



Bion and Psychoanalytic Technique: A Clinical Seminar
Technique V: BPSI Fall 2021

Instructors: Karen Roos, LICSW and Chris Lovett, PhD

Introductory Note: This course is entitled a “clinical seminar,” because the emphasis will be on the discussion of clinical process during class. In keeping with this format, all the readings for the class listed below are ‘recommended’, rather than required. Class members may find these readings useful to refer to at any time before or after any given class in our joint effort to understand the clinical hours that will be discussed over the course of the eight meetings we’ll have together.

1. September 23, 2021 **The Psychotic and the Non-Psychotic Parts of the Personality**

Learning Objective: At the end of this session, candidates will be able to identify and apply Bion’s concepts regarding the difference between the *psychotic part of the personality* and the *nonpsychotic part of the personality*.

Recommended Reading:

Bion, W.R. (1957) Differentiation of the Psychotic from the Non-Psychotic Personalities. *IJP*, 38, 266-275. [PEP Web Link](#).

De Masi, F. (2015) Delusion and Bi-Ocular Vision. *IJP*, 96, 1189-1211. [PEP Web Link](#).

2. September 30, 2021 **Attacks on Linking and Communicative Projective Identification**

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session, candidates will be able to describe and discuss Bion’s concept of *attacks on linking* and identify ways in which it can be utilized in clinical situations.

Recommended Reading:

Bion, W.R. (1959) Attacks on Linking. *IJP*, 40, 308-315. [PEP Web Link](#).

Bergstein, A. (2015) Attacks on Linking or a Drive to Communicate? Tolerating

The Paradox. *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 84, 921-942. [PEP Web Link](#).

3. September 30, 2021 **Evading versus Modifying Frustration**

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session, candidates will be able explain the importance of differentiating the *evasion of experiencing frustration versus its modification* and the important difference between the two in relation to emotional growth in analytic treatment.

Recommended Reading:

Bion, W.R. *Learning from Experience*. London: Karnac. Chapters 11-12 (pp. 28-37). [PEP Web Link](#).

Levine, H. (2011) 'The Consolation which is Drawn from Truth': The Analysis of a Patient Unable to Suffer Experience. In: C. Mawson (Ed.) *Bion Today*. London: Routledge, pp. 188-211. [Download from the [Reading folder](#) or request from library@bpsl.org].

4. October 7, 2021 **Reverie and Containment**

Learning Objective: At the end of this session candidates will be able to describe the importance to clinical technique of Bion's definitions of the processes of *reverie and containment*.

Recommended Reading:

Ogden, T.H. (2017) Dreaming the Analytic Session: A Clinical Essay. *Psychoanalysis Quarterly*, 86, 1-20. [PEP Web Link](#).

Ferro, A. (2008) The Patient as the Analyst's Best Colleague: Transformation into a Dream and Narrative Transformations. *Italian Psychoanalytic Annual*, 2, 199-205. [PEP Web Link](#).

5. October 14, 2021 **The 'Non-dream' in the Analytic Process**

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to define the importance of Bion's ideas regarding *dreaming versus non-dreaming* in clinical practice.

Recommended Reading:

Cassorla, R.M. (2005) From Bastion to Enactment: The 'Non-dream' in the Theatre of Analysis, *IJP*, 86, 699-719. [PEP Web Link](#).

Bergstein, A. (2013) Transcending the Caesura: Reverie, Dreaming and Counter-Dreaming. *IJP*, 94, 621-644. [PEP Web Link](#).

6. October 28, 2021 **Waking Dream Thought and Narrative Derivatives**

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session the candidates will be able to define Bion concepts of *waking dream thought* and the closely related idea of *narrative derivatives*.

Recommended Reading:

Civitarese, G. & Ferro, A. (2013) The Meaning and Uses of Metaphor in Analytic Field Theory. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 33, 190-209. [PEP Web Link](#).

Molinari, E. (2011) From One Room to the Other: A Story of Contamination. The Relationship Between Adult and Child Analysis. *IJP*, 92, 791-810. [PEP Web Link](#).

7. November 4, 2021 **Transformations in Hallucinosi**

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to define Bion's concept of *transformations in hallucinosi*.

Recommended Reading:

Emanuel, Ricky (2012) An Application of Bion's Theory of Thinking and Transformations in Hallucinosi. An Experience of Supervision with Dr Donald Meltzer. *Journal of Child Psychotherapy*, 38, 284-301. [PEP Web Link](#).

Civitarese, G. (2015) Transformations in Hallucinosi and the Receptivity of the Analyst. *IJP*, 96, 1091-1116. [PEP Web Link](#).

8. November 11, 2021 **'O' and 'At-one-ment'**

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to define Bion's concepts of *O* and *At-one-ment*.

Recommended Reading:

Eshel, O. (2013) Patient-Analyst "Witness": On Analytic "Presencing," Passion, and Compassion in States of Breakdown, Despair, and Deadness. *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 82, 925-953. [PEP Web Link](#).

Vermote, R. (2011) On the Value of 'Late Bion' to Analytic Theory and Practice. *IJP*, 92, 1089-1098. [PEP Web Link](#).