Julian Jaynes Society

Self-Study Course on Jaynesian Theory

by Marcel Kuijsten

Section 1: Jaynesian Theory 101 (Weeks 1–4)

1. Julian Jaynes, *The Origin of Consciousness in the Breakdown of the Bicameral Mind*, 1976/2000.
2. Marcel Kuijsten (ed.), *The Julian Jaynes Collection*, 2012, esp. Parts III & IV: Interviews & Discussion.
3. William Woodward & June Tower, "Julian Jaynes: Introducing His Life and Thought." In Marcel Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 1.
4. James E. Morriss, "Reflections on Julian Jaynes's *The Origin of Consciousness in the Breakdown of the Bicameral Mind*." In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 2.
5. Brian J. McVeigh, "Elephants in the Psychology Department: Overcoming Intellectual Barriers to Understanding Julian Jaynes's Theory." In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 3.

Section 2: Consciousness & Language (Weeks 5–8)

1. John Limber, "Language and Consciousness." In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 6.
2. Ted Remington, "Echoes of the Gods: Towards a Jaynesian Understanding of Rhetoric." In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 13.
3. Scott Greer, "A Knowing Noos and A Slippery Psyche: Jaynes's Recipe for an Unnatural Theory of Consciousness." In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 8.
4. Tor Nørretranders, "Part III: Consciousness." In Nørretranders, *The User Illusion: Cutting Consciousness Down to Size*, 1988, Ch. 9-12.
5. L.S. Vygotsky, "The Genetic Roots of Thought and Speech." In Vygotsky, *Thought and Language*, 1962, Ch. 4.
6. Brian J. McVeigh, *A Psychohistory of Metaphors: Envisioning Time, Space, and Self through the Centuries*, 2016.

Further Reading:

7. Daniel Dennett, *Kinds of Minds: Towards an Understanding of Consciousness*, 1997.
8. Jose Luis Bermudez, "The Limits of Thinking without Words." In Bermudez, *Thinking without Words*, 2003, Chapter 9.
9. William James, "The Stream of Thought." In James, *The Principles of Psychology*, 1890, Ch. 9.
10. William James, "The Consciousness of Self." In James, *The Principles of Psychology*, 1890, Ch. 10.
11. Francis Galton, "Antechamber of Consciousness." In Galton, *Inquiries into Human Faculty and Its Development*, 1883.
12. I.A. Richards, *The Philosophy of Rhetoric*, 1965.

Section 3: Auditory Hallucinations & Schizophrenia (Weeks 9–12)

1. Julian Jaynes, "The Ghost of a Flea: Visions of William Blake." In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 2.
2. Julian Jaynes, "Verbal Hallucinations and Preconscious Mentality." In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 3.
3. Russell T. Hurlbert, "A Schizophrenic Woman Who Heard Voices of the Gods." In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 10.

4. Marcel Kuijsten, “Consciousness, Hallucinations, and the Bicameral Mind: Three Decades of New Research” (pgs. 100–106). In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 4.
5. John Hamilton, “Auditory Hallucinations in Nonverbal Quadriplegics.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.),*Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 5.
6. John Sappington & John Hamilton, “On Listening to Voices.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 9.

Further Reading:

7. Daniel B. Smith,*Muses, Madmen, and Prophets: Rethinking the History, Science, and Meaning of Auditory Hallucination*, 2007.
8. G. Lynn Stephens & George Graham,*When Self-Consciousness Breaks: Alien Voices and Inserted Thoughts*, 2000.
9. John Watkins, *Hearing Voices: A Common Human Experience*, 2008.
10. Iris E.C. Sommer && Rene S. Kahn (eds.), *Language Lateralization and Psychosis*, 2009.
11. Mary Boyle, *Schizophrenia: A Scientific Delusion?*, 2002.
12. Richard P. Bentall, *Madness Explained*, 2005, Ch. 1 – 6.
13. Lori Schiller && Amanda Bennett, *The Quiet Room: A Journey Out of the Torment of Madness*, 1996.
14. Alexandre-Jacques-Francois Brierre de Boismont, *Hallucinations: The Rational History of Apparitions, Visions, Dreams, Ecstasy, Magnetism, and Somnambulism*. 1853, 1976.
15. Marius Romme, *Making Sense of Voices: The Mental Health Professional's Guide to Working with Voice-Hearers*, 2000.

