

# THE BOSTON PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETY AND INSTITUTE, INC.

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## Syllabus

### Klein and Neo-Kleinians

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February-April 2015

In this eight- week course we will examine how ideas and concepts first introduced by Melanie Klein inform psychoanalytic practice today. We will focus each week on a key Kleinian idea/concept and examine its subsequent development and contemporary psychoanalytic significance in the work of contemporary Kleinians. We will read some of Klein's original texts and also the works of those who followed her, i.e. as Betty Joseph, Elizabeth Bott Spillius, John Steiner, Martin Feldman, Judith Mitrani and Ronald Britton. We will finish up with an introduction to the work of Wilfred Bion. A useful reference for each Kleinian concept by R.D. Hinshelwood (1991) is included in the references. There is also a follow-up edition of Hinshelwood's work called: "The New Dictionary of Kleinian Thought" (2011) written by Elizabeth Bott-Spillius, Jane Milton, Penelope Garvey, Cyril Couve, and Deborah Steiner, published by Routledge.

### Session 1 (Febr. 19): The Depressive Position

Learning Objectives: Participants will be able to describe three essential characteristics of the depressive position and recognize its manifestation in clinical work.

Klein, M (1935) A Contribution to the Psychogenesis of Manic-Depressive States. In: The Writings of Melanie Klein, Vol I, Love, Guilt and Reparation and other Works (1921-1945). The Free Press, 1975. pp.262-289 [PEP Web Link](#)

Frisch, S and Frisch-Desmarez (2010) Some Thoughts on the Concept of the Internal Parental Couple. IJPA 91.2. 325-342 [PEP Web Link](#)

### Suggested Readings:

Hinshelwood, R.D (1991) The Depressive Position. In: A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought. Free Association Books. London. Pp 138-155. [*Available in the [Library](#)*]

Isaacs, S. (1948) The Nature and Function of Phantasy. Intern. Journal of Psychoanalysis. 29.73-97. [PEP Web Link](#)

### Session 2 (Febr. 26): The Paranoid-Schizoid Position

Learning Objectives: Participants will be able to describe three essential characteristics of the paranoid schizoid position

Klein M.(1946) Notes on Some Schizoid Mechanisms. In: The Writings of Melanie Klein. Vol. III. London. Hogarth Press. 1975. Pp.1-24 [PEP Web Link](#)  
Spillius, E.(1993) Varieties of Envious Experience. Intern. Journal of Psychoanalysis.. 74. 1199-1212 [PEP Web Link](#)

Suggested Readings:

Hinshelwood, R.D. (1991), The Paranoid-Schizoid Position. In: A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought. Free Association Books, London, pp 156-166 [*Available in the [Library](#)*]  
Klein, M.(1975) Envy and Gratitude. In: The Writings of Melanie Klein (1946-1963) Vol. III. The Free Press, New York. Pp.344-369 [PEP Web Link](#)

Session 3 (March 5): The Early Oedipus Complex

Learning Objectives: Students will be able to describe how the resolution of the Oedipus complex is dependent on depressive position functioning.

Feldman, M. (2008) Grievance: the Underlying Oedipal Configuration. IJPA. 89.4. 743-758 [PEP Web Link](#)  
Britton, B. The Oedipus Situation and the Depressive Position. In.: Clinical Lectures on Klein and Bion.. R. Anderson (Ed).The New Library of Psychoanalysis, 14, pp. 34-45 [PEP Web Link](#)

Suggested Readings:

Hinshelwood, R.D (1991). The Oedipus Complex. In: A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought. Free Association Books. London, pp. 57-67 [*Available in the [Library](#)*]  
Klein, M.(1928) Early Stages of the Oedipus Conflict. In : The Selected Melanie Klein. Edited by Juliet Mitchell, 1986.The Free Press. Pp 69-83 [PEP Web Link](#)

Session 4 (March 12): Splitting and Projective Identification

Learning Objectives: Students will be able to give clinical examples from their patients of the mechanisms of splitting, introjection, projective identification

Joseph, B. Projective Identification. Some Clinical Aspects. In: Melanie Klein Today, Vol. I. Mainly Theory. E. Bott-Spillius (ed). Pp. 138-150 [*Available in the [Library](#)*]  
Mitrani, J. (2007) Some Technical Implications of Klein's Concept of Premature Ego Development.IJPA.88.825-842 [PEP Web Link](#)

Suggested Readings:

Hinshelwood, R.D (1991). Projective Identification. In: A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought. Pp. 179-208. [*Available in the [Library](#)*]  
Klein, M (1940) Mourning and its Relation to Manic Depressive States. In: The Writings of Melanie Klein. Vol. 1 Love Guilt and Reparation (1921-1945) The Free Press. Pp 344-369 [PEP Web Link](#)

## Session 5 (March 19): Symbol Formation and Internalization

Learning Objectives: Students will be able to describe the difference between symbolic equation and true symbolization and the connection of these capacities to the psychological position (paranoid-schizoid or depressive) of the patient.

