

HIS 530-01: TR 5:00-6:15
Sexuality and Mind in Freud's Vienna

Spring, 2010
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Office Hours: Wed. 3:30-5, Thurs. 4:00

Central Europe changed dramatically during the period around World War I, a period that saw the end of the Hapsburg Empire. Vienna, capital city of that empire, was not just the place that Freud lived and wrote from the late 1880s until his exile in 1938. It was also a place in which cultural forces of modernism clashed with those of 19th century conservatism in a major center of artistic, intellectual, and scientific creativity. Freud's Vienna was the home of key figures in science, art, philosophy, theater, music, and politics. A surprising number of the tensions between modernism and tradition incorporated debates about sexuality. What was the relationship between nationalism and sexuality? How were sexual reforms negotiated or not amid the Austrian interwar mix of socialism, feminism, antisemitism, and the dominance of the Catholic Church? How were Freud's theories received amid these tensions? An examination of the history of human sexuality that positions Freud's theories in the context of early 20th century Vienna shows us how medicine, psychiatry and psychoanalysis (and their views of sexuality) shaped and were shaped by Central European politics, urban life, science, and culture.

TOPICS: We will address sexuality in Freud's theories, examining concepts like trauma and catharsis; infantile sexuality; sexual development; anxiety and morality; unconscious motivation and the dynamics of psychic energy. In the Viennese historical context we will stress the multi-ethnic and multi-national tensions of Austria-Hungary, psychiatry and the threat of degeneration, race science and antisemitism, World War I and the fall of empire, sexual reform and "the woman question", and the vision of Austrian socialism.

Requirements: Your grade will be based on your 1) *your research paper* (see handout); 2) *your comments on your partner's project* (see handout); and 3) *your class participation*, which includes your comments in class and your weekly queries (and replies). Attendance is required; the course is a seminar, so *always* come to class having read the assignment.

Weekly Web Queries and Replies: Always read critically and notate points you don't understand. Doing so will help with your weekly queries. These are questions (minimum 250 words) that focus on specific details of the week's reading assignment. They should raise problems about concepts in the reading that you don't understand and on which you need more clarification. Frame the questions in the context of the key concepts in the reading and be really specific about the problem you're having (even include page numbers). Please post them weekly by each Monday evening (8:00 pm at the latest; replies by 11:00 am on Tuesday) in the Discussion Board on the course Blackboard page.

You are required to post at least 10 queries during the semester and to respond to at least five (total 15). Your responses should help answer the question raised in the original post—how would you answer it? Bring in as much historical context as you can as you help with an answer. Please read all the postings; they and the texts will be the basis of our discussions.

Grading: Course Project: 50% of grade; web and class participation: 30% of grade; Commentaries (written and oral) on partner's project: 20% of grade.

Required readings: Books

Peter Singer. *Pushing Time Away*. London: Granta, Press, 2006
Gilman, Sander, *Freud, Race, and Gender*, Johns Hopkins Press. 1993.
Sigmund Freud, *The Ego and the Id*. W. W. Norton, 1919/1980.
Sigmund Freud, *Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality*. (Standard Edition Version). Basic Books, (1905) 1953.

Required book for graduate students

Ian Hacking, *Rewriting the Soul*. Princeton NJ: Princeton, 1995.

eReserve Readings (on Blackboard, referred to by author below)

Oosterhuis, H. 2000. Chapter 1, "The Emergence of Sexual Science." From *Stepchildren of Nature*. Chicago: Univ. Chicago Press, 2000.

Oosterhuis, H. Chapter 6, "Psychiatry's Panacea. Degeneration Theory." From *Stepchildren of Nature*. Chicago: Univ. Chicago Press, 2000. pp. 100-112.

Freud, S. Lecture XVII, and Lecture XVIII. From *Introductory Lectures on Psychoanalysis* (Strachey Translation). Norton, 1966.

Showalter, E. Chapter 3, "New Women." From *Sexual Anarchy*. NY: Viking Press, 1990, pp. 38-58.

Gruber, Helmut. 1991. Chapter 2, "Vienna as a Socialist Laboratory." From *Red Vienna*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1991.

Tentative Schedule

Week:	Assignment:
January 19	Vienna: Imperial culture and the nervous splendor: Singer, <i>Pushing Time Away</i>
January 25	Liberalism and sexual science: <i>Pushing Time Away</i> ; Oosterhuis, Chapter 1
February 1	Sexology, Degeneration and Perversion Oosterhuis, Chapter 6: Freud Introductory Lectures, Lecture XVII
February 8	Psychoneurosis and Psychoanalysis: Freud, Introductory Lectures, Lecture XVIII
Project appointments must occur before <u>Feb. 15</u> ; email me for a time	
February 15	Sexual Reform, and Jewish Identity; Showalter "New Women";

- Gilman, *Freud, Race, and Gender*, Chapter 1
- February 22 Gilman, *Freud, Race, and Gender*, Chapters 2 and 3
- March 1 Gilman, *Freud, Race, and Gender*, Conclusion;

Annotated bibliography due on March 2.

Spring break March 8-14

- March 15 **Sexual Origins of Personality:**
Three essays on the theory of sexuality, Essay I, II
Project reports: thesis and sources.

- March 22 *Three essays on the theory of sexuality*, Essay III.
Freud versus degeneration

Special seminar/party on March 23

Thesis paragraph and targeted sources due on March 25.
Comments due on March 29

- March 29 Project progress reports;
The Conscious and the unconscious: conflict and repression
Freud, *The Ego and the Id*

- April 5 **Male and Female—Bisexuality:** Freud, *The Ego and the Id*

- April 12 **Austromarxism, Red Vienna, and Civil War:** Gruber, Ch 2

The first complete draft of your project is due April 13:
Partner comments due April 19.

- April 19 **Freud and the Nazis**
Project reports

- April 26 Project reports; **Freud's Lasting Impact**

No class on May 4; Reading Day, May 5
May 8th 3:00 pm Final Paper Due

I have read and understand the course requirements:
