Psychos and Schizos: Deleuze and Psychoanalysis

Course Description
The philosophy of Gilles Deleuze, both before and after his partnering with Félix Guattari, displays an intense, complex and prolonged interest and critical engagement with psychoanalysis in many of its orthodox and heterodox forms (Freudian, Jungian, Kleinian, Lacanian, Reichian, Marcusian, etc.). Focusing on Coldness and Cruelty, The Logic of Sense, Anti-Oedipus and A Thousand Plateaus, this course undertakes a close examination of the ways in which various iterations of psychoanalytic theory are evoked, deployed and critiqued in a number of works in the Deleuzian corpus. We will undertake close readings of these works in relation to selected psychoanalytic figures, in order to gain a better understanding of the manner in which Deleuze (or Deleuze-Guattari) use, adapt or attempt to overcome psychoanalysis in their approach to such exemplary psychoanalytic problems as the unconscious, desire, sexuality, language, subjectivity, object relations, and the genealogy and history of human civilizations. Freud quickly enough brought his invention outside of the clinic, adapting his metapsychology to analysis of culture and history. Even in his critique of psychoanalysis, Deleuze deploys an intrepid and systematic interdisciplinarity worthy of Freud. Our investigation into the variety of relations Deleuze entertained with psychoanalysis will thus help us come to better terms with the nature and history of his perpetually heterogenetic system.

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: Coldness and Cruelty (Chapters 1-6)
    Leopold von Sacher Masoch, Venus in Furs
    Freud, “The Economic Problem of Masochism”

Week 3: Coldness and Cruelty (Chapters 7-11)
        Freud, Beyond the Pleasure Principle

Week 4: The Logic of Sense (chapters 1-12)
        Melanie Klein “Notes on Some Schizoid Mechanisms (1946)

Week 5: The Logic of Sense (chapters 13-25)
        Melanie Klein, “Some Theoretical Conclusions Regarding the Emotional Life of the Infant” (1952)
        Jung, “On Synchronicity”

Week 6: The Logic of Sense (chapters 26-34)
        Serge Leclaire, “The Body of the Letter, or the Intricacy of the Object and the Letter”

Week 7: Anti-Oedipus (Chapters 1-2)
        Freud, “Schreber”
        Lacan, “The Unconscious and Repetition”
Guattari, “Transversality”

Week 8: *Anti-Oedipus* (Chapter 3)
  Freud, *Civilization and its Discontents*
  Freud, “Group Psychology”

Week 9: *Anti-Oedipus* (Chapter 4)
  Herbert Marcuse, *Eros and Civilization*

Week 10: “Dead Psychoanalysis: Analyze”

Week 11: *A Thousand Plateaus* (“Rhizome,” “One or Several Wolves”)
  Melanie Klein, “Richard”

Week 12: *A Thousand Plateaus* (“Postulates of Linguistics,” “On Several Regimes of Signs,” “How Do You Make Yourself a Body Without Organs?”)
  Julia Kristeva, “The Semiotic and the Symbolic”

Week 13: *A Thousand Plateaus* (“Treatise on Nomadology,” “Apparatus of Capture”)
  Slavoj Zizek, *Organs Without Bodies*

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