

Syllabus
PT 159 Unconscious Fantasy
R. Rothman Fall 2017

Thu. 3:30-5:30
CMPS: 30 Clock Hours
NYGSP: 2 Credits

Course Description

Unconscious fantasy as it operates between drive pressure and reality is studied. Manifestations of unconscious fantasy are explored through literature, myth, clinical material, in the somatic realm and in seemingly “rational” thought. Readings will include the theoretical controversies that have grown up around this concept, which is basic to psychoanalytic thinking.

Objectives

The student will be able to:

- compare and contrast various psychoanalytic perspectives on unconscious fantasy;
- examine the relationship of unconscious fantasy to transference, resistance and the creative process;
- explore the ways in which sex and aggression are expressed in unconscious fantasy; and
- identify the language of the unconscious as it appears in myths, dreams, works of art and in psychic symptoms.

Course Requirements

- Class logs should be sent as an email to roryrothman@gmail.com
- A final paper that explores a particular question or area of interest sparked by class content.

Methods of Evaluation

- Participation in discussions and class process
- Logs that contribute significantly to the student’s learning
- Final paper

Please note - when on campus at CMPS, articles from the June 2017 *International Journal of Psychoanalysis* (Classes 2, 3, 4, & 6) can be retrieved from

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ijp.2017.98.issue-3/issuetoc>

Assigned Readings

Class 1

- Likierman, M. (2001). 'Figures wholly divorced from reality' – The departure from Freud. In *Melanie Klein: Her work in context* (pp. 65-84). London, England: Continuum.
- Likierman, M. (2001). 'This unreal reality' – Klein's concept of phantasy. In *Melanie Klein: Her work in context* (pp. 136-143). London, England: Continuum.

Class 2

- Spillius, E. (2001). Freud and Klein on the concept of phantasy. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 82, 361-373. (PEP)
- Weiss, H. (2017). Unconscious phantasy as a structural principle and organizer of mental life: The evolution of a concept from Freud to Klein and some of her successors. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 98, 799-819.

Class 3

- Bell, D. (2017). Unconscious phantasy: Some historical and conceptual dimensions. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 98, 785-798.
- Segal, H. (1957). Notes on symbol formation. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 38, 39-45.

Class 4

- Giustino, G. (2017). Further developments of the concept of fantasy. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 98, 831-839.
- Jimenez, J.P. (2017). Unconscious fantasy (or phantasy) as clinical concept. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 98, 595-610.

Class 5

- Ogden, T.H. (2011). Reading Susan Isaacs: Toward a radically revised theory of thinking. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 92, 925-942. (PEP)
- Segal, H. (2003). Phantasy and reality. In R. Steiner (Ed.) *Unconscious phantasy* (pp. 199-209). London, England: Karnac.

Class 6

- Blass, R. B. (2017). Reflections on Klein's radical notion of phantasy and its implications for analytic practice. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 98, 841-859.
- Bronstein, C. (2015). Finding unconscious phantasy in the session: Recognizing form. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 96, 925-944. When on CMPS campus, this article can be retrieved from <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1745-8315.12330/full>

Class 7

- Lear, J. (2002). Jumping from the couch. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 83, 583-595. (PEP)
- Meadow, P. W. (2000). Creating psychic change in analysis. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 25, 3-22. (PEP)

Class 8

- Grotstein, J. (2008). The overarching role of unconscious phantasy. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 28, 190-205. (PEP)
- Ogden, T. (1989). On the concept of an autistic-contiguous position. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 70, 127-140. (PEP)

Class 9

- Gaddini, E. (1982). Early defensive fantasies and the psychoanalytical process. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 63, 379-388. (PEP)
- McDougall, J. (1995). From the silence of soma to the words of the psyche. In *The many faces of Eros* (pp. 153-167). New York, NY: W. W. Norton.

Class 10

- Ferro, A. (2005). 'Evidence': Starting again from Bion. In *Seeds of illness, seeds of recovery* (pp. 63-68). New York, NY: Brunner-Routledge.
- Ogden, T. (1985). On potential space. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 66, 129-141. (PEP)

Class 11

- Meltzer, D. (2005). Forward. In M. H. Williams, *The vale of soulmaking: The post-Kleinian model of the mind* (pp. xi-xix). London, England: Karnac.
- Meltzer, D. (2005). Creativity and the countertransference. In M. H. Williams, *The vale of soulmaking: The post-Kleinian model of the mind* (pp. 175-182). London, England: Karnac.
- Williams, M. H. (2005). Introduction. In M. H. Williams, *The vale of soulmaking: The post-Kleinian model of the mind* (pp. 1-10). London, England: Karnac.

Class 12

- McDougall, J. (1995). Sexuality and the creative process. In *The many faces of Eros* (pp. 53-68). New York, NY: W. W. Norton.
- Segal, H. (1952). A psycho-analytical approach to aesthetics. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 33, 196-207. (PEP)

Additional Readings and Resources

- Freud, S. (1955). The uncanny. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 17, pp. 217-252). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1919)
- Freud, S. (1964). Dreams and occultism. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 22, pp. 31-56). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1933)
- Freud, S. (1958). The occurrence in dreams of material from fairy tales. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 12, pp. 279-287). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1913)
- Freud, S. (1961). Dreams. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 15, pp. 83-233). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1916)
- Freud, S. (1960). Psychopathology of everyday life. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (Vol. 6, pp. 1-239). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1901)
- Laqueria, T. (1998). Symbolic imagery: An aspect of un verbalized communication. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 23, 23-33.
- Laqueria, T. (2005). Listening with the intuitive ear. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 30, 60-72.
- Lecours, S., & Bouchard, M.-A. (1997). Dimensions of mentalization: Outlining levels of psychic transformation. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 78, 855-875.
- Levy, S. T., & Inderbitzin, L. B. (2001). Fantasy and psychoanalytic discourse. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 82, 795-804.
- Lombardi, R. (2002). Primitive mental states and the body: A personal view of Armando B. Ferrari's Concrete Original Object. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 83, 363-381.
- Lyon, K. A. (2003). Unconscious fantasy: Its scientific status and clinical utility. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 51, 957-967.
- McDougall, J. (1991). Scenes from psychic life. In *Theaters of the mind* (pp. 40-64). New York, NY: Brunner Mazel.
- Mitrani, J. (1996). Toward an understanding of unmentalized experience. In *A framework for the imaginary* (pp. 205-247). Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson.
- Rothman, R. (2011). When the body does the talking. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 36, 4-28.
- Shapiro, T., & Inderbitzin, L. B. (1989). Unconscious fantasy. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 37, 823-835.