Syllabus
PT 172 Clinical Investigations and Ethics in Psychoanalysis
D. Gilhooley Fall 2018

Course Description
This course introduces students to a variety of research methodologies that have been used to study psychoanalytic questions. Contemporary methodological concepts are introduced and the problems inherent in psychoanalytic investigations involving clinical materials are explored. Students learn how psychoanalytic methods are used to infer hidden unconscious meanings behind irrational behaviors, beliefs, perceptions, and emotions. Ethical issues that arise in the practice of psychoanalysis are discussed.

This course will cover the research methods used in psychoanalysis with a particular emphasis on the single case study. The single case, whether presented verbally or in written form, remains the primary vehicle for developing, evaluating, and communicating psychoanalytic theory. The single case model will be the basis of the student’s psychoanalytic education. Ethical dimensions of psychoanalytic practice involving love, erotic intimacy, physical contact, and confidentiality are considered.

Objectives
The student will be able to:
- describe psychoanalysis as a therapeutic technique and a method of inquiry;
- formulate questions about unconscious mental processes;
- describe a systematic method of selecting and analyzing data to test such questions;
- develop an increasing ability to sustain multiple, sometimes contradictory, explanations of data;
- critically distinguish between observation, assumption, and inference; and
- discuss and assess the ethical dilemmas involved in psychoanalytic research and practice.

Method of evaluation
Students will be evaluated based on class participation, oral presentations, written logs, and a case study written over the course of the term. This case study should be a thoughtful narrative description of an individual subject in which the student formulates questions about the unconscious causes for specific repetitive behaviors. The student will consider issues of confidentiality and the effect of the student’s writing upon the subject. Logs can be emailed to me at dangilhooley@yahoo.com.
Psychoanalytic Research and Ethics Resources

*Pragmatic Case Studies in Psychotherapy.* A peer-reviewed, multi-theoretical, freely available e-journal of systematic case studies and case study methods. Published by Rutgers University.  


To access full text documents from the PEP links, you’ll need to first log into your PEP account.

Assigned Readings

**Class 1: Mind Influencing Matter: The Man who Could Fly**


**Class 2: First Psychotherapy Outcome Study: The Exorcisms of Johann Joseph Gassner**


Class 3: Franz Anton Mesmer and Maria Theresa Paradis

Class 4: The Origin Case Study: Josef Breuer and Bertha Pappenheim

Class 5: Love in the Analytic Hour

Class 6: Freud’s First Case Applying Breuer’s Hypnotic Method: Fanny Moser

Class 7: Freud’s First Non-Hypnotic Case: Ilona Weiss

Class 8: Freud’s First Use of Free Association: Ernst Lanzer (Rat Man)

Class 9: Freud and Sergei Pankejeff (Wolf Man)
Class 10: Psychoanalysis as Therapeutic Technique, Method of Inquiry, Form of Telling

Week 11: Touching Limits in Psychoanalysis

Class 12: Ethical Considerations in Writing about Patients