

THE BOSTON PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETY AND INSTITUTE, INC.

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TECHNIQUE III

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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 of 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: Fosshage, Clinical Protocol, *Psychoanalytic Inquiry* 10: 461-477 (1990). [PEP Web Link](#)

Week 2: 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](#)

Week 3: 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](#)
Week 4: Mitchell, A Relational View, *Psychoanalytic Inquiry* 10: 523-540 (1990),
plus Fosshage's response, at 612-616. [PEP Web Link](#)

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

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

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

Week 8: 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 Objectives

1. Participants will understand James Fosshage's self-psychological view of his clinical work.
2. Participants will understand the classical view of Fosshage's case.
3. Participants will understand Kleinian and object-relational views of Fosshage's case.
4. Participants will understand relational views of Fosshage's case.
5. Participants will understand Hoffman's contemporary relational approach to technique.
6. Participants will understand Winnicott's technique, especially regarding the concepts of holding and interpretation.
7. Participants will understand Ferro's theory of technique, especially regarding his theory of "characters" in the analytic field.
8. Participants will understand contemporary "Independent" technique.