

PT 141 How the Mind Unfolds (Semester 1)
R. Rothman Spring 2010

Thu. 3:40-5:30
30 Clock Hours

Course Description

This course deals with early mental functioning from conception through the first year of life from psychoanalytic, biological and neuroscientific perspectives viewed through the interaction between constitution and experience. A goal is to understand how early perceptions and somatosensory experience lead to the development of primitive defenses and the creation of memory; the role of attachment in stages of symbiosis and the dawning of object relations; the role of the drives in early ego formation; the development of affect and thought.

Course Objectives

The student will be able to:

- describe the evolution of the psyche in its formative stages and its influence on later development.
- identify the spectrum of objectless, part-object and self-object states and ego development in adult individuals as manifested in varieties of narcissistic transference. Identify primitive mental function as expressed in somatic states, memory traces, dreams, fantasies, enactments, unmentalized experiences, symbolic communication, projection and introjection, projective identification and related phenomena. Identify primitive affective states such as annihilation anxiety, fear of being swallowed up, engulfed, devoured, falling apart, fragmenting, merging; oceanic feelings, terror, nameless dread, dissociation, depersonalization, and conflicts underlying them. Understand the role of the drives in the creation of psychic structure.

Teaching Method

Class discussion of assigned literature.

Method of Evaluation

1. Weekly logs covering class discussion and readings.
2. Student's contribution to class discussion.
3. A paper that researches a question of interest related to an aspect of the early processes.

Texts

- Anzieu, D. (1990), *Psychic Envelope*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
- Fonagy, P. (2001), *Attachment Theory and Psychoanalysis*. New York: Other Press.
- Kumin, I. (1996), *Pre-Object Relatedness: Early Attachment and the Psychoanalytic Situation*. New York: Guilford Press.
- Meadow, P.W. (2003), *The New Psychoanalysis*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.
- Piontelli, A. (1975), *From Fetus to Child*. New York: Tavistock/Routledge.
- Siegel, D.J. (1999), *The Developing Mind: How Relationships and the Brain Interact to Shape Who We Are*. New York: Guilford Press.

(Texts, cont.)

- Solms, M. and O. Turnbull (2002), *The Brain and the Inner World: An Introduction to the Neuroscience of Subjective Experience*. New York: Other Press. pp.105-137.
- Spitz, R. A. (1965), *The First Year of Life*. New York: International Universities Press.
- Spotnitz, H. (1985), *Modern Psychoanalysis of the Schizophrenic Patient*. New York: Human Sciences Press.

Syllabus

Class 1

- Spitz, R.A. (1965), The objectless stage. *The First Year of Life*. New York: International Universities Press. pp. 35-52.
- Spitz, R.A. (1965), The role of the mother-child relations in the infant's development. *The First Year of Life*. New York: International Universities Press. pp. 122-149.

Class 2

- Kandel, E. (2006), Even a simple behavior can be modified by learning; Learning from experience. *In Search of Memory: The Emergence of a New Science of Mind*. New York: W.W. Norton. pp. 187-197, 198-207.

Class 3

- Piontelli, A. (1988), Pre-natal life and birth as reflected in the analysis of a 2-year-old psychotic girl. *International Review of Psychoanalysis*, 15:73-81.
- Piontelli, A. (1989), A study on twins before and after birth. *International Review of Psychoanalysis*, 16:413-426.

Class 4

- Anzieu, D. (1993), Autistic phenomena and the skin ego. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 13:42-48.
- Bick, E. (1968), The experience of the skin in early object-relations. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 49:484-486.
- Kumin, I. (1996), Attachment to the unperceived; Precursors to internalized object relationships. *Pre-Object Relatedness: Early Attachment and the Psychoanalytic Situation*. New York: Guilford Press. pp. 7-18, 19-31.
- Tustin, F. (1991), Revised understandings of psychogenic autism. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 72:585-591.

Class 5

- Meadow, P.W. (2003), The language of emotion. *The New Psychoanalysis*. Lantham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield. pp. 47-66.
- Solms, M. and O. Turnbull (2002), Emotion and motivation. *The Brain and the Inner World: An Introduction to the Neuroscience of Subjective Experience*. New York: Other Press. pp. 105-137.

Class 6

- Mitrani, J. (1995), Toward an understanding of unmentalized experience. *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 64:68-112.

Class 7

- Little, M. (1981), On basic unity (primary total undifferentiatedness). *Transference Neurosis and Transference Psychosis*. Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson. pp. 109-125.
- Spotnitz, H. (1976), The need for insulation. *Psychotherapy of Preoedipal Conditions*. New York: Jason Aronson. pp. 117-136.
- Winnicott, D. W. (1945), Primitive emotional development. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 26:137-143.

