A crisis in reading signs:

Key Word- Krisis “judgment, crisis”
English derivative is crisis.
Derivative: hupokrisis: answer that generates a crisis.
  Related to “criteria” “critical.”
  Help us come to terms with the code as played out in the *Odyssey*.

Passage A: Book xix 535-569:
Odysseus has returned home but is not yet identified. Penelope is not sure. Testing each other. The plot tests us, Are we up to understanding? He is still a beggar and he is asked to interpret a dream.

Dream: she has 20 geese; an eagle swoops down and kills them. She weeps in her room because the eagle had killed the geese. LAMENT. Penelope’s dream explains itself. The eagle tells her to stop crying. *It is stated that the* geese are the suitors and the eagle is Odysseus.

Why does she ask for interpretation?

Interpretation: There is only one meaning, The death of the suitors is fated? Note answer creates crisis.

Loaded with meaning: Two dreams, False and True. Gate of (true) Horn and (false) Ivory that dreams flow through.

If the geese are the suitors, why is she crying about their deaths? How long has Odysseus been away? 20 years is a long time. Reading is also about interpreting signs as incorporated in dreams. She has grown used to the suitors even though they are not Odysseus. She would grieve at their loss? Penelope is complex.

Horn sounds like *the Greek verb for* ‘to get things right’. Implies sexuality. Ivory sounds like *the word for* things that are wrong. The word play is very intense.

There is an extra-long handout, so refer to that.

Odysseus’ scale of affection. The Dog, lowest, recognizes him first through smell. His name Argos means return to light and life. The higher on the scale of affection the more difficult it is to rebuild a relationship after 20 years.
Songs are written for particular audiences. Jim Morrison “wrote the song” for Pamela. Consider Mozart’s *Marriage of Figaro*. Cherubino’s divinalh to the countess. Unrequited love.

Cherubino is singing, “see handout”

Cherubino is conventionally played by a woman.

The *sema* of Achilles vs The *sema* of Odysseus

Hero is also about hero worship.
Achilles’ death is about the saving of his own people.
Odysseus is not as mono-lithic. He changes constantly. Nothing is straightforward.

Passage B: Underworld.
A seer foretells the rest of the *Odyssey* and continues after the end of the *Odyssey*. What happens when Odysseus dies: Teiresias says: I will give you this *sema* which cannot escape your notice. Also said by Nestor in Iliad 23. Teiresias predicts what the tomb of Odysseus will look like.

When you have accomplished your mission put an Oar on your shoulder and walk inland. People will not be able to recognize that your Oar is an Oar at a certain point. Plant your Oar there and that is where you will perish.

Recognizing vs Reading:
Anagnorisis- ‘to recognize’ but also means ‘to read’. They are interconnected.

Aristotle’s Poetics: You recognize someone when your sense of philos “heats up.” This recognition is both negative and positive.

The Shining: The wife recognizes/reads that the writer is a fraud/psycho. Negative recognition.

Island of Circe switches from west to east.

Shovel (a *winnowing shovel, to be exact*) is the same as an Oar. It is both for Odysseus because he has odysseys.

Winnowing Shovel- You separate wheat from chaff and you take a winnowing shovel and you stick it on top of the pile and have a celebration.

In silhouette, the tomb of a sailor and the *grain-pile* of a farmer are the same. Tomb around an oar vs. *winnowing shovel* in a pile of wheat grains.

This is the sign of a cult hero.

Krisis: Judgement, Crisis, Critical moment.
Greek Christians in the ancient era refer to him as St. Elias.
Dream Traveler: Japanese movie. Man finds his tomb in another world and places an offering at his own grave.