

G-d Dream

LITR / Professor Andrew E. Colarusso
Seminar / Workshop
Wednesday 3 – 5:30



"Jacob's Ladder"; or, "Jacob's Dream" (c. 1799-1806) by English poet William Blake

G-d Dream
Prof. Andrew E. Colarusso

What, historically and aesthetically, constitutes an oracular vision, a clairvoyant revelation, a sign from another dimension? In this class we will explore a variety of ecstatic visions, from the Revelations of John of Patmos and Dream of the Rood, to Timothy Leary and L. Ron Hubbard, all in an effort to hone our own innervisions of what exists beyond. In this multimedia workshop we shall be free to experiment with language, sound, light, pigment. Can our own creative endeavors become expressions of "...the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."?

COURSE SELECTION: writing sample required for admission into course.

GRADING: ABC/S Option available

THIS IS A WORKSHOP/SEMINAR, meaning we will have pointed discussions of our required reading materials, while also reading/exploring/being critical of our own creative works and the works of our classmates. As such, you will each be required to workshop at least 2 original pieces (though we can workshop more, time permitting), keep a dream journal, and complete a final project.

DREAM JOURNAL: Keep a dream journal. It can be an informal tumblr or more traditional notebook. The goal here is to document-observe what visions populate your dream space.

FINAL PROJECT: A comprehensive metaphysics. If you acknowledge such a thing as an afterlife or a cosmic order in the universe, what does it look like? In ten or fewer pages (12 font, double spaced) or < 10 minutes of film/media elucidate for us what is not clear to the eye, but plain as day in your heart and soul. Share with us your vision. **Due 4/19**

ADHERENCE TO THE GOLDEN RULE (*Do unto others as you would have them do unto you*): It is my duty (and hope) to provide a space where we can be free in our expression of self. What are your honest thoughts and feelings? What concerns you or worries you? What did you appreciate about the text or performance? But this is not solely the responsibility of the professor. In our classroom we will strive to be as respectful *and* honest as possible—about literature, about ourselves, each other, and the world at large. As my homie once said: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." There will be NO discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, religious affiliation, political affiliation, or fashion sense.

DE-IDENTIFIED FEEDBACK:

The etymological root of the word *education* (educere) suggests "leading one [out]". As such, I think effective teaching can and should make us uncomfortable, but never ask us to compromise our integrity. **Uncomfortable, but never compromised.** If something happens during the course that you feel compromises your integrity and you'd like to address it without identifying yourself or others, type up your grievance and leave it in the course mailbox. I will check monthly and do my best (as a trained mediator) to amend the situation with utmost tact.

But in the event a line has been woefully transgressed (in or out of the classroom), please feel free to consult a dean. This, of course, includes any complaints you may have about your professor. It is your right and your duty to speak frankly in your best interest.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:

<https://www.brown.edu/offices/student-support/student-support-services>

STUDENT AND EMPLOYEE ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES: SEAS@brown.edu // 401-863-9588

COURSE MATERIALS:	Cost	EST. TIME:
Isaiah (ספר ישעיהו)		100 min
Revelation (Ἀποκάλυψις)		80 min
Purgatorio (canto 31)		20 min
Emanations of Grace: mystical poems by ‘Ā’ishah al-Bā’ūnīyah (عائشة بنت يوسف الباعونية)	\$18.95	120 min
Gravity and Grace		200 min
Passion of Joan of Arc		82 min
Dianetics: The Evolution of a Science		45 min
Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health (on Dreams, Propitiation, & Love)		45 min
Journey (ThatGameCompany): PS4, PS5, Windows, iOS* (version 13 or higher)	\$4.99* - \$14.99	150 min
Daughters of the Dust		115 min
Ark of Bones		45 min
Star Maker		50 min
Approaching the Unconscious		90 min
Divine Horsemen		50 min
The Holy Mountain (CW: every single trigger you can imagine)		115 min
Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives		114 min
Astrology for All		30 min

WEEKLY EST. TIME COMMITMENT: 5 HRS

~ 2.5 hrs. in class

~ 2.5 hrs. assignments

GRADING:

WORKSHOP: 30% (AT LEAST 2 WORKSHOPPED PIECES FOR COMPLETE CREDIT)

ATTENDANCE: 50% (NO MORE THAN 1 EXCUSED ABSENCE FOR FULL CREDIT)

FINAL PROJECT: 20% (DUE 4/19 – LATE SUBMISSIONS RECEIVE HALF CREDIT)

SCHEDULE:

JANUARY 27, 2021

LOGISTICS & SYLLABUS – ULTRALIGHT BEAM(S)

READINGS (Canvas):

- Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health, L. Ron Hubbard (p 227-28) – 5 minutes
- Approaching the Unconscious, Carl G. Jung – 90 minutes

FEBRUARY 3, 2021

THE SACRED & PROFANE – SOCIOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS

READINGS (Canvas):

- Revelation (Ἀποκάλυψις) – 80 minutes
- Isaiah (ספר ישעיהו) – 100 minutes

FEBRUARY 10, 2021

THEODICY, ESCHATOLOGY, SOTERIOLOGY – TYPOLOGY

READINGS (Print):

- Emanations of Grace: Mystical Poems by ‘Ā’ishah al-Bā’ūnīyah – 120 minutes

FEBRUARY 17, 2021 (ASH WEDNESDAY)

DIVINE ECSTASY (MANTIC REVELATION)

READINGS (Canvas & Kanopy):

- Gravity and Grace, Simone Weil – 200 minutes
- Optional: Passion of Joan of Arc, dir. Carl Theodor Dreyer – 82 min (Kanopy)

FEBRUARY 24, 2021 (PURIM WEEKEND)

DIVINE SOBRIETY (ASCETICISM)

READINGS (Canvas):

- Purgatorio, Dante Alighieri (canto 31) – 20 minutes

MARCH 3, 2021

LOST LOVE & REGRETS

READINGS (Canvas):

- Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health, L. Ron Hubbard (p 235 – 238; “Propitiation” & “Love”) – 40 minutes
- Dianetics: The Evolution of a Science, L. Ron Hubbard – 40 minutes

MARCH 10, 2021

AUDITING & PAST LIVES

VIEWING (Canvas Media Library):

- Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives, dir. Apichatpong Weerasethakul – 114 minutes

MARCH 17, 2021

HOLOCAUST & AFTERLIVES

READING (Canvas):

- Ark of Bones, Henry Dumas – 45 minutes
- Optional: Daughters of the Dust, dir. Julie Dash – 115 minutes (Kanopy)

MARCH 24, 2021

SYNCRETISM

VIEWING (Youtube):

- Divine Horsemen, dir. Maya Deren – 50 minutes

MARCH 31, 2021 (PASSOVER WEEK)

ACID BATH

INTERACTIVITY (Playstation Store, Steam, or App Store):

- Journey (ThatGameCompany) – 150 minutes
- Optional: The Holy Mountain, dir. Alejandro Jodorowsky – 115 minutes (**CW: everything is fckt**)

APRIL 7, 2021

THE FAULT IN OUR STARS

READING (Canvas):

- Astrology: Exoteric and Esoteric; Lecture 1, Alan Leo (pdf pages 300 – 315) – 30 minutes
- Star Maker, Olaf Stapledon (chapter XIV, epilogue, appendix) – 50 minutes

APRIL 14, 2021 (RAMADAN)

FINAL MEETING