

IS322 Joyce's *Ulysses*: A Modernist Epic

Seminar Leaders: Laura Scuriatti, James Harker

Course Times: Sections A&B: 9:00-10:30; Sections C &D: 10:45-12:15

Email: l.scuriatti@berlin.bard.edu, j.harker@berlin.bard.edu

Laura's Office Hours: Tuesdays 13:30-15:30

James's Office Hours: Thursdays 13:30-15:30

Course Description

The course will focus on James Joyce's *Ulysses* (1922), considered an exemplary, canonical, and yet idiosyncratic "masterpiece." *Ulysses* is not only a fundamental text of modernism but also a kind of re-writing of a foundational text of Greek civilization, Homer's *Odyssey*.

Modernism is generally thought of as a period characterized in literature and art by radical experimentation, by the invention and re-invention of new forms, and an aesthetic that privileged the present, the modern, the new. It was, in fact, a complex constellation of phenomena which saw close interaction between the arts, literature, politics, philosophy, science and economics, and which saw the questioning of the most basic categories of aesthetic, political and philosophical thought, leading also to extreme political conflict. The course explores a wide range of aspects of modernism, attempting to understand the period in relation to the broader terms "modernity" and "modernization."

Requirements

Students are required to attend all classes, to come to class prepared and with the relevant materials and textbooks. Participation consists in contributing productively to class discussion in a respectful manner, and in demonstrating a sound knowledge of the texts assigned.

Please note that in seminars we will work on printed texts: NO COMPUTERS OR TABLETS allowed in class. Texts which are made available in digital format should be printed for use in class.

All assignments must be completed in order to pass the course.

Attendance

Please note that attendance at ALL classes is expected. More than two absences (that is absences from two sessions of 90 minutes) in a semester will significantly affect the participation grade for the course.

Please consult the Student Handbook for regulations governing periods of illness or leaves of absence.

Assessment and Grade Breakdown

Participation:	20%
Quiz (500 words):	10%
Exam (1500 words):	25%
Presentation (20 minutes max., 1500 words):	30%
Discussion Summary (1000 words):	15%

Schedule

Week 1	Introduction and the Telemachiad	
	Tuesday, January 29 Lecture Hall (9:00-10:30)	Lecture: The Modernist Novel
	Thursday, January 31	Seminar on Telemachus (pp. 3-23)
Week 2	The Telemachiad	
	Tuesday, February 5	Seminar on Nestor (pp. 24-36)
	Thursday, February 7	Seminar on Proteus (pp. 37-50) T.S. Eliot, "Ulysses, Order and Myth"
Week 3	Calypso	
	Tuesday, February 12 Lecture Hall (9:00-10:30)	Lecture: <i>Ulysses</i> ' Context Reading: Declan Kiberd, "James Joyce and Mythic Realism"
	Thursday, February 14	Seminar on Calypso and The Lotus Eaters (pp. 53-83)
Week 4	Hades and Aeolus	
	Tuesday, February 19	Seminar on Hades (pp. 84-111)
	Thursday, February 21	Seminar on Aeolus (pp. 112-143)
Week 5	Lestrygonians, Scylla and Charybdis, Wandering Rocks	
	Tuesday, February 26	Seminar on Lestrygonians; Scylla and Charybdis (pp. 144-209)
	Thursday, February 28	Seminar on Wandering Rocks (pp. 210-244)
Week 6	Sirens and Cyclops	
	Tuesday, March 5	Seminar on Sirens (pp. 245-279)

Thursday, March 7 Seminar on Cyclops (pp. 280-330)

Week 7: Nausicaa and Oxen of the Sun

Tuesday, March 12 Seminar on Nausicaa (pp. 331-365)

Thursday, March 14 Seminar on Oxen of the Sun (pp. 366-407)
Quiz

Week 8: Circe

Tuesday, March 19 Seminar on Circe (pp. 408- 565)

Thursday, March 21 Lecture: Ulysses and its Trials
Lecture Hall (9:00-10:30)

Week 9: Eumeus

Tuesday, March 26 Seminar on Eumeus (pp. 569-618)

Thursday, March 28 Lecture
Lecture Hall (9:00-10:30)

Week 10: Ithaca

Tuesday, April 2 Seminar on Ithaca (pp. 619-689)

Thursday, April 4 Lecture
Lecture Hall (9:00-10:30)

Week 11: Penelope

Tuesday, April 9 Seminar on Penelope (pp. 690-732)

Thursday, April 11 Exam

Spring Break

Weeks 12 to 14: Presentations

Thursday, May 9: Wrap up

Completion Week