

Snow-Leavis: Some Terms & Names

TERMS

Dons A general term, deriving from Latin, meaning "teacher", but within British academic context, refers to senior professor, usually head of departments of colleges.

Fellow A member of a college, often a teacher, but also may be a non-teaching, research position.

Jesus A college of Cambridge University.

The Spectator Weekly British magazine.

PEOPLE

Kingsly Amis (1922-1955) British writer, poet and critic. Wrote *Lucky Jim*, a comic and satirical novel about academic life. Known early on as an "angry young man", he later became quite conservative in his views.

Matthew Arnold (1822-1888) British poet and critic. Arguably the most influential humanist of his time.

J.D. Bernal (1901-1971) Cambridge physicist who worked in x-rays. A well-known Marxist, he was nonetheless an active advisor to the British government during the Second World War.

Patrick Blackett (1897-1974) Prolific British physicist, also known for his liberal political activities.

Louis de Broglie (1892-1987) French physicist with aristocratic roots, known for his work in the discovery of wave mechanics. He won the Nobel Prize for his work in wave physics.

A.H. Compton (1892-1962) American physicist who pursued distinguished research in x-rays and cosmic rays. He was active in the post-WW II evaluation of atomic energy in the United States.

Michael Faraday (1791-1867) Originally a bookbinder in England, he became interested in electricity and discovered magnetic properties resulting in his invention of the dynamo. His work continued in his development of electric field theory.

Graham Greene (1904-1991) British novelist and essayist. A graduate of Oxford University, Greene works included, *The End of the Affair* and *Our Man in Havana*.

G.H. Hardy (1877-1947) Mathematician who taught at Cambridge and Oxford Universities, specializing in pure mathematics. His 1940 book, *A Mathematician's Apology*, is regarded as one of the best works describing the joys of mathematics. He was a friend of C. P. Snow and the subject of at least one Snow essay.

T.H. Huxley (1825-1895) British scientist. Largely responsible for the establishment and promotion of science as a profession.

Thomas Kyd (1558-1594) A British writer in the time of Elizabeth I. He was best known for his successful dramatic works, including the wildly popular play, *The Spanish Tragedy*.

(Percy) Wyndham Lewis (1882-1957) British artist/author, known to be somewhat difficult and negative. Founded 20th Century artistic movement called *Vorticism*.

Frederick Lindemann (1886-1957) German-born, British physicist who was distinguished in aircraft design. He was a war-time advisor to Winston Churchill and advocated the bombing of enemy civilian populations during the war.

Luddites Beginning in the early 1800's, this was a group of British weavers, knitters and croppers residing in the Midlands who violently reacted against perceived injustices of the Industrial Revolution. Now a general term for people who are against technological progress.

Thomas Merton (1915-1968) American writer, poet and Trappist monk. He attended schools in France and England, obtaining his degree from Columbia University. His later works dealing with Eastern spirituality became especially popular in the 1960's.

Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926) German lyric poet whose themes centered upon life, existence and spirituality.

Victor Rothschild (1910-1990) Born into the famous banking family, he became a zoologist. He was acquainted with the post-World War II Cambridge spies, subjecting him to unsubstantiated accusations that he was a Soviet agent.

John Ruskin (1819-1900) British writer, artist, scientist, critic. He was an advocate for the labor movement and working people.

Bertrand Russell (1872-1970) British philosopher whose work spanned philosophy of mathematics to political theory. He was the 3rd Earl of Russell and was active in anti-war activities and social justice issues throughout his life.

Ernest Rutherford (1871-1937) New Zealander/British physicist who was awarded the Nobel Prize for his work in the field of radioactivity.

J.J. Thompson (1856-1940) Cambridge University physicist In 1897, he discovered the electron.

C.N. Yang and T.D. Lee Physicists working at Princeton who one Nobel Prize for their work in the area of particle interactions.