Segal, H (1954) Notes on Symbol Formation. IJPA. 38. 391-397 [PEP Web Link](#)

Rockwell, S. (2014) Problems of Internalization: A Button is a Button is not. Psychoanalytic Quarterly. Vol.1. 33.1 .pp 23- 39 [available in the [library](#)].

### Suggested Readings:

Hinshelwood, R.D (1991) Symbol Formation and Internal Objects. In: A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought. pp. 444-452 and pp. 68-83. [*Available in the [Library](#)*]

Spillius, E.B. (1994) Developments in Kleinian Thought: Overview and Personal View. Psychoanalytic Inquiry. 14. 324-364. [PEP Web Link](#)

Spillius. E.B. (1983) Some Developments from Melanie Klein. Intern. Journal of Psychoanalysis.. 64. 321-332. [PEP Web Link](#)

Schafer, R. (1994) The Contemporary Kleinians of London. Psychoanalytic Quarterly. 63: 409-432 [PEP Web Link](#)

## Session 6 (March 26): Pathological Organizations

Learning Objectives: Students will be able to describe the defense of “pathological organizations” and name at least two pathological organizations.

Joseph, B. Addiction to Near Death in: Melanie Klein Today, Developments in Theory and Practice, Edited by Elizabeth Bott Spillius, 1988. Vol. I, pp 311-323 [*Available in the [Library](#)*]

Joseph, B.(1975) The Patient who is Difficult to Reach. In: Melanie Klein Today, Vol.2, pp.48-60 [*Available in the [Library](#)*]

### Suggested Readings:

Hinshelwood, R.D (1991) Pathological Organizations. In: A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought. Pp. 381-387. [*Available in the [Library](#)*]

Klein.M.(1948) A Contribution to the Theory of Anxiety and Guilt. Intern. Journal of Psychoanalysis..29.pp.114-123. [PEP Web Link](#)

Rosenfeld, H. (1971) A Clinical Approach to the Psychoanalytic Theory of the Life and Death Instincts: an Investigation into the Aggressive Parts of Narcissism. IJPA, 52..169-178. [PEP Web Link](#)

## Session 7 (April 2): Contemporary Kleinian Technique

Learning Objectives: Students will be able to describe the technique of “addressing parts of the self” and understand when it can be used effectively, i.e. the patient is in the depressive position.

Feldman, M. (2007) Addressing Parts of the Self. IJPA. 88.371-386 [PEP Web Link](#)  
Joseph, B. (1985) Transference: the Total Situation. IJPA 66. 447-454 [PEP Web Link](#)

Suggested Readings:

Hinshelwood, R.D. (1991) Technique. In: A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought. pp. 9-31  
*[Available in the [Library](#)]*

Steiner, J. (2008) Transference to the Analyst as an Excluded Observer. Intern. Journal of  
Psychoanalysis. 89. 39-54 [PEP Web Link](#)

Riesenberg A and Malcolm R, Interpretation: The Past in the Present. In: Melanie Klein  
Today. Vol. II. Mainly Practice. Pp 73-89 *[Available in the [Library](#)]*

O'Shaughnessy, E. Words and Working Through. In Melanie Klein Today. Vol. II.

Mostly Practice. Pp 138-151 *[Available in the [Library](#)]*

Session 8 (April 9): Wilfred R. Bion

Learning Objectives: Students will be able to name several of Bion's conceptual  
contributions to psychoanalysis, i.e. alpha function, beta elements, container-contained,  
projective identification as normative communication, and the concepts of preconception  
and conception.

Bion, W. R. (1959) Attacks on Linking. IJPA.40.308-315 [PEP Web Link](#)

Bion 1967: Notes on Memory and Desire. In. Melanie Klein Today. Vol.2. Elizabeth Bott  
Spillius (ed). Pp 17-21 *[Available in the [Library](#)]*

Suggested Readings:

Hinshelwood, R.D. (1991) Wilfred Bion . In: A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought. pp. 231-  
237 *[Available in the [Library](#)]*

Grotstein, J. S. (1981) Wilfred Bion: The Man, the Psychoanalyst, the Mystic- a  
Perspective on his Life and Work. Contemporary Psychoanalysis. 17. 501-536  
[PEP Web Link](#)

Charles, M. (2002) Bion's Grid- A Tool for Transformation. Journal of the American  
Academy Psychoanalysis. 30. 429-445 [PEP Web Link](#)