

# English 216: Notes for Chapter 5

## Chapter 5: Psychoanalysis

variations and derivations of Freudian psychology

### Sigmund Freud

- **Conscious:** what we're aware of, outward-facing
- **Unconscious:** what we're not aware of, inward-facing
  - **sublimation:** base instincts that are suppressed by socialization
  - **repression:** shunting traumas from the conscious to the unconscious
- **the Psyche:** continuous struggle of conscious/unconscious, pleasure/reality
  - **id:** instinctive desires, pleasure principle, and libido
  - **ego:** intellectual response desire, reality principle
  - **superego:** internalization of authority, develops through Oedipal Complex
- **Oedipal Complex**
  - **boys:** desire mother, resent father, fear authority, realize they'll be fathers
  - **girls:** desire father, resent mother, realize they'll be mothers/have babies
- **Dreams:** indirect access to repressed feelings, analyze to integrate into ego
- **Literary Analysis:** treat the "text" like a dream
  - **author-centric:** the artist's dream, some audience might share it
  - **reader-centric:** reader gets pleasure without shame & is context of meaning

## Jacque Lacan: structuralism + Freudianism

- **Lack:** “lost object,” desire for the Real that can never be fulfilled
- **the Real:** unity with mother, no separate identity (i.e., subjectivity)
- **Mirror Phase:** recognize self in mirror, become both subject and object
  - the imaginary: build identify by identifying with objects
- **fort-da game:** find objects that substitute for lack of the Real/mother
  - **the Symbolic:** entry into language, ever-receding identity:  
**castration**
- **Oedipal Complex:** realize we can never have the Real/mother

## Laura Mulvey, “Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema”

- **Male Gaze:** mode of looking at women’s bodies movies, a form of pleasure
  - **Scopophilic:** watching women anonymously, objectification/separation
  - **Narcissistic:** identifying with men, splits identity (like the mirror stage)
- **the Look:** men look at men looking at women (identification)
  - men look at men having sex with women (separation)
  - **To-be-looked-at-ness:** women as objects of visual pleasure
- **Threat of Castration** (i.e, the female body): entry into language, loss of the Real,
  - **Investigate:** devalue, punish, and/or save women
  - **Fetishization** of specific women’s bodies as objects

## Slavoj Žižek and Lacanian Fantasy

- Lacan as organizing principle of Marxist critique of culture industry
- **Culture Industry:** acts like Lacanian language, produces fantasies of desire
- **Fantasy:** depicts the lost objects of desire (i.e., the Real)
- **Desire:** unfulfillable (because it’s gone if you fulfil it) & retroactively

constructed

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## **311 Week 10: Henry V pt 1**

English 311, Week #10: *Henry V* and Hegemony

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## **311 Week 2: Romeo and Juliet pt 1**

English 311, Week #2: *Romeo and Juliet*, Patriarchy and Violence