ATP Spring 2019

Narcissistic and Borderline Psychopathology

Instructor: Elsa Ronningstam, Ph.D.

Week 1: 3/21/2019
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: 3/28 2019
Identity diffusion 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 how they unfold in psychotherapy.

Suggested reading:

Optional reading:

**Week 3: 4/11 2019**

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 reading:**

**Optional reading:**


**Week 4: 4/18 2019**

Agency, self-sufficiency and control in narcissistic personality disorder - Beginning treatment

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

**Suggested reading:**

**Optional reading:**


**Week 5: 4/25 2019**
Perfectionism, attention seeking and avoidance - Mode of relating 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.

**Suggested reading:**

**Optional reading:**
Sorotzkin, B. (1985). The quest for perfectionism: Avoiding guilt or avoiding shame? *Psychotherapy*, 22(3), 564 – 571. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bpsi.org.]


**Week 6: 5/2 2019**
Self-criticism, insecurity and vulnerability in narcissistic personality disorder - How to tailor the treatment to the patient

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 7: 5/9 2019**
Fear, shame and aggression - implications for narcissistic pathology and treatment

Objective: At the conclusion of the session, the student will be able to identify and assess the most significant emotions in narcissistic pathology and their impact on treatment alliance and choice of treatment strategies
**Suggested reading:**
Ronningstam, E. & Baskin-Sommers, A. (2013). Fear and decision-making in narcissistic personality disorder: A link between psychoanalysis and neuroscience. *Dialogues in Clinical Neuroscience, 15*(2), 191-201. [Available in the library. Download from the web, check the reading folder or request from library@bpsi.org]


**Optional reading:**


**Week 8: 5/16 2019**
Psychological trauma in 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 9: 5/23 2019**
Integrating identity diffusion, self-esteem and emotional fluctuations in alliance building: Emerging transference and countertransference

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

**Suggested reading:**

Optional reading:

Week 10: 5/30 2019  Guest lecturer: Jason Jones, M.D.
Borderline personality disorder in males

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 reading:
