Course Description
This course rests on the assumption that psychoanalysis is fundamentally a practice. The aim of this practice is to create an experience in which the unconscious can be heard and listened to by both analysand and analyst. The effects of this hearing and listening will depend on both parties, but the most basic expectation is that the analysand will assume a new position with respect to his or her own experience, including one's body and individual history, repetitions, and symptoms. Listening to the unconscious, and allowing it to have its effect, takes place in the context of speech, basically in speech that is interrupted in some way by another voice, i.e., by the unconscious. A consequence of this process, in the most favorable circumstances, is a reduction of suffering, as the analysand is able gradually to speak about what had previously been unsayable. How this concept of the psychoanalytic experience might or might not apply to the treatment of psychotic patients will be a particular focus of the course.

Since the first decade of the 20th century, a range of ideas about the fundamentals of psychoanalytic practice has emerged, leading to corresponding shifts in the theories that have been developed to account for the various differences in emphasis, and also, in some cases, for elements of the experience itself which might be simply diverse from what Freud originally laid out and described. These various differences, whether substantive or procedural, will be the subject matter of this course. For instance, it will be of importance to figure out how members of various schools think about psychosis and its manifestations, as well as how they have proposed to work psychoanalytically with psychotic patients. Indeed, some have considered psychotic patients to be outside the scope of psychoanalytic treatment. Other clinical groupings, neurotic and non-neurotic, will be considered in similar fashion, i.e., as points of departure for a comparative study of the various psychoanalytic approaches.

The approaches we will consider are: Classical Freudian, Ferencziian, Kleinian, object relational, American ego psychological, self psychological, interpersonal, Modern, intersubjective, Contemporary Freudian, and Lacanian. In addition to the broad clinical matters already referred to, attention will be given to specifically clinical-practice concepts such as resistance, transference, countertransference, interpretation, emotional communication, the analytic relationship, and the cure.

A comprehensive bibliography will be developed as part of the course work.
Objectives
The student will be able to:

• compare and contrast theoretical and clinical approaches of different schools of psychoanalytic thought;
• place Modern Psychoanalysis within the broad context of psychoanalysis, know its origins, and discuss its similarities to and differences from other schools of thought; and
• employ psychoanalytic terminology such as “conflict and deficit, trauma and wish, drive derivative, internalized objects, unconscious fantasy, projective identification, ego defense, regression and adaptation, insight and corrective emotional experience, shift in the subjective position.

Method of Evaluation
Students will be evaluated based on their understanding of course material demonstrated through participation in class discussion, logs, and a paper. The paper should compare the theoretical and clinical approach of Modern Psychoanalysis with one or more psychoanalytic schools.

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Assigned Readings

Class 1: Freud and the Classical Intrapsychic Tradition
Suggested:

Class 2: Ferenczi and the Relational Tradition

Class 3: Klein, Fairbairn and Development of Object Relations
Class 4: Kleinians: Bion, Rosenfeld, and Joseph

Read two of the following:


Class 5: Object Relations: Winnicott, Sandler, and Bollas (British); Kernberg (American)


Class 6: Freudian Ego Psychology: Defense, Adaptation, and Development


Class 7: Spotnitz and The Birth of Modern Psychoanalysis


Class 8: Interpersonal Psychoanalysis


Suggested:


Class 9: Kohut and the Creation of Self-Psychology

Class 10: Intersubjectivists: Benjamin, Ogden, Renik

Class 11: Lacanian Psychoanalysis

Class 12: Overview