

THE BOSTON PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETY AND INSTITUTE
141 Herrick Road, Newton Centre, Massachusetts 02459

Fall 2016

TECHNIQUE III

Instructors: James Dalsimer, MD and Adam Narva, PhD

Course Description and Reading List

In this course we will focus closely on the relation between theory and technique, asking several questions in the context of specific pieces of actual analytic process. How do different theoretical stances make therapeutic differences? Do different kinds of interpretations and interventions lead to similar outcomes? Different but equivalent outcomes? Different and non-equivalent outcomes?

For the first half of the course we will be asking these questions about a clinical presentation that appeared in *Psychoanalytic Inquiry* in 1990, together with discussions of the presenter's technique from analysts with different theoretical backgrounds. We will review the relevant distinctions among the schools of thought represented in the discussions, asking what would analysts of differing persuasions have done and what might the consequences be?

In the final weeks we will look at some theories of technique not represented in that 1990 discussion, and discuss what it might mean to be an analyst of one persuasion or another.

Week 1 – September 22, 2016: Fosshage, Clinical Protocol, *Psychoanalytic Inquiry* 10: 461-477 (1990). [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning objective: Candidates will be able to define Fosshage's self-psychological theory of therapeutic action, in the context of his case.

Week 2 – September 29, 2016: Curtis, Patient as Existential Victim: A Classical View, *Psychoanalytic Inquiry* 10: 498-508 (1990), [PEP Web Link](#)
plus Fosshage's response, at 601-607 and 610-612. [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning objective: Candidates will be able to identify two examples of internal conflict which a classical view sees to be misunderstood or minimized in Fosshage's case.

Week 3 – October 6, 2016: Roth and Segal, A Kleinian View, *Psychoanalytic Inquiry* 10: 541-549 (1990), [PEP Web Link](#)
plus Kohon, A British Independent Object Relations View, *Psychoanalytic Inquiry* 10: 550-553 (1990), [PEP Web Link](#)
plus Fosshage's responses, at 607-610 and 618-619, [PEP Web Link](#)

plus Miller and Miller, Reflections, at 585-591. [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning objective: Candidates will be able to identify at least one example of internal object relations which a Kleinian view sees to be misunderstood or not seen in Fosshage's case.

Week 4 – October 13, 2016: Mitchell, A Relational View, *Psychoanalytic Inquiry* 10: 523-540 (1990),
plus Fosshage's response, at 612-616. [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning objective: Candidates will be able to identify at least one moment in Fosshage's case where a Relational analyst would have acted significantly differently

Week 5 – October 20, 2016: Hoffman, Therapeutic Passion in the Countertransference, *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 19: 617-637 (2009). [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning objective: Candidates will be able to identify Hoffman's theory of therapeutic action.

Week 6 – October 27, 2016: Anderson, How D. W. Winnicott Conducted Psychoanalysis. *Psychoanalytic Psychology* 31: 375-395 (2014). [Available in [Library](#)]

Learning objective: Candidates will be able to compare what Winnicott wrote about "holding" and "interpretation" with the ways in which he actually treated a number of analytic patients.

Week 7 – November 3, 2016: Ferro, Clinical Implications of Bion's Thought. *Int'l Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 87: 989-1003 (2006). [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning objective: Candidates will be able to define what Ferro means by "characters" in the analytic "field", and how that affects technique.

Week 8 – November 10, 2016: Parsons, An independent theory of clinical technique. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues* 19: 221-236 (2009), [PEP Web Link](#)
plus Parsons's Reply to Commentaries, *Psychoanalytic Dialogues* 19: 259-266 (2009) (same issue). [PEP Web Link](#)

Learning objective: Candidates will be able to identify several key elements in an "Independent" theory of analytic technique.