



B P S I

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Year V, Spring Semester 2019

Termination Seminar

Instructors: Randall Paulsen and Stephanie Brody

This seminar introduces candidates to the concept of termination from psychoanalytic work, whether it be an analysis or an analytic psychotherapy. We will explore termination from a clinical perspective with emphasis placed on the uniqueness of each termination, resistances encountered to termination in both the patient and analyst, countertransference issues, and the unique challenges during the termination with vulnerable patients. We will consider the role of play and playfulness, as well as the concept of termination as a transitional zone from the analytic space to the “real” world. The intrapsychic function of the analyst post termination will be explored—as well as complicated topics, such as contact between patient and analyst post analysis. The goals of the assigned readings are to provide a short history, describe some theoretical concepts, raise clinical questions, but primarily to stimulate discussion. We encourage each candidate to discuss clinical experiences during each class, and the instructors will also present clinical material for discussion.

CLASS 1: (4/11) An Overview of Termination’s Place over the last 100 years

Kantrowitz, J. (2015). A short history of termination. In *Myths of termination* (pp. 1-23). NY & London: Routledge Press. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bpsi.org]

Optional

Freud, S. (1937). Analysis terminable and interminable. *S.E., XXIII* (pp. 209-253). [PEP Web Link](#)

LEARNING OBJECTIVE: Students will be able to discuss three basic concepts of termination: loss, mourning, and internalization of the analyst.

CLASS 2: (4/18) What Kind of Endings Occur in Termination

Loewald, H.W. (1988). Termination analyzable and unanalyzable. *Psychoanalytic Study of the Child, 43*, 155-66. [PEP Web Link](#)

LEARNING OBJECTIVE: Students will be able to identify issues associated with termination such as separateness, or reworking of conflicts.

CLASS 3: (4/25) Asymmetrical Aspects of Termination

Kantrowitz, J. (2015). Non-mutual endings. In *Myths of termination* (Ch. 3, pp. 56-79). NY & London: Routledge Press. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bps.org]

Optional

Brody, S.R. (2016). Termination. In *Entering night country* (Ch. 8, pp. 112-128). NY: Routledge Press. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bps.org]

LEARNING OBJECTIVE: Students will be able to identify the difficulties of termination with vulnerable patients with different character pathologies.

CLASS FOUR: (5/2) Playfulness or Its Absence in the Termination Phase

Winnicott, D.W. (1971). Transitional objects and transitional phenomena. In *Playing and reality* (Ch. 1, pp. 1-13). NY: Routledge. [PEP Web Link](#)

LEARNING OBJECTIVE: Students will be able to explain the concept of transitional space as it may apply to the work of termination.

CLASS FIVE: (5/9) The Uncertainty at the Heart of the Psychoanalytic Process

Bass, A. (2009). "It ain't over 'til it's over": Infinite conversations, imperfect endings, and the elusive nature of termination. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 19, 744-759. [PEP Web Link](#)

LEARNING OBJECTIVE: Students will be able to describe the intrapsychic function of the therapist for the patient post termination.

CLASS SIX: (5/16) Post Analytic Contact

Kantrowitz, J. (2015). The effect of post-analytic contact. In *Myths of termination* (pp. 80-105) NY and London: Routledge Press. [Available in the library. Check the reading folder or request from library@bps.org]

LEARNING OBJECTIVE: Students will be able to discuss the current data on post analytic contact between patient and analyst.

CLASS SEVEN: (5/23) Psychological Events that Occur after Termination

Orgel, S. (2000). Letting go: Some thoughts about termination. *JAPA*, 48, 719-738. [PEP Web Link](#)

LEARNING OBJECTIVE: Students will be able to discuss Orgel's ideas about attachment, interpretation, loss, mourning, and degrees of internalization.

CLASS EIGHT: (5/30) The Ideal vs. The Real at Termination

Gabbard, G (2009). What is a "good enough" termination? *JAPA*, 57, 575-594. [PEP Web Link](#)

LEARNING OBJECTIVE: Students will be able to identify the differences between theory-based ideals of termination and experienced based realities.