ES 444: Obstacles To the Therapeutic Process:
Understanding And Working With
Impasse, Resistance, And Confusion

Course Outline   Spring, 2011

Sherwood A. Faigen
137 N. Oak Park, Suite 403
Oak Park, IL 60301

Telephone:  708-848-9321
E-Mail: SFaigen846@yahoo.com
Fax: 708-848-9344

This course is intended to examine obstacles to useful clinical process from a
variety of clinical-theoretical standpoints. The primary objective is to find ways
to think about therapeutic difficulties in a manner that includes factors deriving
both from the emotional problems of the client and the resistances of the
clinician. Student case material as well as relevant readings will be used to
promote class discussion. Students are expected to present case material, read
assigned articles, and engage in dialog. In the first class session, students will be
invited to add readings to the syllabus.

Objectives:

1. Enhance students’ understanding of resistance to therapeutic process in the
   client

2. Enhance students’ understanding of resistance to therapeutic engagement in the
   clinician

3. Enhance students’ confidence in dealing clinically with impasse

for Clinical Social Work Continuing Education Seminar
(Scan)

Involvement in the Psychoanalytic Impasse. International Journal of Psycho-
analysis. Vol. 65, Part 3

Class # 3: Student clinical presentation and Boschan, P. (1987). Dependence
and Narcissistic Resistances in the Psychoanalytic Process. International

Class # 4: Student clinical presentation and Ferenczi, S. (1933, 1949). Confusion
of Tongues Between Adults and the Child---The Language of
Also in Contemporary Psychoanalysis, 1988, Vol. 24

Class # 5: Student clinical presentation and Coen, S. (1986). The Sense of

Conversation: How Healing Happens. London: Karnac

Class # 8 Creating an integrated model of clinical impasse and resolution

Contents Copyright, Institute for Clinical Social Work