

Psychiatry in literature 2020 - 2021

Number of students:	minimum 15 and maximum 45
Academic Year:	3
Semester:	1
Period:	September 09 – November 25
Days:	Wednesdays and Saturdays
Time:	19.00 – 21.00 (sometimes 21.30 or 22.00)
Number of meetings:	6
Dates:	09/9; 30/9; 14/10; 28/10; 11/11; 25/11
Location:	On line
Credits:	6 ECTS
Lecturers:	Dr. Arko Oderwald, Department of Family Medicine. VU Medical Center, Amsterdam. Dr. Sofie Vandamme, Hogeschool voor de Kunsten, Gent
Course coordinator:	Dr. Arko Oderwald. Both lecturers work together for a long time now.
Course concept	Interdisciplinary: literature, art and psychiatry
Course description	The psychiatrist and novelist have certain features in common. Both disciplines observe, describe and judge human behavior, although in a different way. In this course we will discuss a number of novels en movies in which psychiatric questions play an important role. At the same time the course also gives insight in the history of psychiatry and in the development of the concept of disease in psychiatry, starting in the early 19 th century.
Working formats	Interactive classes with peer interaction Reading and analyzing novels Writing reviews as a preparation for the classes, practicing academic skills.
Relevance of the course	Psychiatry has always been a very social discipline, in which daily life and human behavior is an important feature. Novelist give another form of insight in psychiatric diseases, sometimes even before a disease has been described by the psychiatrist.
Study materials	Novels to read obligatory - Georg Büchner: Lenz (1834)

- Honoré de Balzac: Louis Lambert (1832)
- Gustave Flaubert: Madame Bovary (1860)
- Emile Zola: Therèse Raquin (1867)
- Joachim Machado de Assis: The psychiatrist (1881)
- Frederik van Eeden: The deeps of deliverance (1900)
- Sylvia Plath: The Bell Jarr (1963)
- Ken Kesey: One flew over the cuckoo's nest (1962)
- Jonathan Franzen: The corrections (2001)

Movies

- A beautiful mind

Movies at choice

- The deeps of deliverance (Nouschka van Brakel) (optional)
- One flew over the cuckoo's nest (Milos Forman)

Background literature (obligatory)

- Roy Porter: Madness, a brief history
- Arko Oderwald: Unfamiliar knowledge

Assessments

Attending the courses

Writing 5 reviews (400 words) (30%)

Writing an academic essay of 3000 words (70%)

Attendance policy

The courses are obligatory.

Program

- **Meeting 1 September 09, 19 – 21.30**
 - Introduction to the course
 - Georg Büchner: Lenz (1834)
- **Meeting 2 September 30, 19 – 22.00**
 - Honoré de Balzac: Louis Lambert (1832)
(symptoms/disease: psychosis; schizophrenia)
 - Gustave Flaubert: Madame Bovary (1860)
(symptoms/disease: hysteria; suicide)
 - Emile Zola: Therèse Raquin (1867)
(no specific disease)
- **Meeting 3 October 14, 19 – 21**
 - Joachim Machado de Assis: The Psychiatrist (1881)
(how should madness be described and put in categories, in combination with a discussion about the DSM-V, the modern categorization of psychiatric diseases.)
- **Meeting 4 October 28, 19 – 21**
 - Frederik van Eeden: The deeps of deliverance (1900)
(symptoms/disease: psychosis)
(At choice) Together with the film by Nouschka van Brakel

- **Meeting 5 November 11, 19 – 21**
 - Sylvia Plath: The bell Jar (1963)
Symptoms/Disease: depression, suicide
Together with (free choice) Connie Palmen, Jij zegt het (2015) (NL)
- **Meeting 6 November 25, 19- 22.00**
 - Ken Kesey: One flew over the cuckoo's nest (1962)
(At choice) Together with the film One flew over the cuckoo's nest (Milos Forman)
 - Film: A beautiful mind (1999)
 - Jonathan Franzen: The corrections (2001)
Symptoms/Disease: neuroses, Parkinson disease