Class 8

- Grotstein, J. (1997), Mens sane in corpore sano: the mind and body as an “odd couple” and as an oddly coupled unity. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 17:204-222.
- McDougall, J. (1989), The body-mind matrix. *Theaters of the Body*. New York: W.W. Norton. pp. 32-49.

Class 9

- McDougall, J. (1995), Archaic sexualities and the psychosoma. *The Many Faces of Eros*. New York: W.W. Norton. pp. 117-132.

Class 10

- Emanuel, R. (2001), A-void—an exploration of defences against sensing nothingness. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 82:1069-1084.
- Gaddini, E. (1987), Notes on the mind-body question. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 68:315-329.

Class 11

- Ogden, T.H. (1989), The structure of experience. *The Primitive Edge of Experience*. New York: Rowman & Littlefield. pp. 9-46.

Class 12

- Bion, W. R. (1958), On hallucination. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*. 39:341-349.
- Klein, M. (1930), The importance of symbol-formation in the development of the ego. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 11:24-39.

Additional Recommended Readings

- Anzieu, D. (1985), The confusion of the qualities of taste; The olfactory envelope; Disturbances of basic sensori-motor distinction. *The Skin Ego: A Psychoanalytic Approach to the Self*. C. Turner, translator. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
- Balint, M. (1965), *Primary Love and Psychoanalytic Technique*. New York: Liveright Publishing Corporation.
- Balint, M. (1968), *The Basic Fault: Therapeutic Aspects of Regression*. New York: Brunner/Mazel.
- Gaddini, E. (1982), Early defensive fantasies and the psychoanalytical process. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 63:379-388.
- Gaddini, R. (1987), Early care and the roots of internalization. *International Review of Psychoanalysis*, 14:321-332.

(Add'l. readings, cont.)

- Glaser, D. (2003), Early experience, attachment and the brain. *Revolutionary Connection: Psychotherapy and Neuroscience*. J. Corrigan & H. Wilkinson, eds. London/New York: Karnac, pp.117-133.
- Grotstein, J. (1990), Nothingness, meaninglessness, chaos and the "black hole" II. *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*, 26:377-407.
- Gaensbauer, T.J. (1995), Trauma in the Preverbal Period. *Psychoanalytic Study of the Child*, 50:122-149.
- James, M. (1986), Premature ego development: some observations on disturbances in the first three months of life. *The British School of Psychoanalysis: The Independent Tradition*. G. Kohon, ed. London: Free Association Books. pp. 101-116.
- Joseph, B. (1992), Psychic change: some perspectives. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 73:237-243
- Mancia, M. (2005), Implicit memory and early unrepressed unconscious: their role in the therapeutic process (How the neurosciences can contribute to psychoanalysis). *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 87: 83-103.
- Meadow, P.W. (2003), The language of emotion. *The New Psychoanalysis*. Lantham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield. pp. 47-66.
- Meadow, P.W. (1991), Resonating with the psychotic patient. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 21(2):173-189.
- Meadow, P.W. (1996), The preoedipal transference. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 21(2):191-200.
- Meltzer, D. (1975), Adhesive identification. *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*, 11:289-310.
- Meltzer, D. (1981). The Kleinian expansion of Freud's metapsychology. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 62:177-185.
- Mitrani, J. (1992), On the survival function of autistic manoeuvres in adult patients. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 73:549-559.
- Piontelli, A. (1992), Concluding remarks. *From Fetus to Child*. London: Tavistock/Routledge. pp. 234-243.
- Schore, A.N. (2003), Minds in the making: attachment, the self-organizing brain, and developmentally-oriented psychoanalytic psychotherapy. *Affect Regulation and the Repair of the Self*. New York: W.W. Norton. pp. 33-57.
- Schore, A.N. (2003), Parent-infant communication and the neurobiology of emotional development. *Affect Dysregulation and Disorders of the Self*. New York: W.W. Norton. pp. 71-86.
- Spotnitz, H. (1985), Conceptualization of the illness. *Modern Psychoanalysis of the Schizophrenic Patient*. New York: Human Sciences Press. pp. 40-69.
- Spotnitz, H. (1976), Problems in differentiation. *Psychotherapy of Preoedipal Conditions*. Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson. pp. 205-222.
- Tustin, F. (1991), Revised understanding of psychogenic autism. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 72:585-591.