

Reading Plan Version 2

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Introduction 活动简介

Motivation

Psychoanalysis has been an interesting topic in many different fields, including philosophy and film theories. The notion of love is always an important concept in psychoanalysis, and love, especially “romantic love,” is vital in our life. In our society today emphasizing “safety-first love” or “some comfort zones limited by regulated pleasures,” we believe there is an urgent need to rethink love. Therefore, in the Reading Psychoanalysis on Love series of events, we are going to explore the essential ideas of Sigmund Freud, Jacques Lacan (by Slavoj Žižek and Bruce Fink) and Alain Badiou on the topic of Love.

初衷

精神分析一直是横跨许多不同领域的一个有趣的主题，这些领域包括哲学和电影理论。而爱则是精神分析中一个重要的概念。与此同时，爱，特别是爱情，在人们的生活中始终是不可或缺的。然而在当今强调着某种“安全第一的爱”或者是要有“某种限制快感的舒适区”的社会，我们相信人们迫切地需要重新思考爱。因此在阅读关于爱情的精神分析系列活动中，我们将探讨西格蒙德·弗洛伊德、雅克·拉康（斯拉沃热·齐泽克和布鲁斯·芬克）和阿兰·巴迪欧关于爱情的重要思想。

What is Psychoanalysis?

The primary definition of psychoanalysis is given by Sigmund Freud ([Freud et al., 2016](#)): psychoanalysis is a method of treating nervous patients medically. In the further development by French psychoanalyst Jacques Lacan, he innovated philosophical ideas into clinical psychoanalysis. For philosopher Slavoj Žižek, psychoanalysis is more than clinical treatments: it is also a way to read texts and decipher ideology in critical theories ([Žižek et al., 2007](#)).

What is psychoanalysis in critical theories? *Critical Theory: The Key Concepts* gives the following definition (Felluga, 2015):

Psychoanalytical Criticism aims to show that a literary or cultural work is always structured by complex and often contradictory human desires. Whereas New Historicism and Marx-inspired Cultural Materialism analyze public power structures in terms of the culture as a whole, psychoanalysis analyzes microstructures of power within the individual and within small-scale domestic environments. That is, it analyzes the interiority of the self as well as the self's kinship systems. By analyzing the formation of the individual, psychoanalysis also helps us to understand the formation of ideology at large—and can therefore be extended to the analysis of various cultural and societal phenomena. Indeed, for this reason, psychoanalysis has been especially influential over the last three decades in cultural studies, film studies, and Marxist criticism.

什么是精神分析？

精神分析的主要定义是由西格蒙德·弗洛伊德 (Freud et al., 2016) 给出的：精神分析是一种在医学上治疗神经症患者的方法。在法国精神分析学家雅克·拉康的进一步发展中，他将哲学思想融入了临床精神分析。对于哲学家斯拉沃热·齐泽克而言，精神分析不仅仅是临床治疗：它还是一种阅读文本和解读意识形态批判理论的方式 (Žižek et al., 2007)。

批判理论中的精神分析是什么？批判理论：关键概念给出了以下定义 (Felluga, 2015)：

精神分析批评旨在表明文学或文化作品总是由复杂且往往相互矛盾的人类欲望构成。新历史主义和受马克思启发的文化唯物主义从整体文化的角度分析公共权力结构，而精神分析则分析个人和小规模家庭环境中权力的微观结构。也就是说，它分析了自我的内在性以及自我的亲属关系系统。通过分析个体的形成，精神分析还帮助我们理解意识形态的整体形成——因此可以扩展到对各种文化和社会现象的分析。事实上，出于这个原因，精神分析在过去三十年中在文化研究、电影研究和马克思主义批评中特别有影响力。

Why Love?

Love is a central theme in many people's life, insofar as I know from past experience as a lover or a beloved. The notion of lover and beloved can be found in Plato's famous text *Symposium* (Plato et al., 2003). The reading and the re-reading of this text always shed light on love in today's society. The interactions of this idea from Plato with the psychoanalytic theories create space for us to rethink and even re-invent love, to put it in Alain Badiou's term (Badiou et al., 2012).

