Course Description
This course imparts a psychodynamic understanding of symptoms, core conflicts, and characteristic defenses in psychotic, narcissistic and neurotic disorders.

Objectives
The student will be able to:
- demonstrate a psychodynamic understanding of the symptoms, core conflicts, and characteristic defenses inherent in primitive mental states; and
- distinguish between psychoanalytic and psychiatric diagnoses of symptoms, and recognize onset, course, and prognosis of the major mental disorders.

Teaching Method
There will be discussion of the assigned literature and guided class discussion of relevant case material. Emotional learning will occur by connecting the student’s emotional experience with the course’s theoretical content.

Method of Evaluation
Evidence of progressive understanding of clinical psychopathology, as demonstrated by class participation, logs and final paper. Students visit three psychiatric institutions during the semester, submitting written reports of those visits by the last class.

Texts

Assigned Readings
Class 1: Mental Dynamics
Class 2: The Archaic Ego

Class 3: Primitive Defenses

Class 4: Primitive Defenses continued

Class 5: Schizophrenia

Class 6: Schizophrenia continued

Class 7: Paranoia
Class 8: Borderline Personality Disorder

Class 9: Impulsivity

Class 10: Mood Disorders
Additional material to be announced

Class 11: Addiction
Additional material to be announced

Class 12: Somatization / Summation