

THE BOSTON PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETY AND INSTITUTE, INC.

141 Herrick Road, Newton Centre, Massachusetts 02459
Telephone: 617.266.0953 | Fax: 857.255.3253 | www.bpsi.org

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HYSTERIA: PAST AND PRESENT

Spring 2014 BPSI Elective

Instructors: Janet A. English, Ph.D & Christopher Morse, Ph.D.

We encourage you to buy a copy of the Bollas book as well as Ian McEwan's book On Chesil Beach. We will be reading a substantial amount of the Bollas book, and it is well worth adding to your library. The McEwan book is a quick and amazing read and is available at any library if you do not want to purchase it. It is a painful and exquisite rendering of two latter day hysterics as they grapple with their sexuality and coming of age. We will be intertwining a discussion of the two characters in On Chesil Beach throughout the course, as they beautifully illustrate and articulate many of the theoretical concepts and notions of hysteria we will be reading about.

The Guttman article (for week two) is an extensive and comprehensive survey of the psychoanalytic literature on hysteria, from early Freud to contemporary thinkers. We do not expect you to read the article in its entirety, although you are welcome to do so. Dipping in to it here and there, focusing on some parts and passing by other parts is fine. Given the volume of reading, the article is assigned in the spirit of taking as much in as you can so that we share a common conceptual framework about what we mean when we talk about 'hysteria'.

WEEK ONE: CHRISTOPHER BOLLAS

Bollas, C. (2000). Hysteria. Introduction, chs. 2-4, 8. London: Routledge Brooks. [Available in the [Library](#)]

WEEK TWO: DEFINING HYSTERIA

Guttman, S. (2006). *Hysteria as a Concept: A Survey of its History in the Psychoanalytic Literature*. In Modern Psychoanalysis, 31: 182-228. [PEP Web Link](#)

WEEK THREE: FREUD'S HYSTERIA

Freud, S. *Fraulein Elisabeth von R.* in Breuer, J. & Freud, S. (1893-1895). Studies On Hysteria. New York: Basic Books. [PEP Web Link](#)

WEEK FOUR: EXTENDING FREUD'S VIEWS

Schafer, R. *Conversations with Elizabeth von R.*, in Tradition and Change in Psychoanalysis. Madison, Ct.: International Universities Press. [Available in the [Library](#)]

WEEK FIVE: CONVERSION

Aybek, S. Nicholson, T., Zelaya, F., O'Daly, O. Craig, T., David, A. & Kanaan, R. (2014). *Neural Correlates of Recall of Life Events in Conversion Disorder*. JAMA Psychiatry, 71,[1]: 52-59. [Available in the [Library](#)]

Gale, J. *Freud's Hysteria Theory Backed by Patients' Brain Scans*. <http://mobile.businessweek.com/news/2014-02-17/freud-s-hysteria-backed-by-patients'-brain-scans-health>

WEEK SIX: DOES SEX HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH HYSTERIA?

Budd, S. (2001): *No Sex Please, We're British*. In Sexuality and Psychoanalysis, pp. 52-68. London: Routledge Books. [Available in the [Library](#)]

Zamian, K. (2010). *Attachment Theory as a Defense*. In Psychoanalytic Psychology, 28: [1]: 33-47. [Available in the [Library](#)]

Optional Reading:

Green, A. (1995). *Has Sexuality Anything to do with Psychoanalysis?* IJPA, 76: 871-883. [PEP Web Link](#)

WEEK SEVEN: HYSTERIA WITHOUT SEX

Khan, M. (1975). *Grudge and the Hysteric*. In Khan, M. Hidden Selves. pp. 59-87. London: Hogarth Press. [Available in the [Library](#)]

Brenman, E. (1985). *Hysteria*, IJPA, 66: 423-432. [PEP Web Link](#)

WEEK EIGHT: DISSOCIATION AND REPRESSION

Bollas, C. (2000). Hysteria, ch. 14 [Available in the [Library](#)]

Another article tbd.