There is another reason to introduce love from a psychoanalytic perspective. In the clinical setting (possibly even in political theory) of Lacanian psychoanalysis, love is an indispensable concept in (Lacanian)

psychoanalysis. Lacan once claimed (Lacan et al., 1999), “the only thing that we do in the analytic discourse is speak about love.” Thus we hope we will have an opportunity to glimpse this important notion of love and the elaboration of love from a psychoanalytic perspective, so that we can be motivated to at least think about love again.

为什么是爱这个主题？

爱是许多人生活中的中心主题，就我从过去作为爱人或被爱的经验而言。爱人和被爱的概念可以在柏拉图著名的文本会饮篇 (Plato et al., 2003) 中找到。这段文字的阅读和重读，总能启发我们对于当今社会的爱情的思考。用阿兰巴迪欧的话说 (Badiou et al., 2012)，柏拉图的这一想法与精神分析理论的相互交融为我们重新思考甚至重新发明爱创造了空间。

之所以我们要从精神分析的角度讨论爱，是因为在拉康精神分析的临床语境中（甚至可能在政治理论中），爱是（拉康）精神分析中不可或缺的概念。拉康曾声称 (Lacan et al., 1999)，“我们在分析性话语中所做的唯一一件事就是谈论爱。”因此，我们希望有机会从精神分析的角度一瞥爱的重要概念和对爱的阐述，这样我们至少可以从一个全新的角度重新思考爱。

How this series is organized

This series is co-hosted by Siqi Zheng (Tim) and Sara Wu, presented by *Humanities and Social Sciences Sanctuary* club.

This is a fully online synchronous event. Content will be released before the week starts. You are expected to complete the readings and encouraged to complete suggested readings before our required synchronous meetings (except for the first week).

Time-zones: All times are in **local Toronto time**.

关于本次活动

本次活动由 Siqi Zheng (Tim) 和 Sara Wu 共同主持，携手人文社科避难所社群共同呈现。

这是一个完全线上的活动。阅读内容将在活动开始前发布。您应该在我们的实时讨论会之前完成阅读必读材料。同时我们鼓励您完成推荐阅读。（第一周除外）。

时区：所有时间均为**多伦多当地时间**。

Objectives

1. Increase engagement in *Humanities and Social Sciences Sanctuary*.
2. Evaluate and critique analyses in case study—both your own and those of others.
3. Conduct and communicate psychoanalytic concepts in relation to love in the theories of Sigmund Freud and Jacques Lacan.
4. Understand and communicate basic psychoanalytic ideas and findings effectively in a relatively accessible manner.
5. Connect students' specific questions in their daily life through distilling essential features of the problem and share their analyses from a Lacanian psychoanalytic perspective.
6. Collaborate in a team to share your what you learnt from readings and provide insights into your own questions.
7. Reflect effectively on one's own development.

Events Overview

Delivery Method

The series of event will be **online**, except possibly for Q&A sessions and small seminars (if feasible and needed).

Zoom will be used for the meeting. Google Docs may be used to share scripts and notes. Learning resources may be found on Baidu Netdisk. For more information, one may be able to find it in the WeChat group.

Synchronous Meeting Structure

The synchronous meeting will be 1-hour long. We will focus on 2 to 3 questions per session. The tables below will be shared in the first meeting and will not appear in the public version of this plan.

表 1: Synchronous meeting (3 questions)

Event	Duration
Introduction	10 mins
Breakout room discussion	7 mins
Report back	8 mins
Breakout room discussion	7 mins
Report back	8 mins
Breakout room discussion	7 mins
Report back	8 mins
Summary	5 mins

表 2: Synchronous meeting (2 questions)

Event	Duration
Introduction	10 mins
Breakout room discussion	14 mins
Report back	8 mins
Breakout room discussion	14 mins
Report back	8 mins
Summary	5 mins

表 3: First synchronous meeting

Event	Duration
Introduction	10 mins
Objectives and expectations	10 mins
Why psychoanalysis and love	10 mins
Overview of different schools of thoughts	10 mins
Detailed schedule	5 mins
Questions	15 mins

Communication

Get in Touch with Organizers

- Please include [Reading Psychoanalysis on Love] in the friend request.
- When sending any communication or participating in discussions, remember that there are real people with feelings on the receiving end. Be kind and treat people the way you would like to be treated.

