Narcissistic and Borderline Psychopathology

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Week 1: 3/23/2017

Identifying, differentiating and approaching severe personality pathology – An introduction

Objectives: At the conclusion of the session, the student will be able to describe one theory and its accompanying clinical approach to severe psychopathology.

Suggested reading:


Optional reading:

Week 2: 3/30/2017

Identity diffusjon and interpersonal dysregulation in borderline personality disorder

Objectives: At the conclusion of the session, the student will be able to discuss the most central features of borderline personality disorder and their unfolding in psychotherapy.

Suggested reading:
Optional reading:

Week 3: 4/6 2017

Borderline personality disorder in females

Objectives: At the conclusion of the session, the student will be able to identify specific features, interpersonal patterns and defenses in women with borderline personality disorder.

Suggested readings:

Optional readings:


Week 4: 4/13 2017

Borderline personality disorder in males

Guest lecturer: Jason Jones, M.D.

Objectives: At the conclusion of the session, the student will be able to identify specific features, interpersonal patterns and defenses in men with borderline personality disorder.

Suggested reading:

Optional readings:
Week 5: 4/20 2017

Agency, self-sufficiency and control in narcissistic personality disorder.

Objective: At the conclusion of the session, the student will be able to identify strategies to engage patients’ sense of agency in psychotherapy and balance the need for control and self-sufficiency.

Suggested readings:


Week 6: 4/27 2017

Perfectionism, attention seeking and avoidance in narcissistic personality disorder

Objective: At the conclusion of the session, the student will be able to identify the role of perfectionism in pathological narcissism and its relation to attention seeking and avoidance.


Week 7: 5/4 2017

Self-criticism, insecurity and vulnerability in narcissistic personality disorder

Objective: At the conclusion of the session, the student will be able to discuss the role of self-criticism in narcissistic vulnerability.
Suggested reading:
Optional reading:

Week 8: 5/11 2017

Fear, shame and aggression

Objective: At the conclusion of the session, the student will be able to identify the most significant emotions in narcissistic pathology and their impact on treatment alliance.

Suggested reading:
Optional reading:
Kernberg OF. Aggression in Personality Disorders and Perversions. New Haven, Yale University Press. 1992.[Not Available in Library]

Week 9: 5/18 2017

Trauma – implications for narcissistic pathology

Objective: At the conclusion of the session, the student will be able to identify narcissistic trauma and discuss its impact on treatment alliance and choice of treatment strategies.
**Suggested reading:**

Optional reading:


**Week 10: 5/25 2017**

Integrating identity diffusion, self-esteem and emotional fluctuations in alliance building

Objective: At the conclusion of the session, the student will be able to discuss the unfolding and influence of personality pathology in the therapeutic alliance and strategies to attend to and process it.

**Suggested reading:**


Optional reading: