

## James Joyce's *Ulysses*

English 4520F  
Michael Groden  
mgroden@uwo.ca  
classes: UC 282  
Mondays 7:00-10:00  
Sept. 9, 2013

<http://instruct.uwo.ca/english/4520f/>

### texts

required:

*Ulysses: The Gabler Edition*  
*Dubliners* (any edition)  
*A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (any edition)

optional:

Harry Blamires, *The New Bloomsday Book*  
Don Gifford & Robert Seidman, *Ulysses Annotated*  
*Finnegans Wake* (any edition)

+ online notes on *Ulysses*:

<http://publish.uwo.ca/~mgroden/notes/>

course Web site:

<http://instruct.uwo.ca/english/4520f/>

+ online notes on *Ulysses*

<http://publish.uwo.ca/~mgroden/notes/>

online text of *Ulysses*

<http://www.trentu.ca/faculty/jjoyce/>

concordance text for *Ulysses*

<http://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/~rac101/concord/texts/ulysses/>

"In many ways Joyce invented  
Dublin, and those of us living  
there now have to live in it  
according to his myopic lens."

Edward Barrington  
Irish Ambassador to UK  
opening remarks at James Joyce  
Symposium, London, June 2000

### *Ulysses*

Ezra Pound (1922): "All men should 'Unite to give praise to Ulysses'; those who will not, may consider themselves with a place in the lower intellectual orders."

T.S. Eliot (1922): *Ulysses* has "the importance of a scientific discovery." It is "a step towards making the modern world possible for art."

### *Ulysses*

"It is always worth testing out any literary theory by asking: How would it work with Joyce's *Finnegans Wake* [and *Ulysses*]?"  
(Terry Eagleton,  
*Literary Theory: An Introduction*)

### *Ulysses*

"*Ulysses* is hopeless. It is absurd to imagine that any good end can be served by trying to record every single thought and sensation of any human being. That's not art. It's like trying to copy the London Directory."

George Moore (Irish novelist) in 1922

### *Ulysses*

Shane Leslie (1922): "As a whole, the book must remain impossible to read. . . It is experimental, anti-conventional, anti-Christian, chaotic, totally unmoral."

anonymous review in *The Sporting Times* (Dublin 1922): *Ulysses* "appears to have been written by a perverted lunatic who has made a specialty of the literature of the latrine."

#### *Ulysses* (1)

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| publication | February 2, 1922<br>Joyce wrote <i>Ulysses</i> between 1914 and 1922<br>declared obscene in U.S. in January 1921 (judgment reversed in December 1933)<br><i>Ulysses</i> published on Joyce's 40th birthday by Shakespeare and Company in Paris (732 pages) |
| time span   | June 16, 1904<br>Arnold Bennett called June 16, 1904 "the dailiest day possible"<br>Bloomsday  |
| location    | Dublin<br>Joyce to Frank Budgen: "I want to give a picture of Dublin so complete that if the city one day suddenly disappeared from the earth it could be reconstructed out of my book."   |

#### *Ulysses* (2)

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| class      | working-class / lower-middle-class   |
| characters | Leopold Bloom, Molly Bloom, Stephen Dedalus  |
| style      | interior monologue, stream of consciousness<br>Joyce: "the initial style" – then new styles and techniques |
| title      | <i>Ulysses</i><br>Homer's <i>Odyssey</i>   |

#### James Joyce 1882-1941 (1)

1882 born February 2 in Dublin  
1888 enters Clongowes Wood College  
1891 death of Charles Stewart Parnell  
1893-98 Belvedere College in Dublin  
1898-1902 begins University College Dublin  
1900 "Ibsen's New Drama" in *Fortnightly Review*  
1902 BA from UCD, to Paris to study medicine  
1904 back in Dublin, death of mother, teaches school, first *Dubliners* stories, starts novel *Stephen Hero*, meets Nora Barnacle, they leave - unmarried - for continent

#### James Joyce 1882-1941 (2)

1905-7 to Trieste - son Giorgio, daughter Lucia - more *Dubliners* stories, continues *Stephen Hero*  
1905-14 attempts to publish *Dubliners*  
1907 *Chamber Music* (poems) published  
1910-14 reworks *Stephen Hero* into *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* - meets Ezra Pound  
1914 *Dubliners* published - *Portrait* serialized in *The Egoist* - starts *Ulysses*, but puts it aside for play *Exiles* - World War I (to Zurich in 1915; war lasts to 1918)  
1916 *Portrait* published

**James Joyce 1882-1941 (3)**

1915-22: writes *Ulysses* (*Little Review* 1918-20 until court case stops it, book Feb. 2, 1922, Joyce's 40th birthday)

1915-18: in Zurich, Switzerland

1916: Easter Rising in Dublin

1918: play *Exiles* performed

1918: return to Trieste (part of Italy)

1919: Irish War of Independence begins (to 1922)

1920: to Paris

1922: finishes *Ulysses*, published on 40th birthday (February 2)

**James Joyce 1882-1941 (4)**

**Published works:**

*Chamber Music* (poems) (1907)

*Dubliners* (1914)

*A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (1916)

*Exiles* (play) (1918)

*Ulysses* (1922)

*Pomes Penyeach* (poems) (1927)

*Collected Poems* (*Chamber Music, Pomes Penyeach, and "Ecce Puer"*; 1936)

*Finnegans Wake* (1939)

**James Joyce 1882-1941 (5)**

**Posthumous works:**

*Stephen Hero* (early version of *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*; written 1904-06, published 1944, 1963)

*Critical Writings* (1959); *Occasional, Critical, and Political Writing* (2000) - essays and book reviews, mostly from before 1910

*Letters* (volume 1, 1957; volumes 2-3, 1966; *Selected Letters*, 1975)

*Giacomo Joyce* (short sketch from 1914, published 1968)

translation of Gerhart Hauptmann's 1889 play *Before Sunrise* (translated 1901, published 1978)

"The Cat and the Devil" (1964) and "The Cats of Copenhagen" (2012) - sketches for children, in letters written in August 1936