Section 4: The Early Greeks (Weeks 13–16)

1. Jan Sleutels, “Greek Zombies: On the Alleged Absurdity of Substantially Unconscious Greek Minds.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 11.
2. E.R. Dodds, *The Greeks and the Irrational*, 1951, Ch. 1–3, 5, Appendix II.
3. Richard Stoneman, *The Ancient Oracles: Making the Gods Speak*, 2011
4. Bruno Snell, *The Discovery of the Mind In Greek Philosophy and Literature*, 1953/1982, Chapters 1–3, 5–7.
5. Chester Starr, *The Awakening of the Greek Historical Spirit*, 1968.
6. Ruth Padel, “Madness in Fifth-Century (B.C.) Athenian Tragedy.” In A. Lock and P. Heelas, *Indigenous Psychologies: The Anthropology of the Self*, 1981.

Further Reading:

7. Ruth Padel, *In and Out of the Mind: Greek Images of the Tragic Self*, 1994.
8. R.B. Onians, *The Origins of European Thought: About the Body, the Mind, the Soul, the World, Time & Fate*, 1988.

Section 5: The Dual Brain (Weeks 17–20)

1. Marcel Kuijsten, “Consciousness, Hallucinations, and the Bicameral Mind: Three Decades of New Research” (pgs. 116–120). In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 4.
2. Marcel Kuijsten, “Introduction” in M. Kuijsten (ed.), *The Julian Jaynes Collection*, 2012.
3. Michael Gazzaniga, “The Split Brain in Man.” In Robert Ornstein (ed.), *The Nature of Human Consciousness: A Book of Readings*, 1973, Chapter 7.
4. Joseph E. Bogen, “The Other Side of the Brain: An Appositional Mind.” In Robert Ornstein (ed.), *The Nature of Human Consciousness: A Book of Readings*, 1973, Chapter 8.
5. Roger W. Sperry, “Consciousness, Personal Identity, and the Divided Brain.” In D. Frank Benson, *The Dual Brain: Hemispheric Specialization in Humans*, 1985.

6. Joseph E. Bogen, “The Dual Brain: Some Historical and Methodological Aspects.” In D. Frank Benson, *The Dual Brain: Hemispheric Specialization in Humans*, 1985.
7. Eran Zaidel, “Language in the Right Hemisphere.” In D. Frank Benson, *The Dual Brain: Hemispheric Specialization in Humans*, 1985.
8. Charles E. Marks, *Commissurotomy, Consciousness, and Unity of Mind*, 1981.

Further Reading:

9. Stuart Dimond, *The Double Brain*, 1972.
10. Antonio M. Battro, *Half a Brain is Enough: The Story of Nico*, 2002.
11. Anne Harrington, *Mind, Medicine, and the Double Brain: A Study in Nineteenth-Century Thought*, 1989.
12. A.L. Wigan, *The Duality of The Mind - Proved by the Structure, Functions and Diseases of The Brain* (with new Foreword by Joseph Bogen), 1844/1985.

Section 6: Bicameralism in Ancient Civilizations (Weeks 21–24)

1. Julian Jaynes, “The Meaning of King Tut.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 10.
2. Julian Jaynes, “Dragons of the Shang Dynasty: The Hidden Faces.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 12.
3. Bill Rowe, “Voices Become Gods.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 4.
4. Bill Rowe, “The Ancient Dark Age.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 5.
5. Michael Carr, “The Shi 'Corpse/Personator' Ceremony in Early China.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 13.
6. Todd Gibson, “Souls, Gods, Kings, and Mountains: Julian Jaynes’s Theory of the Bicameral Mind in Tibet, Part One.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 14.
7. Todd Gibson, “Listening for Ancient Voices: Julian Jaynes’s Theory of the Bicameral Mind in Tibet, Part Two.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 15.

