

PSYCHOLOGY AND LITERATURE

In this course, we use psychological theories to understand characters from novels; this year we will pay special attention to transitions. Even changes that are predictable bring elements of chance that may make coping more difficult than anticipated. The transition from adolescence to adulthood, for no predictable reason, may be harder or easier. What about the changes that a new relationship brings, or the death of an old one (either literal or figurative). Or what does immigration from one culture/country to another add to the mix?

As customary, the heart of this course will be the conversation that we have...my voice and yours are required to make it all work. I know that this is a lot of reading for some --I hope you enjoy it!

9/3 Idra Novey, Take What You Need (2023)

9/10 Elizabeth Strout, Lucy by the Sea (2023)

9/17 Penelope Lively, City of the Mind (1991)

9/24 Colm Toibin, Brooklyn (2015)

10/1 Dolen P Valdez, Take my Hand (2023)

10/8 TBA