside of the envelope (DP 730 PhD K1/L1)

• **K student papers (or Incompletes) must be postmarked on or before**

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• **J student papers (or Incompletes) must be postmarked on or before**

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Student papers should be mailed to:
Dr. Christine Downing

11 Discovery Way
Eastsound, WA 98245

Please send only by First Class or Priority Mail
NOT BY EXPRESS OR CERTIFIED MAIL OR BY FEDEX OR UPS

Incompletes:

Students are allowed three Incompletes per academic year. Should you choose to take an Incomplete in this class your work would need to be postmarked by March 14, 2001 for E students and March 28, 2001 for G students. When you complete the paper send it directly to the faculty *and include* a Grade Change Form.

REQUIRED BOOKS

Ellenberger, Henri. F. *The Discovery of the Unconscious: The History and Evolution of Dynamic Psychiatry*. New York: Basic Books, 1981.

Bettelheim, Bruno. *Freud and Man's Soul*. NY: Vintage Books, 1984.

Jung, Carl Gustav, *Memories, Dreams, Reflections*. New York: Random House, 1989.

Hillman, James, *The Dream and the Underworld*. New York: HarperCollins, 1979.

PHOTOCOPY REQUESTS

Downing, Christine, "Journeys to the Underworld," *MythoSphere* 1:2, pp. 175-193..

Downing, Christine. "Sigmund Freud and the Greek Mythological Tradition."
Journal of the American Academy of Religion. 43/1., pp. 1-14.

Downing, Christine, "Sigmund Freud's Mythology of Soul" in Dennis Slattery
and Lionel Corbett, eds. , *Depth Psychology: Meditations in the Field*.
Einsiedeln: Daimon Verlag, 2000, pp. 59-72.

Freud, Sigmund. "The Question of Lay Analysis " in James Strachey, ed., *The
Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*.
London, Hogarth Press, 1953-1974, Vol. XX, pp. 183-258...

Freud, Sigmund. "Mourning and Melancholia," in James Strachey, ed., *The
Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*.
London, Hogarth Press, 1953-1974, Vol. XIV, pp. 243-258..

Freud, Sigmund. "Our Attitude Toward Death, " in James Strachey, ed., *The
Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*.
London, Hogarth Press, 1953-1974, Vol. XIV, pp. 289-302..

Freud, Sigmund. "On Transcience, " in James Strachey, ed., *The Standard
Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*. London,
Hogarth Press, 1953-1974, Vol. XIV, pp. 305-307.

Downing, Christine, "ReVisioning Autobiography: The Bequest of Freud and
Jung." *Soundings*, Summer 1077, pp. 210-228.

Downing, Christine, "Beyond Psychology," typescript