

**Syllabus**  
**PT 172 Clinical Investigations and Ethics in Psychoanalysis**  
**S. Poser      Fall 2017**

**Mon. 7:30-9:30**  
**CMPS: 30 Clock Hours**  
**NYGSP: 2 Credits**

**Course Description**

This course introduces students to the distinctively psychoanalytic mode of observation and comprehension of clinical phenomena. We will use the case study as a paradigm of how clinical thinking is expressed in psychoanalytic writing. The emphasis is on the presentation of clinical material and the analyst's process of investigation. Readings will illustrate how some of the outstanding writers and thinkers in the history of psychoanalysis have conveyed their understanding of patients and of the dynamics of the treatment. Ethical issues that arise in the practice of psychoanalysis are also discussed.

**Objectives**

The student will be able to:

- describe the observational data of psychoanalytic work;
- discern the ways in which individual reality may be revealed in listening to and observing patients' communications, associations, and behavior;
- define several theoretical orientations to psychoanalytic listening, thinking and writing; and
- discuss and assess the ethical dilemmas involved in psychoanalytic research and practice

**Method of Evaluation**

Class participation, written weekly log, and a final paper.

Logs can be handwritten or emailed to [stevenposer@earthlink.net](mailto:stevenposer@earthlink.net)

**Assigned Readings**

**Class 1**

Green, A. (2005). Introducing clinical thinking. In *Psychoanalysis: A paradigm for clinical thinking* (pp. 7-29). (A. Weller, Trans.) London, England: Free Association Books. (Original work published 2002)

**Class 2**

Bollas, C. (1995). Communications of the unconscious. In *Cracking up: The work of unconscious experience* (pp. 9-29). New York, NY: Hill and Wang.

Reik, T. (1948). The question of evidence. In *Listening with the third ear* (pp. 383-396). New York, NY: Farrar, Straus.

**Class 3**

Schwaber, E. (1983). Psychoanalytic listening and psychic reality. *International Review of Psycho-Analysis*, 10, 379-392. (PEP)

**Class 4**

- Breuer, J. (1955). Fraulein Anna O, Studies in Hysteria. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (vol. 2, pp. 21-47). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1895) (PEP)
- Freud, S. (1957). First Lecture, Five Lectures on Psycho-Analysis. In J. Strachey (Ed. and Trans.), *The standard edition of the complete psychological works of Sigmund Freud* (vol. 11, pp. 9-20). London, England: Hogarth Press. (Original work published 1910) (PEP)

**Class 5**

- Ferenczi, S. (1988). 7 January-2 February, 1932. In J. Dupont (Ed.), *The clinical diary of Sandor Ferenczi* (pp. 1-29). (M. Balint & N. Z. Jackson, Trans.). Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

**Class 6**

- Winnicott, D. W. (1974). Fear of breakdown. *International Review of Psycho-Analysis*, 1, 103-107. (PEP)

**Class 7**

- Searles, H. (1990). Unconscious identification. In L. B. Boyer & P. Giovacchini (Eds.), *Master clinicians on treating the regressed patient* (pp. 211-226). Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson.

**Class 8**

- Laing, R.D. (1965). The ghost of the weed garden: A study of a chronic schizophrenic. In *The divided self* (pp. 178-205). Harmondsworth, England: Penguin Books.

**Class 9**

- Stoller, R. (1997). Preface; Homosexuality; Treatment. In *Splitting: A case of female masculinity* (pp. xiii - xxi; 271-301; 302-312). New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

**Class 10**

- Meadow, P.W. (1996). How we aim to be with patients. *Modern Psychoanalysis*, 21, 137-154. (PEP)

**Class 11**

- Poser, S. (2016). "Lucia" (forthcoming)

**Class 12**

- Gabbard, G.O. (2003). Miscarriages of psychoanalytic treatment with suicidal patients. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, 84, 249-261. (PEP)