Syllabus
PT 160 Narcissism and Aggression
R. Sacks         Fall 2017
Thu. 5:30-7:30
CMPS: 30 Clock Hours
NYGSP: 2 Credits

Course Description
This course studies the relationship between narcissism and aggression with particular attention to those
disorders in which self-hate predominates over self-love. The meaning of the narcissistic defense is
clarified and the treatment techniques that have been devised to work with narcissistic disorders are
discussed with reference to clinical material.

Objectives
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
• define and identify the role narcissism and aggression play in behavior, especially as they relate
to those disorders in which self-hate predominates over self-love;
• identify the narcissistic defense as it is expressed in treatment; and develop an understanding of
the treatment techniques used to work with narcissistic disorders and an understanding as to how
they are effective; and
• compare and contrast aggressive behaviors and treatment destructive behaviors along with
possible interventions to resolve both.

Bases for Evaluation
Satisfactory achievement of the objectives assumes that the student has:
• come to class having read the required reading and ready to participate in class discussions;
• contributed regularly to the discussions, demonstrating a grasp of the material and a capacity to
make use of the principal concepts in clinical and/or personal experience;
• Written weekly logs should be submitted to: richardjsacks@hotmail.com; and
• submitted a final paper, the specific requirement for which will be discussed in class.

Assigned Readings
Class 1
the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud (Vol. 21, pp. 117-122). London, England:
Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1930) (PEP)

Class 2
Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1914) (PEP)
Class 3

Class 4

Class 5

Class 6

Class 7

Class 8

Class 9

Class 10
Class 11

Class 12

Additional Readings and Resources

A list of readings relevant to class discussions will be developed as the course unfolds.