Further Reading:

8. Siegfried Morenz, “Divine Commandments, Guidance, and Inspiration: The Functions of the Gods.” In Morenz, *Egyptian Religion*, 1973, Ch. 4.
9. Henri Frankfort, Chapters 5, 19, 21. In Frankfort, *Kingship and the Gods: A Study of Ancient Near Eastern Religion as the Integration of Society and Nature*, 1948.
10. Leo Oppenheim, Ch. 4. In Oppenheim, *Ancient Mesopotamia: Portrait of a Dead Civilization*, 1964.
11. J. Eric Thompson, *Maya History and Religion*, 1990.
12. H.W.F. Saggs, *The Greatness that was Babylon: A Sketch of the Ancient Civilization of the Tigris-Euphrates Valley*, 1962.
13. S.H. Hooke, *Babylonian and Assyrian Religion*, 1963.

Section 7: The Mentality of of Pre-Literate and Pre-Modern Peoples (Weeks 25–29)

1. Lucien Lévy-Bruhl, *Primitive Mentality*, 1923, 1975, Ch. 1, 2, 4–7, 12.
2. Lucien Lévy-Bruhl, *How Natives Think*, 1926, 1985, Ch. 8 and 9.
3. Daniel L. Everett, *Don't Sleep, There Are Snakes: Life and Language in the Amazonian Jungle*, 2009.
4. A. Lock and P. Heelas, *Indigenous Psychologies: The Anthropology of the Self*, 1981.

Further Reading:

5. Maurice Leenhardt, *Do Kamo: Person and Myth in the Melanesian World*, 1947, 1979.

6. E.E. Evans-Pritchard, “Levy-Bruhl.” In Evans-Pritchard, *Theories of Primitive Religion*, 1965, Ch. 4.
7. Scott Wallace, *The Unconquered: In Search of the Amazon's Last Uncontacted Tribes*, 2009.

Section 8: Neurotheology & the Origin of Religion (Weeks 30–34)

1. Marcel Kuijsten, “Consciousness, Hallucinations, and the Bicameral Mind: Three Decades of New Research” (pgs. 120–126). In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 4.
2. James Cohn, *Minds of the Bible: Speculations on the Cultural Evolution of Human Consciousness*, 2007.
3. David C. Stove, “The Oracles and Their Cessation: A Tribute to Julian Jaynes.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 9.
4. Brian J. McVeigh,*How Religion Evolved: Explaining the Living Dead, Talking Idols, and Mesmerizing Monuments*, 2016.

Further Reading:

5. V.S. Ramachandran & Sandra Blakeslee, “God and the Limbic System.” In Ramachandran & Blakeslee, *Phantoms in the Brain: Probing the Mysteries of the Human Mind*, 1999, Ch. 9.
6. Robert M. Salpolsky, “Circling the Blanket for God.” In Salpolsky, *The Trouble with Testosterone and Other Essays on the Biology of the Human Predicament*, 1997, Ch. 17.
7. Michael Persinger, *Neuropsychological Bases of God Beliefs*, 1987.

Section 9: Hypnosis, Possession, and Trance States (Weeks 35-39)

1. Marcel Kuijsten, “Hypnosis As A Vestige of the Bicameral Mind.” In *Contemporary Hypnosis & Integrative Therapy*, 2012, Vol. 29, Issue 3.
2. Brian McVeigh, “The Self as Interiorized Social Relations: Applying a Jaynesian Approach to Problems of Agency and Volition.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness*, 2007, Ch. 7.
3. Ernest Hilgard, *Divided Consciousness: Multiple Controls in Human Thought and Action*, 1986.
4. T.K. Oesterreich, *Possession: Demoniacal and Other*, 1930/2003.