Academic Questions

Please ask questions during office hours. Questions may not be entertained outside office hours sections.

Privacy

We are all expected to respect individuals' privacy and copyright restrictions in the events.

Online synchronous sessions

Weekly (Bi-weekly during mid-term weeks) online synchronous sessions take place online. Since you are expected to be available, these will not be recorded so people can freely participate. If this changes for any reason during the series of events, participants will be informed.

Participants may not create recordings of weekly synchronous events with the exception of those participants requiring an accommodation for a disability, who should speak to the organizer prior to beginning to record these events.

Case Study and Story Sharing

Case study materials will be prepared before the start of our final synchronous meeting. You are strongly encouraged to share the analysis of personal stories, films, texts and music related to the topic of our events. The sharing can be anonymous and be in different formats (writing, video, audio).

Do not download, copy, or share any materials or texts of the case study and other participants without the explicit permission of the organizers and the sharers. Thanks for your cooperation!

Resources Links (Website)

TBD

Schedule

Week	Readings	Suggested Readings	Synchronous Meeting	Key Concepts
1	Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality			
2	Freud on the topic of love (Beyond the Pleasure Principle?)	Eros (No Subject, 2019a)		Eros
3	Freud on the topic of love	How to Read Lacan (Žižek et al., 2007) Chapter 5 (Page 79-90)		Ego and Id
4	How to Read Lacan (Žižek et al., 2007) Chapter 1 (Page 7-21)	Jacques Lacan: Read your symptoms (Wu, 2021) Chapter 8: The Topology of Three Registers		Imaginary-Symbolic-Real; Unconscious
5	What Does Lacan Say About... Jouissance? (Hewitson, 2015)	Jacques Lacan: Read your symptoms (Wu, 2021) Chapter 11: The Ethics of Jouissance		Jouissance
6	How to Read Lacan (Žižek et al., 2007) Chapter 3 (Page 40-60); How to Read Lacan (Žižek et al., 2007) Chapter 4 (Page 61-78)	Jacques Lacan: Read your symptoms (Wu, 2021) Chapter 10: The Dialectic of Desire		Desire; Little Object <i>a</i>
7	In Praise of Love (Badiou et al., 2012): Chapter 3 and 4 ; What Does Lacan Say About... Love? (Hewitson, 2016)	Love (No Subject, 2019b) ; Reading Seminar XX (Barnard et al., 2012): Knowledge and Jouissance		Love
8	Lacan on Love (Fink, 2015) (Page 49-69; Page 206-211 in pdf)	The Structures of Love (Penney, 2013): Chapter 2 ; Lacan on Love (Fink, 2015) (Page 31-48); Symposium (Plato et al., 2003)		Love
9	No Readings(Case Study and Story Sharing)	Reading Seminar XX (Barnard et al., 2012)		

待讨论的活动运营要点 by Sara Wu (内部版本)

1. 活动时长：一个小时 vs 一个半小时
2. 为这次活动专门建立一个微信群/whatsapp 群
3. 考虑我们要不要弄个 website /blog (有兴趣用 github 开发一个吗?), 方便大家提前下载 reading, 可以贴一些 video, 包含 glossary, 然后有 online discussion 这样可以在没有 session 的时候获取 feedback。(思齐注: 不太确定网站的搭建, 如果静态网站会比较好。可以到时候再讨论。) 如果进行地不错的话, 我们也可以把讲稿和有意思的 Q&A 整理出来成文字, post 在公众号/网站上。
4. 一个比较小规模但是严肃的读书会。对参与者有高一点的期待, 比如说在项目结束后, 我们最后留下来的一些人, 产出一点东西, 做个 group project, 可以是书面 report, 也可以是视频, 或者是 podcast。如果有需要的话, Sara 可以承担视频剪辑的工作。这种形式一方面可以激励大家思考, 另一方面也可以作为以后活动的宣传。(思齐注: 理想是后者, 但可能参加人数会随着时间的增长而递减)

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