

# 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: Winnicott, Playing: Creative Activity and the Search for the Self. In *Playing and Reality*, ch. 4, pp. 53-64 (1971). [PEP Web Link](#)

Week 7: Ferro, The analytic dialogue: possible worlds and transformations in the analytic field. In: *In the Analyst's Consulting Room*. tr. P. Slotkin. East Sussex: Brunner-Routledge, pp. 46-65 (2002) [*available in the library*].

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](#)