Further Reading:

5. Alan Gauld, *A History of Hypnotism*, 1995.
6. Charles Baudouin, *Suggestion and Autosuggestion: A Psychological and Pedagogical Study Based Upon the Investigations of the New Nancy School*, 1920.
7. Emma Cohen, *The Mind Possessed: The Cognition of Spirit Possession in an Afro-Brazilian Religious Tradition*, 2007.

Section 10: Dreams (Bicameral Dreams vs. Conscious Dreams) (Weeks 40-42)

1. Julian Jaynes, “The Dream of Agamemnon,” in Marcel Kuijsten (ed.), *The Julian Jaynes Collection*, 2012.
2. Robert Atwan, “The Interpretation of Dreams, The Origin of Consciousness, and the Birth of Tragedy.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 6.
3. E.R. Dodds, “Dream-Pattern and Culture-Pattern.” In Dodds, *The Greeks and the Irrational*, 1951, Ch. 4.
4. Lucien Lévy-Bruhl, “Dreams.” In Lévy-Bruhl, *Primitive Mentality*, 1923/1975, Ch. 3.
5. Sigmund Freud, “The Scientific Literature Dealing with the Problems of Dreams.” In Freud, *The Intepretation of Dreams*, 1911, Ch. 1.
6. William Vernon Harris, *Dreams and Experience in Classical Antiquity*, 2009.
7. David Foulkes, *Children's Dreaming and the Development of Consciousness*, 1999.

Further Reading:

8. Robert L. Van De Castle, *Our Dreaming Mind*, 1994, Parts 1 & 2.

Section 11: Consciousness & Hallucinations in Children (Weeks 43-46)

1. Bill Rowe, “Two Origins of Consciousness.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 11.
2. Dorothy G. Singer and Jerome L. Singer, “Imaginary Playmates and Imaginary Worlds.” In Singer & Singer, *The House of Make-Believe: Childrens Play and the Developing Imagination*, 1992. Ch. 5. See also pgs. 123–127, 278.
3. L.S. Vygotsky, “Piaget's Theory of the Child's Speech and Thought.” In Vygotsky, *Thought & Language*, 1962, Ch. 2.
4. Marjorie Taylor, *Imaginary Companions and the Children Who Create Them*, 1999.
5. Daniel Pilowsky & William Chambers (eds.), *Hallucinations in Children*, 1986.

Further Reading:

6. Nathan A. Harvey, *Imaginary Playmates and other Mental Phenomena of Children*, 1918.

Section 12: Poetry, Literature & The Gods (Weeks 47-52)

1. Judith Weissman, “Evolution and Inspiration.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 8.
2. Edward Proffitt, “Romanticism, Bicamerality, and the Evolution of the Brain.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 8.
3. Laura Mooneyham White, “The Origin of Consciousness, Gains and Losses: Walker Percy vs. Julian Jaynes.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 12.
4. Robert E. Haskell, “Vico and Jaynes: Neurocultural and Cognitive Operations in the Origin of Consciousness.” In M. Kuijsten (ed.), *Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind*, 2016, Ch. 16.
5. Carole Brooks Platt, *In Their Right Minds: The Lives and Shared Practices of Poetic Geniuses*, 2015

Further Reading:

6. Judith Weissman, “Introduction” & “Homer: Old Fathers and Absent Kings.” In Weissman, *Of Two Minds: Poets Who Hear Voices*, 1993.
7. Judith Weissman, “William Blake: Harsh Instruments of Sound and Witches with Knives.” In Weissman, *Of Two Minds: Poets Who Hear Voices*, 1993, Ch. 6.
8. Giulia Sissa & Marcel Detienne, *The Daily Life of the Greek Gods*, 2000.
9. Jon D. Mikalson, *Honor Thy Gods: Popular Religion in Greek Tragedy*, 1992.
10. Andrew Lang, Walter Leaf, Ernest Myers (translators), *The Iliad of Homer*, 1900.

Optional Section: Consciousness & Modern Life

1. Nathaniel Branden, *The Art of Living Consciously: The Power of Awareness to Transform Everyday Life*, 1999.

Further Reading:

2. Albert Ellis & Robert A. Harper, *A Guide to Rational Living*, 1975.