



Freud III
December 2021 - February 2022
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Welcome to Freud III. In this seminar, we look forward to reengaging Freud's writings and deepening our understanding of Freud's thinking through reading one of his most famous case studies and two seminal Freud papers dealing with individual psychology and the psychodynamics of culture. We will end with a paper that is the correspondence between Einstein and Freud "Why War?", which is as pertinent today as it was when it was written in 1933. We mean to carefully read the texts, absorb what we can, ask questions of each other and of Freud, and continue to develop some sense of his thoughts and theories, while we assess their clinical and societal relevance today.

We begin with one of Freud's most famous patients, commonly known as 'The Wolfman'. This analysis is the longest analytic treatment that we have by Freud, and it is of a patient who had severe psychological problems that had been judged as incurable. As for the value of basing theory on one case study, we may read Freud's statement at the beginning of this case: "Naturally a single case does not give us all the information that we should like to have. Or, to put it more correctly, it might teach us everything, if we were only in a position to make everything out, and if we were not compelled by the inexperience of our own perception to content ourselves with a little" (S.E. XVII p.10).

We will then read two of Freud's "cultural" texts. *Civilization and its Discontents* explicates Freud's view that there is a fundamental antagonism between the demands of the instincts and the restrictions of civilization. In "Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego" Freud shows us that individual psychology is always already social psychology, especially via the path of identification. "In the individual's mental life someone else is invariably involved, as a model, as an object, as a helper, as an opponent" (SE. VIII. P. 69.) Our final reading "*Why War?*" addresses issues such as the dynamics of aggression and violence in societies, the origin of the concept of justice, the central place of socialization in the development of culture, the balance of power and conflicts of interest within communities.

We look forward to reading together and learning from each other.

Session 1, Dec. 2, 2021: Wolfman Part 1

Freud, S. *From the History of an Infantile Neurosis*, (1918/1914) *S.E. Vol XVII*, pp. 3-71. [PEP Web Link](#).

Session 2, Dec. 9, 2021: Wolfman Part 2

Freud, S. *From the History of an Infantile Neurosis*, (1918/1914) *S.E. Vol XVII*, pp. 72- 103. [PEP Web Link](#)

Session 3, Dec. 16, 2021: Wolfman Part 3

Freud, S. *From the History of an Infantile Neurosis*, (1918/1914) *S.E. Vol XVII*, pp. 104-122. [PEP Web Link](#)

Session 4, Jan. 6, 2022: *Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego*, SE. Vol. XVIII (1920-1922), pp. 67-110. [PEP Web Link](#)

Session 5, Jan. 13, 2022: *Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego*, SE. Vol XVIII (1920-1922), pp. 111-143. [PEP Web Link](#)

Session 6, Jan. 27, 2022: *Civilization and its Discontents Part 1*. SE Vol. XXI (1927-1931), pp. 64-107. [PEP Web Link](#)

Session 7, Feb. 3, 2022: *Civilization and its Discontents Part 2*. SE Vol. XXI (1927-1931), pp. 108-145. [PEP Web Link](#)

Session 8, Feb. 10, 2022: *Why War?* S.E. Vol XXII (1932-1936), pp. 197-215. [PEP Web Link](#)

Supplemental Contemporary Readings:

For Freud in general:

Brickman, C. (2018) *Race in Psychoanalysis: Aboriginal populations in the mind* (Relational Perspectives Book Series. 1st Edition. Routledge. [Can be requested from the [library](#) by BPSI Members and Partners].

Kahn, M. (2002) *Basic Freud, Psychoanalytic Thought for the 21st century*. [Can be requested from the [library](#) by BPSI Members and Partners].

Leffert, M. (2012) *Reading (or not reading) Freud in the 21st century*. Routledge, pp. 153-187. [Download from the [Reading folder](#) or request from library@bpsi.org].

Reisner, S. (1999) *Freud and Psychoanalysis: Into the 21st century*. *JAPA*. 47(4):1037-1060 [PEP Web Link](#)

Samuels, R. (2019) Freud for the 21st century: The Science of Everyday Life. [Can be requested from the [library](#) by BPSI Members and Partners].

Supplemental Reading: Wolfman

Blum, H. (1974) The Borderline Childhood of the Wolfman. JAPA 22:721-42. [PEP Web Link](#)

Gardiner, M. (ed) (1971) The Wolfman by the Wolfman. NY Basic Books. [Can be requested from the [library](#) by BPSI members and partners].

Torok, M. (2005) The Wolfman's Magic Word- a Cryptonymy. Univ. of Minn. Press. [Can be requested from the [library](#) by BPSI members and partners].

Supplemental Readings: Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego:

Spector-Person, E. (ed) (2001) On Freud's Group Psychology and the analysis of the ego. In Series: Contemporary Freud: Turning points and critical issues. Intern. Psychoanalytic Association. [Can be requested from the [library](#) by BPSI Members and Partners].

Acklin, T. (2003). On Freud's "Group Psychology and the analysis of the ego." Edited by Ethel Spector Person for the International Psychoanalytical Association's *Contemporary Freud: Turning Points and Critical Issues*. Hillsdale, NJ: Analytic Press, 2001. 184 pp. Psychoanalytic Quarterly, 72(2):526-529 [PEP Web Link](#)

Bion, W.R. (1952) Group Dynamics: A Re-View. Int. J. Psycho-Anal., 33:235-247 [PEP Web Link](#)

Kernberg, O.F. (2003). Sanctioned social violence. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 84(3):683-698 [PEP Web Link](#)

Supplemental Readings for Civilization and its Discontents:

Gaztambide, D.J. (2019) *A People's History of Psychoanalysis: From Freud to Liberation Psychology*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, Chapter 3. For Justice for Equal Treatment of all. Pp. 61-87. [Download from the [Reading folder](#) or request from library@bpsi.org].

Bornstein, M. (2012) If I were writing Civilization and its Discontents Today, what would I write" Psychoanalytic Inquiry 32.6.521-523 [Download from the [Reading folder](#) or request from library@bpsi.org].

Twemlow, S.W. (2000) Psychoanalytic thinking applied to social issues. A vision of the future. Journal of Applied Psychoanalytic Studies 2.3.209-218. [PEP Web Link](#)