

English 680G
Spring 2004
Leading Discussion

You've been asked to lead discussion for one class session this semester. Leading class discussion will allow each of you to bring your own ideas, questions, and comments to the topic at hand. Do not feel as if you are being asked to "know everything" about the readings for that week; rather, you should feel as if you have been appointed chief question leader for part of the class, or "chief interrogator." In short, it is your job to ask us questions that force us to examine this text we have been assigned, poke at it, question it, find out more about, discover what it can do, what it can't do, and how it related to other texts.

Your questions/activities need only take up about half of the class time; however, they may run longer than that. Indeed, as we become more accustomed to engaging with these texts, it may be that we are all so engrossed that we don't get to all of the questions and ideas you have for us. In that case, I have developed a weblog for the class where students can post responses and comments to the readings, as well as continue discussion outside of class. Alternatively, we can continue discussion on the class email list (although we can also arrange it so that all posts to the weblog can be sent to the email list).

One suggestion I do have is that you bring some kind of handout or have notes/comments that you can later post to the weblog. This allows us to really think about the questions you have asked us. A handout will be especially useful if you ask us to complete some kind of activity that will allow us to engage with the text.

Below is the schedule for leading class discussions. Please come and see me before your week so that we can discuss what might want to be done during the class. It will also allow me to tailor my comments/questions and to see what kind of background material might need to be discussed.

I will NOT provide a formal letter grade evaluation for your leadership of the class discussion; if something happens and it seems as if your discussion questions are wanting, I may have you complete an extra reading note or the equivalent to make up for the discussion. This is also where electronic components can help, especially if you are shy and/or do not feel comfortable in class.

English 680G Discussion Schedule

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| January 27 PHILATHIA | Historicizing the Body: Aspasia and Diotima Plato, <i>Menexenus</i> Xin Lu Gale, "Historical Studies and Postmodernism" Cheryl Glenn, "Truth, Lies, and Method" Susan Jarratt, "Rhetoric and Feminism" Plato, <i>Symposium</i> Luce Irigaray, "Sorcerer Love" Andrea Nye, "Irigaray and Diotima at Plato's Symposium" Jan Swearingen, "A Lover's Discourse" |
| February 10 BETHANY | Dora and Hysteria Sigmund Freud, <i>Dora</i> Elizabeth Grosz, "Psychoanalysis and the Body" (FTB) Reading Note #2 due |
| February 17 CATALINA | Ontological Torture Elaine Scarry, <i>The Body in Pain</i> Bibi Bakare-Yusuf, "The Economy of Violence" (FTB) Reading Note #3 due |
| February 24 CHAO-MEI | Écriture Féminine Helene Cixous, "Castration or Decapitation" Helene Cixous, "Laugh of the Medusa" Helene Cixous, "Sorties" Lynn Worsham, "Writing Against Writing" Luce Irigaray, "This Sex Which is Not One" Luce Irigaray, "When Our Lips Speak Together" (FTB) One page proposal of seminar project due for workshop in class <i>Bring several copies for peers and instructor</i> |
| March 2 KRISTA | Space, Movement, Sensation Elizabeth Grosz, "Bodies-Cities" (FTB) Jacques Derrida, "Choreographies" Elizabeth Grosz, "Women, <i>Chora</i> , Dwelling" Julia Kristeva, "Women's Time" Iris Marion Young, "Throwing Like a Girl" |
| March 9 KRISTEN | Butler and Performance Theory Judith Butler, "Bodily Inscriptions, Performative Subversions" (FTB) Judith Butler, "Bodies that Matter" (FTB) Judith Butler, "The Lesbian Phallus" Veronica Vasterling, "Butler's Sophisticated Constructivism" Judith Halberstam, "F2M: The Making of Female Masculinity" (FTB) Reading Note #4 due on Butler's/Vasterling's texts |
| March 30 GEOF | Volatile Bodies Elizabeth Grosz, <i>Volatile Bodies</i> Reading Note #5 due |
| April 6 ALEXIS | Performing Body Modifications Fen Coles, "Feminine Charms, Outrageous Arms" (FTB) Kathy Davis, "My Body is my Art" (FTB) Claudia Benthien, "Teletactility" Terry Kapsalis, "Retooling the Speculum" Kate Ince, excerpt from <i>Orlan: Millennial Female</i> Carol Mattingly, excerpt from <i>Appropriate[ing] Dress</i> |

Mark C. Taylor, excerpt from *Hiding*

April 13

Surfaces and Perception

Trinh T. Minh-ha, "Write Your Body" (FTB)

Maurice Merleau-Ponty, excerpt from *Phenomenology of Perception*

JESSICA

Shannon Sullivan, "Communicating with Another"

Tasmin Lorraine, excerpt from *Irigaray and Deleuze: Experiments in Visceral Philosophy*

Deleuze and Guattari, selections

April 20

Male Bodies

Susan Faludi, "Parting Shots"

James Catano, "Effective Rhetoric/Rhetorical Effects"

Susan Bordo, "Does Size Matter?"

ADRYAN

Alphonso Lingis, "A man"

Anne Fausto-Sterling, "The Five Sexes"

Nancy Tuana, "Fleshing Gender/Sexing the Body"

Draft of final project due for workshop in class

Bring several copies for peers and instructor