

# IS322 Joyce's *Ulysses*: A Modernist Epic

Seminar Leaders: Caroline Patey, Laura Scuriatti

Course Times: Groups A & B: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.00-10.30; Group C: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10.45-12.15 am.

Location: Groups A & C: Seminar room 8 (P98); Group B: Seminar room 1 (P24)

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Caroline Patey's Office Hours: Tuesdays 13.30-15.30

Laura Scuriatti's Office Hours: Thursdays 14:00-16.00

## Course Description

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 that 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." 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 texts, such as Homer's *Odyssey*, and Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. We will explore questions concerning its historical context as a novel produced in a colonized country, its allegedly totalizing form based on extreme expansion, and its style and defamiliarizing use of language and traditions.

## 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.

### TEXTBOOKS

Students are required to buy the following edition of Joyce's *Ulysses*:

James Joyce. *Ulysses*, the 1922 edition. Oxford University Press

ISBN-13: 978-0199535675

The campus library owns many copies of this edition, which can be borrowed on a first-come, first-

serve basis.

### Attendance

Please note that attendance at ALL classes is expected. After two absences (that is, two absences from classes of 90 minutes) students who need to be absent for serious reasons or in order to attend a conference should submit the relevant documentation to the instructor, in order for the absences to be excused.

Please note that Bard College Berlin does not offer credit for any course in which a student has missed more than 30% of classes, regardless of the reasons for the absences, whether excused or unexcused. Students facing the unusual situation of long-term, serious medical or personal emergencies (generally lasting more than two weeks) can request a Leave of Absence, to be approved by the Deans, the Head of Student Life or the Director of Academic Services. Please note that the 30% rule applies even in these cases.

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 28 Lecture: The Modernist Novel  
**Lecture Hall (9:00-10:30)**

Thursday, January 30 Seminar on Telemachus (pp. 3-23)

Week 2 The Telemachiad

Tuesday, February 4 NO CLASS TODAY

Thursday, February 6 Seminar on Nestor and Proteus (pp. 24-50)

Hey

Week 3 Calypso and The Lotus Eaters

Tuesday, February 11 Lecture: *Ulysses'* Political and Historical Context (Caroline Patey)

**Lecture Hall (9:00-10:30)**

	Thursday, February 13	Seminar on Calypso and The Lotus Eaters (pp. 53-83)
Week 4	Hades and Aeolus	
	Tuesday, February 18	Seminar on Hades (pp. 84-111)
	Thursday, February 20	Seminar on Aeolus (pp. 112-143)
Week 5	Lestrygonians, Scylla and Charybdis, Wandering Rocks	
	Tuesday, February 25	Seminar on Lestrygonians; Scylla and Charybdis (pp. 144-209)
	Thursday, February 27	Seminar on Wandering Rocks (pp. 210-244)
Week 6	Sirens and Cyclops	
	Tuesday, March 3	Seminar on Sirens (pp. 245-279)
	Thursday, March 5	Seminar on Cyclops (pp. 280-330)
Week 7:	Nausicaa and Oxen of the Sun	
	Tuesday, March 10	Seminar on Nausicaa (pp. 331-365)
	Thursday, March 12	Seminar on Oxen of the Sun (pp. 366-407) Quiz
Week 8:	Circe	
	Tuesday, March 17	Seminar on Circe (pp. 408- 565)
	Thursday, March 19 <b>Lecture Hall (9:00-10:30)</b>	Lecture: <i>Ulysses</i> and its Trials (Laura Scuriatti)
Week 9:	Eumeus	
	Tuesday, March 24	Seminar on Eumeus (pp. 569-618)
	Thursday, March 26 <b>Lecture Hall (9.00-10.30)</b>	Lecture: Daniel Shea (Mount Saint Mary College) TBC
Week 10:	Ithaca	
	Thursday, March 30	Lecture: Elizabeth Bonapfel (LMU München)

**Lecture Hall (19.00-20.30)**

Tuesday, March 31 Seminar on Ithaca (pp. 619-689)  
DEADLINE FOR PRESENTATION TITLES AND SOURCES

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

**SPRING BREAK**

Week 12: Penelope

Tuesday, April 14 Seminar on Penelope (pp. 690-732)

Thursday, April 16 Exam

Weeks 13 to 15: Presentations

Thursday, May 7: Wrap up session

Completion Week