

**SPECTERS: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO  
PSYCHOANALYSIS**

Dr. Idit Alphandary

Fall Semester

Monday 16:00-18:00

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Office Hours: by appointment

Short description:

Students will examine problems and insights related to constituting the subject using film, literature, art as well as postmodern theories of psychoanalysis. The concepts specter, phantom, ghost, revenant, truth, desire, history, love, the Real, dreaming, thinking, sublimation, scopophilia, voice and the Thing (das Ding) are central to this course. These are concepts basic to a semiotic research of the plastic arts and narrative arts like the mediums of film and literature but at the same time postmodern psychoanalysts like Lacan, Laplnache, Pontalis, and Bachelard continue to complicate these concepts and render them suitable to making sense of subjectivity.

Assessment:

Minor assignments:

Class presentations in the form of a talk or a short written assignment: 20%

Midterm: 3-5 pages

**Graded midterm paper: 19%**

Final requirement: 6-8 pages

**Graded final paper: 41%**

Attendance and Participation:

Participation is mandatory: 20%

Academic conduct:

Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else's work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.

Additional requirements:

Presence is mandatory in class meetings and your participation in class is valuable to the success of the course. Students have to prepare the readings and see the films on their own before class meetings.

Students must come to class with the required texts and be prepared to speak in class about several passages in the text and explain their importance. Film excerpts will be available in class and students must be able to relate these snippets to the complete film and interpret their meanings.