CL 522
Clinical Process and Technique:
The Therapeutic Experience

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Course Description

This is the second semester in the yearlong study of the psychotherapeutic process. This semester will be devoted to the study of the therapeutic experience with an emphasis on psychoanalytic conceptualizations of therapeutic interaction and the psychotherapist’s use of self.

Goals:

1. To develop a fuller appreciation of therapeutic experience from a psychoanalytic perspective
2. To explore how the therapist uses ideas or theories in practice
3. To examine the development of the psychotherapist
4. To reflect on the nature of psychotherapeutic and sociotherapeutic practice

Texts


Course Requirements

The course is organized around reading, reflecting and writing. Students are expected to write a short (1 to 2 page) reflection on the assigned readings and be prepared to discuss these reflections in class. Assigned readings are limited to provide an opportunity for in depth engagement with each text. Written reflections are due the day of class. This requirement insures that the instructor can respond to each student’s work in a timely manner.

Evaluation
50% of the grade is based on written work and 50% on class participation.

**Course Outline**

**Class 1: Some observations on theory, practice and personality**


**Class 2: A case study of theories in practice**


**Class 3: Perspectives on the psychotherapeutic situation**


**Class 4: Ways of working: Conceptualizations and approaches**


**Class 5: Selected issues in sociotherapeutic practice**


**Class 6: More selected issues in sociotherapeutic practice**


**Class 7: The psychotherapist’s motivation to practice and the nature of practice**


Class 8: The psychotherapist’s situation


McLaughlin, J. T. Transference, psychic reality, and countertransference. Psychoanalytic Quarterly, 50, 639-664. PAQ.050.0639A (PEP Archive)


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