

Syllabus
PT 172 Psychoanalytic Research and Ethics
S. Poser Spring 2019

Mon. 7:30-9:30
NYGSP: 2 Credits

Course Description

This course introduces students to the distinctively psychoanalytic mode of observation and comprehension of clinical phenomena. We will use the case study as a paradigm of how clinical thinking is expressed in psychoanalytic writing. The emphasis is on the presentation of clinical material and the analyst's process of investigation. Readings will illustrate how some of the outstanding writers and thinkers in the history of psychoanalysis have conveyed their understanding of patients and of the dynamics of the treatment. Ethical issues that arise in the practice of psychoanalysis are also discussed.

Objectives

The student will be able to:

- describe the observational data of psychoanalytic work;
- discern the ways in which individual reality may be revealed in listening to and observing patients' communications, associations, and behavior;
- define several theoretical orientations to psychoanalytic listening, thinking and writing; and
- discuss and assess the ethical dilemmas involved in psychoanalytic research and practice

Method of Evaluation

Class participation, written weekly log, and a final paper.

Logs can be handwritten or emailed to stevenposer@earthlink.net

To access full text documents from the PEP links, you'll need to first log into your PEP account.

Assigned Readings

Class 1

Green, A. (2005). Introducing clinical thinking. In *Psychoanalysis: A paradigm for clinical thinking* (pp. 8-29). (A. Weller, Trans.) London, England: Free Association Books. (Original work published 2002)

Class 2

Freud, S. (1957). Five lectures on psycho-analysis: First lecture. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (vol. 11, pp. 9-20). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1910)
<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=se.011.0000a>

Class 3

Bollas, C. (2007). What is theory? In *The Freudian moment* (pp. 71-83). London, England: Karnac.

Class 4

Winnicott, D. W. (1974). Fear of breakdown. *International Review of Psycho-Analysis*, 1, 103-107.

<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=irp.001.0103a>

Class 5

Gabbard, G.O. (2003). Miscarriages of psychoanalytic treatment with suicidal patients. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, 84, 249-261.

<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=ijp.084.0249a>

Class 6

Poser, S. (2011). *The misfit*. New York, NY: RosettaBooks. Digital version will be provided.

Class 7

Searles, H. (1979). The countertransference with the borderline patient. In J. LeBoit & A. Capponi (Eds.), *Advances in psychotherapy of the borderline patient* (pp. 309-346). New York, NY: Jason Aronson.

Class 8

Spotnitz, H. (1979). Psychoanalytic technique with the borderline patient. In J. LeBoit & A. Capponi (Eds.), *Advances in psychotherapy of the borderline patient* (pp. 207-226). New York, NY: Jason Aronson.

Spotnitz, H. (1982). Supervision of psychoanalysts treating borderline patients. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 7, 185-206.

<http://www.pep-web.org/document.php?id=mpsa.007.0185a>

Class 9

Bollas, C. (1995). Communications of the unconscious. In *Cracking up: The work of unconscious experience* (pp. 9-29). New York, NY: Hill and Wang.

Class 10

Stoller, R. (1997). Preface; Homosexuality; Treatment. In *Splitting: A case of female masculinity* (pp. xiii - xxi; 271-301; 302-312). New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

Class 11

Poser, S. (2019). "Lucia." In M. Charles & M. Hansen (Eds.), *Women and the psychosocial construction of madness*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books/Rowman and Littlefield. Forthcoming. Digital version will be provided.

Class 12

Semester review and discussion of final paper topics.