

INTRODUCING FREUD:  
**The Later Freud**

Tutor: Keith Barrett BA PhD  
Saturday November 30<sup>th</sup> 2019

Session 1

We will explore the brilliant and fruitful new ideas of Freud's 'middle period', focussing especially on '*On Narcissism: an introduction*' (1914) and '*Mourning and Melancholia*' (1915), which began the revision of the libido theory, and suggested a new understanding of internal psychic structure. These works have retained their resonance - both within psychoanalysis and beyond - and we will discuss their current importance in philosophy and cultural theory.

Session 2

Beginning from '*Totem and Taboo*' (1913), we will explore Freud's mature theories of religion and society, carefully analysing the ideas set out in '*The Future of an Illusion*' (1927) and '*Civilisation and its Discontents*' (1929). Freud's vision of the future of humanity - as well as his views on the possibility of individual happiness and the role of religion in the human condition - have provoked critical responses from philosophers and social thinkers, as well as psychoanalysts, and we will engage critically with these intellectual debates.

Session 3

In the final session we will explore the two works in which Freud makes his most profound theoretical contribution: '*Beyond the Pleasure Principle*' (1920) and '*The Ego and the Id*' (1923). These works re-cast the foundations of his thinking - and have retained their importance right down to the present, exerting a powerful influence on the development of psychoanalysis and also feeding into philosophy through the work of Derrida and Lacan. We will review these new interpretations, and conclude by looking at Freud's own final summary of his contribution to knowledge in '*An Outline of Psychoanalysis*' (1938).