

# PACIFICA GRADUATE INSTITUTE

Ph.D. Depth Psychology II  
Fall 2002

Depth Psychology & Cultural Issues II (DP-830)  
Instructor: Christine Downing, Ph.D.  
E-Mail: crrsvr@orcasonline.com

Office Hours: By appointment

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### A. Course Description

There are so many topics, issues, themes a course on “Depth Psychology and Cultural Issues” might focus on! I’ve decided that this year I’d like to look at how depth psychology’s perspectives can illuminate, deepen, and perhaps problematize our understandings of **sexuality and gender**.

Depth psychology from its beginnings sought to free us from the dualities, mind/spirit/soul or body, self or world, intrapsychic or interpersonal, whose hegemony we customarily blame on Descartes. Freud’s *Ueber-Ich* (superego) and his “racial storehouse of memories,” and Jung’s Collective Unconscious give testimony to its insight that not only do we humans live in culture, in society, but that it lives in us. Perhaps nowhere is this more evident than in their reflections on human sexuality and gender.

Freud once wrote that the shibboleth of psychoanalysis is its expanded deliteralized understanding of sexuality. In *Memories, Dreams, Reflections*. Jung says that “my main concern has been to investigate, over and above its personal significance and biological function, [sexuality’s] spiritual aspect and its numinous meaning.” Both—in admittedly quite different ways—saw that for our culture (and for us who live within it) overcoming the denigration of the feminine may be the most critical task.

Looking carefully at what they (and some of their most interesting followers) have had to say about sexuality and gender will enable, indeed force, us to engage some BIG questions: the relation between biology and culture, between the literal and the imaginal, between instinct and archetype, narcissism and eros, penis and phallus, women and “the feminine,” mothers and The Great Mother. And that’s just a beginning!

I have included a good chunk of my own *Myths and Mysteries of Same-Sex Love* because it provides more of an overview of what Freud and Jung have to say on these issues than anything else I know of (and it will give you a good sense of my own “take.”) When I wrote the book I discovered that in order to talk about what Freud and Jung had to say about homosexuality, I had to context it in relation to their understanding of sexuality *per se*, so that’s (mostly) what you’ll find in the assigned chapters. Part Two, especially chapters 10-13, provides some examples of how looking through a mythological lens may make visible a richly polytheistic/polymorphous understanding of sexuality. My book, *The Goddess*, and my out-of-print (but inexpensively available from Amazon.com) book, *Gods in Our Midst*, attempt the same re gender.

**B. Required Reading:**

- Young-Bruehl, Elisabeth. *Freud on Women: A Reader*. New York: Norton, 1992.  
Downing, Christine. *Myths and Mysteries of Same-Sex Love*. New York: Continuum, 1996.  
H.D. (Hilda Doolittle). *Tribute to Freud*. New York: Norton, 1984.  
Jung, C. G. *Aspects of the Feminine*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1982.  
Hillman, James, *Anima: An Anatomy of a Personified Notion*, Dallas: Spring Publications, 1985.

**DP-830 Reader:**

- Jung, Carl Gustav. (1912) "The Theory of Psychoanalysis " *Collected Works*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1953-1979. Vol. 4, 102 -128.  
Jung, Carl Gustav. (1919) "Part Two: Introduction," "The Concept of Libido," and "Symbols of the Mother and of Rebirth." *Collected Works*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1953-1979. Vol. 5, 121-141, 223-233.  
Jung, Carl Gustav. (1919) "Instinct and the Unconscious " *Collected Works*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1953-1979. Vol. 8, 129-138.  
Jung, Carl Gustav. (1947) "On the Nature of the Psyche " *Collected Works*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1953-1979. Vol. 8, 178-184, 200-216.  
Stein, Robert, *Incest and Human Love*. Baltimore: Penguin, 1974. ix-24.  
Lopez-Pedraza, Rafael. "A Tale of Homer and Picasso," *Hermes and His Children*. Zurich: Spring Publications, 1977, 59-74.  
Mitchell, Juliet and Jacqueline Rose, eds., *Feminine Sexuality: Jacques Lacan and the école freudienne*. New York: Norton, 1985, 1-57.  
Downing, Christine. "Rites of Incorporation" and "Rites of Exorcism." *Women's Mysteries*. New York: Crossroad, 1992, 15-65.  
Hillman, James. "The Great Mother, her Son, her Hero, and the Puer," in Pat Berry, ed., *Fathers and Mothers*. New York: Spring Publications, 1973, 75-127.  
De Castillejo, Irene Claremont, "Soul Images of Women." *Knowing Woman*. Boston: Shambhala, 1997. 165-182.  
Wehr, Demaris, "Uses and Abuses of Jung's Psychology of Women: Animus", *Anima* 12.1, Fall 1985, 13-23.  
Miller, David L. "Why Men Are Mad!" Spring 51. Dallas: Spring Publications, 1991, 71-79.  
Monick, Eugene. *Phallos*. Toronto: Inner City, 1987, 43-62.

