Course Description
Modern psychoanalytic theory of technique and its underpinnings in Freudian meta-theory will be explored. The therapeutic action of modern psychoanalysis relies on Hyman Spotnitz’s philosophy of treatment and theory of technique originally developed for the treatment of schizophrenia and borderline conditions and found applicable to the full range of psychopathologies. The major technical concepts developed by Spotnitz, his followers and other influential theorists will be examined.

This course will enable students to obtain a clear grasp of modern theory of treatment, from the point of first contact between analyst and patient, through to the development and varying stages of transference, countertransference and resistance. The emphasis will be on affective communication, the therapeutic use of feelings, psychodynamic diagnosis, the attitude of the analyst, and analysis of the countertransference and induced feelings.

Objectives
Students will be able to:

- describe the concepts underlying the modern psychoanalytic approach to beginning treatment;
- learn the pivotal role of the contact function in all phases of analysis: elaboration of the range of modern psychoanalytic techniques of ego insulation and reinforcement;
- identify, manage and resolve resistances;
- how to analyze silently: assessment of patient’s patterns of frustration tolerance and impulse control as a guide to diagnosis;
- examine transference phenomenon and distinguish differences of levels
- distinguish differences in induction and countertransference
- familiarize an understanding between objective and subjective experience; along the continuum of narcissistic to object transferences; and
- consider how verbal and nonverbal interventions can be derived from analysis of induced countertransference reactions and utilized to establish and work through narcissistic and object transference.

Method of Evaluation
Class participation, attendance, weekly logs covering readings and class process, and a final paper/project. Logs sent by email to instructor: will offer an opportunity for the instructor to communicate reaction to students comments if sent before the weekend before the next class. They can be emailed to tlaquercia@aol.com
Texts

Assigned Readings
Class 1

Class 2

Class 3

Class 4

Class 5

Class 6

Class 7
Class 8

Class 9

Class 10

Class 11

Class 12