

**Texts:**

- (required) *Lacan and Contemporary Film*, Todd McGowan and Sheila Kunkle
- (required) *Enjoy Your Symptom*, Slavoj Žižek
- (online) selection from *The Lacanian Subject*, Bruce Fink
- (online) selection from *Encore: Seminar XX*, Jacques Lacan

**Overview:**

- Most generally, this course is an introduction to Lacanian psychoanalytic thought, its difficulties and its usefulness, via films and readings. The expected outcome of this short session is relatively conversant knowledge in some principles of Lacanian psychoanalytic theory and application and, more practically, a polished conference presentation ready to take on the road.

**Policies:**

- Class attendance is required. No more than one (1) absence is excused. This means that no doctor's notes or, indeed, any excuses are needed for the first absence, and subsequent absences are unexcused regardless. A 10 points will be deducted from your response/participation grade (even if you post a response for the day) for each absence beyond the allowed number. In case of illness or emergency, please contact me as soon as possible.
- I will not accept late papers or assignments. In case of illness or emergency, please contact me as soon as possible.
- All essays must be typed and double-spaced. Use basic fonts, no larger than 12 pt. Margins should be one inch all around. Titles are mandatory and fun. Be original and inventive. Do not use plastic binders or notebooks to enclose your essays. Staples are best. Always, always keep an extra hard copy of your work.
- Plagiarism will result in immediate failure.
- Please Note: The films that we will be viewing might (one never knows) be offensive to some of you. While the films that we will view are generally films that have been shown in theaters in the US and in Europe to adults, some one or more of you might find them offensive to your political, religious, moral views or tastes. If you think that you will find them offensive, then you should not enroll in the course or, if enrolled, should withdraw from it. If you want or need to stay in the course, then you have made a choice. Please understand that everyone else, at any time, should feel free to discuss these or any other films and in no way can your sensitivity to certain films or issues or language be used as a means of avoiding the required work for this course.

**Grades:**

Your grade will be based on the following:

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| 40 points | > Twice-weekly responses to the reading and classroom participation. |
| 20 points | > summary and discussion questions                                   |
| 40 points | > an abstract, a conference-length paper and its presentation.       |

Responses: Each of you will maintain some sort of weblog—WordPress is good, but there are lots of others. Each week, please identify an issue or idea from the reading that you find particularly compelling and write informally about it. Consider your own responses and questions, or look beyond our readings and make connections with other discussions going on right now. You should feel free to write more often in this space and to blog about other things entirely, but please post an entry twice a week about that week's readings no

later than midnight prior to our class meeting. I expect the equivalent of 300-500 words (1-2 pages), either in a single entry or distributed across multiple posts. Name these posts something obvious. Read other blogs beyond our course for ideas and insights and try to synthesize. Feel free to speculate. This writing is always understood to be provisional.

Each of you will be responsible for summarizing portions of the readings and providing discussion questions for the class. We will sign up for these at the first class meeting.

Please look below, after the schedule, for more general policies.

**NOTE:** The following is a general plan for our classroom discussions and assignments. Due dates and assignments are subject to change with notice from the instructor.

**The following schedule is subject to change:**

July 15	Course Introduction; Film
July 20	<i>Lacanian Subject, Encore</i>
July 22	<i>Enjoy Your Symptom</i> Intro, 1-2; Film
July 27	<i>Enjoy Your Symptom</i> 3-6
July 29	<i>Enjoy Your Symptom</i> 7-8; Film
August 3	<i>Enjoy Your Symptom</i> 9-11; <i>Lacan and Contemporary Film</i> 1-3
August 5	<i>Lacan and Contemporary Film</i> 4-5; Film
August 10	<i>Lacan and Contemporary Film</i> 6-9; <b>Abstract Workshop</b>
August 12	Presentations
August 17	Presentations <b>Final Papers are Due</b>

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All essays must be typed and double-spaced. Use basic fonts, no larger than 12 pt. Margins should be one inch all around. Titles are mandatory and fun. Be original and inventive. Do not use plastic binders or notebooks to enclose your essays. Staples are best. No late papers will be accepted. Always, always keep an extra hard copy of your work.

Student e-mails will be addressed only during office hours.

Plagiarism will result in immediate failure of the course.

Americans With Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability). Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in room 102 of University Hall or call them at (817) 272-3364.

Academic Integrity: It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2)

Student Support Services Available: The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. These programs include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.

E-Culture Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University email address as an official means of communication with students. Through the use of email, UT-Arlington is able to provide students with relevant and timely information, designed to facilitate student success. In particular, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation may be sent to students through email.

All students are assigned an email account and information about activating and using it is available at [www.uta.edu/email](http://www.uta.edu/email). New students (first semester at UTA) are able to activate their email account 24 hours after registering for courses. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active as long as a student is enrolled at UT-Arlington. Students are responsible for checking their email regularly.