**C. Class Schedule and Readings**

**Session 1: DEPTH PSYCHOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDINGS OF SEXUALITY**

- Freud's deliteralization of sexuality  
Jung's move from sexuality to a polyvalent concept of libido  
Instinct and Archetype  
Mythopoeic Sexuality: Hermes, Aphrodite, Dionysos

**REQUIRED READING:**

- Young-Bruehl, Elisabeth. *Freud on Women: A Reader*. New York: Norton, 1992.  
*Read pp. 89-181*

Downing, Christine, *Myths and Mysteries of Same-Sex Love*. New York: Continuum, 1996.

*Read Chapters 2,3,5, 6.7*

**From the Reader:**

Jung, Carl Gustav. (1912) "The Theory of Psychoanalysis " *Collected Works*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1953-1979. Vol. 4, 102 -128.

Jung, Carl Gustav. (1919) "Part Two: Introduction," "The Concept of Libido," and "Symbols of the Mother and of Rebirth." *Collected Works*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1953-1979. Vol. 5, 121-141, 223-233.

Jung, Carl Gustav. (1919) "Instinct and the Unconscious " *Collected Works*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1953-1979. Vol. 8, 129-138.

Jung, Carl Gustav. (1947) "On the Nature of the Psyche " *Collected Works*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1953-1979. Vol. 8, 178-184, 200-216.

Stein, Robert, *Incest and Human Love*. Baltimore: Penguin, 1974. ix-24.

Lopez-Pedraza, Rafael. "A Tale of Homer and Picasso," *Hermes and His Children*. Zurich: Spring Publications, 1977, 59-74.

**Session 2: GENDER – FREUDIAN PERSPECTIVES**

Women (and Men) are Made not Born

French and American Feminist ReVisionings of Freud

**REQUIRED READING:**

Young-Bruehl, Elisabeth. *Freud on Women: A Reader*. New York: Norton, 1992.  
*Read pp. 50-88, 190-195, 294-362*

H.D. (Hilda Doolittle). *Tribute to Freud*. New York: Norton, 1984.

*Read "Writing on the Wall"*

**From the Reader:**

Mitchell, Juliet and Jacqueline Rose, eds, *Feminine Sexuality: Jacques Lacan and the ecole freudienne*. New York: Norton, 1985, 1-57.

Downing, Christine. "Rites of Incorporation" and "Rites of Exorcism." *Women's Mysteries*. New York: Crossroad, 1992, 15-65.

**Supplementary**

Mitchell, Juliet, *Psychoanalysis and Feminism*. New York: Pantheon, 1974.

Strouse, Jean, ed. *Women and Analysis*. New York: Viking, 1974.

Appignanesi, Lisa and John Forrester, *Freud's Women*. New York: Basic Books, 1992.

Irigaray, Luce, *Speculum of the Other Woman*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1985, 13-129.

Chodorow, Nancy, *The Reproduction of Mothering: Psychoanalysis and the Sociology of Gender*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1978, Part II.

**Session 3: GENDER – JUNGIAN and POST-JUNGIAN PERSPECTIVES**

Animas and Animuses

The Feminine and women

The Great Mother and men

**REQUIRED READING:**

Jung, C. G. *Aspects of the Feminine*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1982.  
*Read all but first two essays*

Hillman, James, *Anima: An Anatomy of a Personified Notion*, Dallas: Spring Publications, 1985.  
*Read Introduction and Chapters 1 and 2*

**From the Reader:**

Hillman, James. "The Great Mother, her Son, her Hero, and the Puer," in Pat Berry, ed., *Fathers and Mothers*. New York: Spring Publications, 1973, 75-127.  
De Castillejo, Irene Claremont, "Soul Images of Women." *Knowing Woman*. Boston: Shambhala, 1997. 165-182.  
Wehr, Demaris, "Uses and Abuses of Jung's Psychology of Women: Animus", *Anima* 12.1, Fall 1985, 13-23.  
Miller, David L. "Why Men Are Mad!" Spring 51. Dallas: Spring Publications, 1991, 71-79.  
Monick, Eugene. *Phallos*. Toronto: Inner City, 1987, 43-62.

**Supplementary**

Jung, Emma. *Anima and Animus*. Zurich: Spring Publications. 1972.  
Harding, M. Esther, *Women's Mysteries*. Boston: Shambhala, 1990.  
Neumann, Erich. *Amor and Psyche: The Psychic Development of the Feminine*. New York: Harper & Row, 1962.  
Lauter, Estella and Carol Rupperecht, eds, *Feminist Archetypal Theory*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1985.  
Wehr, Demaris, *Jung and Feminism*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1987.

**C. Course Requirements**

A well-written 10-15 page paper relating to a depth psychological engagement with sexuality or with some aspect of gender. It need not focus on one of the subthemes or writers focused on in 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 830 PhD J-II or K-II).

Paper (or Request for Incomplete Form) is due postmarked four weeks after the last meeting (**K track**: December 27, 2001; **J track**: January 17, 2002) and should be sent to Christine Downing at Pacifica Graduate Institute.

**Incompletes**

Students are allowed four Incompletes per academic year and must be submitted *on or before the assignment due date*. Incomplete work for this class is due postmarked on or before March 13, 2002 (**K track**) or March 20, 2002 (**J track**). When you complete the paper send it directly to the faculty and include a Grade Change Form.