Overview of Major Psychodynamic Theories

This course overviews the major psychodynamic theories that inform current day theoretical developments and controversies. We will explore the essential elements of the theories, their historical contexts and progression. We will end the course with a discussion on the role of theory in clinical work, the nature of clinical theory and ongoing controversies in psychodynamic theory.

Objectives

1. Provide an introduction to major psychodynamic theories that inform the ICSW program
2. Familiarize students with the similarities and differences among theories
3. Provide a foundation for deeper exploration of psychodynamic theory

Evaluation of Learning

There will be three evaluation of student learning elements:

Midterm: Due one week after the fourth class (Midnight, November 15, 2012). Write three questions that address the different theories discussed. Then write a one paragraph answer to each question.

Final Exam: Due one week after the last class (Midnight on December 27, 2012). The final will be an open book exam consisting of ten questions that cover the course content. Each question is to be answered with a one paragraph answer using proper citations.

Class Participation: is an integral aspect of this course, this includes participating in class discussions and raising questions about the readings or concepts being discussed. Attendance at all classes is mandatory except in extreme circumstances.

Grading:

Grades will be based on the following formula:

Midterm: 25%
Final: 50%
Class Participation 25%
CLASS POLICIES

Reading

The learning process in this class takes place through the assigned readings, class lectures and class discussions. The readings are designed to provide a foundation in the subject matter, which will then be further explained and discussed in class. It is expected that everyone will do the reading and bring any questions or reactions to class.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend class, be on time, and participate in discussion. For online class sessions, this means students are expected to be in front of their camera by the start of class time and utilize the microphone to participate. If a student needs to miss a class, the student should let the instructor know with an email or phone message. There is no excuse not to alert the instructor beforehand. Attendance is mandatory except in emergencies and/or pre-arranged with the instructor. More than two missed classes could result in an incomplete grade.

Required Texts


Suggested Texts

One Hundred Years of Psychoanalysis A Timeline: 1900-2000 available at http://www.cavershamproductions.com/store.html

Course Readings:

**Readings** found under each class heading are required for that class. **Additional Readings** are listed for students who wish to pursue theoretical ideas in greater depth.

Class I: Sigmund Freud

Readings:

Mitchell and Black Chapter 1: Sigmund Freud and the Classical Psychoanalytic Tradition


**Additional Readings**:


Class II: Ego Psychology

Readings:

Mitchell and Black Chapter 2: Ego Psychology

Freud, A. (1937). The ego and mechanisms of defense. Chapters 3 and 4. scan


Additional Readings:

Freud, A. (1936) The Ego and the mechanisms of defense. The Writings of Anna Freud Vol. II. scan


Palombo, J., Bendicsen, H., and Koch. B. Chapters 2 and 3.

Class III: Melanie Klein and Contemporary Kleinian Theory

Readings: Mitchell and Black Chapter 4: Melanie Klein and Contemporary Kleinian Theory


Additional Readings:

Palombo, J., Bendicsen, H., and Koch. B. Chapter 7


Class IV: Object Relations Theory

Mitchell and Black, Chapter 5: W.R.D. Fairbairn and D.W. Winnicott
Fairbairn, W.R.D. (1943) Chapter III: The Repression and the Return of Bad Objects (with special reference to the ‘War Neuroses’). scan


Additional Readings


Palombo, J., Bendicsen, H., and Koch. B. Chapter 8

Class V: Interpersonal Tradition

Mitchell and Black Chapter 3: Harry Stack Sullivan and Interpersonal Analysis

Sullivan, H.S. (1938) The data of psychiatry. Psychiatry, 1:121-134. scan

Additional Readings:

Palombo, J., Bendicsen, H., and Koch. B. Chapter 12


Class VI Identity and Self

Readings:

Mitchell and Black, Chapter VI: Psychologies of Identity and Self: Erik Erikson and Heinz Kohut


Additional Readings:


Class VII Contemporary Freudian/What is Theory?

Readings;

Mitchell and Black, Chapter 7 Contemporary Freudian Revisionists: Otto Kernberg, Roy Schafer, Hans Loewald and Jaques Lacan


SCAN

Mitchell and Black Chapter 8: Controversies in Theory and Chapter 9
Controversies in Technique

Psycho-analysis, 71:49-52 PEP

**Additional Readings:**


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