CF 616

Diversity, Gender, Race, and Sexuality

Spring, 2008

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Class Dates: 2/2; 2/16; 3/1; 3/15; 3/29; 4/12; 4/26; 5/10

Conceptual Foundations Sequence
The primary goal of the sequence is the achievement of an informed, self-aware use of theory in clinical practice, research, writing and teaching.

Course Description
This course examines psychoanalytic perspectives on race, gender and sexuality, addressing the implications of attending to these features of "self" as they emerge in clinical material. Particular attention is given to race, gender, and sexuality as dialectically informed by and informing the experience of social reality, and structuring the response to the treatment.

Toward this end, we will

- Investigate the history of gender, race and sexuality in psychoanalysis
- Examine gender, race and sexuality in contemporary psychoanalytic terms
- Consider critical responses to psychoanalytic renderings of gender, race and sexuality
- Explore the clinical and theoretical perspectives implications of gender, ethnicity/race, and sexuality for psychodynamic treatment in light of classical, contemporary and critical perspectives on these issues

Course Goals

- To explore the psychodynamic meanings attributed to the emergence of gender, race and sexuality in the clinical contexts and increase one's capacity for integrating your perspective into
clinical writing
- To understand the implications of theoretical differences for clinical work when addressing gender, race and sexuality in clinical contexts
- To develop a coherent perspective for one’s own clinical work for addressing gender, race and sexuality.

Requirements and Assignments

- Participation/Attendance: As this class only meets for 8 sessions, attendance is crucial. Come to class having completed the assigned reading as evidenced by relevant contributions to class discussions. Failure to attend class will result in a letter grade reduction for each class missed. More than two absences will result in a grade of F. 25% of grade.
- Facilitate class discussion. Provide a 10-12 minute clinical process or vignette and relate to the reading of the day. Provide a focus question that the reading raises for this piece of clinical work. 25% of grade. Sign-up during first class.
- Write a 15-17 page research paper discussing how you understand the relationship between “the outside and the inside”—i.e. race/ethnicity/gender/sexuality/culture and intrapsychic processes. Due 5/15. 50% of grade.

Papers are due as assigned and, except in cases of clear emergencies, will not be accepted late.

Regarding written assignments, please note:

1. A clear thesis statement that lays out your argument or position (where are you headed with this paper)
2. ICSW requires the use of the ICSW Style Manual in your writing. Please adhere to this style.
3. ICSW does not tolerate plagiarism. Any act of plagiarism will result in a failure for the class and may result in expulsion from the program. Please consult your student manual concerning academic honesty.

Course Outline

Part I: Toward a Psychoanalysis of Gender, Race and Sexuality
Questions:

1. Where does a) gender b) race, c) race fit into Freud’s psychoanalytical model?
2. How do these (gender, race and sexuality) relate to each other in
psychoanalytic theory?
3. What questions does Freud raise for us (theoretically and in clinical technique)?

2/2
Read:


Review:
Freud, Sigmund, (1905) Three essays on the theory of sexuality, in *Standard Edition, 7:*135-206. PEP [For help in retrieving Freud from PEP, see "Finding Freud Fast."]

2/16
Review:

In depth:
http://www.psychoanalysis.net/IPPsa/Grossman/ThreeComm.htm

3/1

Altounian, Janine, (1999). Putting into words, putting to rest and putting aside the ancestors: How an analysand who was heir to the Armenian Genocide of 1915 worked through mourning. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis, 80* (3). PEP

Questions:

1. How is the relationship between the intrapsychic and the social is mediated as understood within psychological/psychoanalytic perspectives?
2. In these authors work, how is gender, race/ethnicity and sexuality as experienced?
3. How would you define/discuss identity in psychoanalytic terms?

3/15


3/29


Part II: The Clinical Work

Questions:

1. What questions are raised for you by contrasting Moncayo, Wright, Roland related to clinical treatment?
2. Is splitting always integral to hatred of “otherness”?
3. What are the implications of these authors' view for clinicians sense of a “clinical” or “professional” self”?

4/12


Thompson, Cheryl L., (1987). Racism or neuroticism: An entangled dilemma for the Black middle class patient. *Journal of the American*
Part III: Critiques of Psychoanalytic Perspectives on Gender, Race, Sexuality and Culture

Questions:

1. What is the “critique” offered in each article?
2. Does the critique hold up under close reading?
3. Do you think the critique makes a theoretical and clinical difference—is it worth the bother?

5/10


Final Paper due 5/15/08.