



## **MELANIE KLEIN AND THE NEO-KLEINIANS**

Instructors: Joshua Loewenstein, PhD and Adam Narva, PhD

Dates: February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7

Melanie Klein is arguably the most important psychoanalyst after Freud. Many of her ideas have been widely accepted, and further developed, although others remain controversial.

The centerpiece of the Kleinian clinical strategy involves discerning and working with the object relation active for the patient in the here and now—the patient’s archaic, typically unconscious, experience of who is doing what to whom, in real time, in the analytic session. We will focus on the leading theoretical concepts that support this approach, including the total situation of the transference, the use of the countertransference, splitting and projective identification, and the paranoid-schizoid and depressive positions. We will observe, through close readings of clinical process, how Kleinian analysts implement this strategy; how they develop formulations and use them in speaking to patients.

In many of our meetings we will use clinical examples from the paper assigned for the following class, which means the reading for that next meeting will be relatively brief—basically the theoretical part of the paper. There are a few exceptions, including our first meeting, for which we are asking you to read a longer paper that provides an excellent overview of Kleinian psychoanalysis, and will serve as helpful background material throughout.

We have also suggested additional, non-required, papers for each meeting for those who are motivated to read further.

### Session 1 February 17, 2022

Learning objective: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to identify Klein's key ideas, including projective identification, the two "Positions", unconscious phantasy, and the early Oedipus complex.

Garvey, P. and Long, K. (2018) Melanie Klein: Her Main Ideas and Some Theoretical and Clinical Developments, in *The Klein Tradition*, edited by Penelope Garvey and Kay Long, London: Karnac [Download from the [Reading folder](#) or request from [library@bps.org](mailto:library@bps.org)].

Recommended:

Ogden, T.H. (1983). The Concept of Internal Object Relations. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 64:227-241. [PEP Web Link](#)

Meltzer, D. (1981). The Kleinian Expansion of Freud's Metapsychology. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 62:177-185. [PEP Web Link](#)

### Session 2 February 24, 2022

Learning objective: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to apply the contemporary Kleinian approach to transference in the clinical setting.

Joseph, B. (1985). Transference: The Total Situation. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 66:447-454. [PEP Web Link](#)

Recommended:

Joseph, B. (2013). Here and Now: My Perspective. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 94:1-5. [PEP Web Link](#)

### Session 3 March 3, 2022

Learning objective: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to apply the contemporary Kleinian approach to working with countertransference.

Pick, I. B. (1985). Working Through in the Countertransference. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 66:157-166 [PEP Web Link](#)

Recommended:

Caper, R. (1997). A Mind of One's Own. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 78:265-278 [PEP Web Link](#)

### Session 4 March 10, 2022

Learning objective: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to describe the concept of projective identification, including what is projected and how it affects the analyst.

Feldman, M. (1992). Splitting and Projective Identification. *New Library of Psychoanalysis*, 14:74-88. [PEP Web Link](#)

Recommended:

Feldman, M. (1997). Projective Identification: The Analyst's Involvement. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 78:227-241. [PEP Web Link](#)

Ogden, T. H. (1979). On Projective Identification. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 60:357-373. [PEP Web Link](#)

#### Session 5 March 17, 2022

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to describe the depressive position in terms of internal objects and defenses.

Steiner, J. (1992). The Equilibrium between the Paranoid-Schizoid and the Depressive Positions. *New Library of Psychoanalysis*, 14:46-58. [PEP Web Link](#)

Recommended:

Klein, M. (1940). Mourning and its Relation to Manic-Depressive States. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 21: 125-153. [PEP Web Link](#)

Steiner, J. (1987). The Interplay between Pathological Organizations and the Paranoid-Schizoid and Depressive Positions. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 68:69-80. [PEP Web Link](#)

#### Session 6 March 24, 2022

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to explain how the child's capacity to experience unconscious phantasy connects to the early development of Oedipal dynamics.

Klein, M. (1975). Chapter 21, The Oedipus Complex in Light of Early Anxieties. In *Love, guilt and reparation: And other works 1921-1945*. New York: Delacorte Press, pp. 370-419 [We will concentrate on the case of Rita.] [Download from the [Reading folder](#) or request from [library@bps.org](mailto:library@bps.org)].

Recommended:

O'Shaughnessy, E. (1989). Chapter Four: The Invisible Oedipus Complex. In *The Oedipus Complex Today Clinical Implications*, London: Karnac Books, pp. 129-150 [Download from the [Reading folder](#) or request from [library@bps.org](mailto:library@bps.org)].

#### Session 7 March 31, 2022

Learning objective: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to describe the paranoid-schizoid position in terms of internal objects and defenses.

Klein, M. (1946). Notes on Some Schizoid Mechanisms. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 27:99-110.  
[PEP Web Link](#)

Recommended:

Segal, H. (1973) Chapter 3, The Paranoid Schizoid Position. In *Introduction to the work of Melanie Klein*. New York: Basic Books. [Download from the [Reading folder](#) or request from [library@bpsl.org](mailto:library@bpsl.org)].

### Session 8 April 7, 2022

Learning Objective: At the conclusion of this session candidates will be able to explain unconscious phantasy as the psychic representative of drive that is linked to internal objects and external reality.

Isaacs, S. (1948). The Nature and Function of Phantasy. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 29:73-97.  
[PEP Web Link](#)

Recommended:

Ogden, T. H. (2011). Reading Susan Isaacs: Toward a Radically Revised Theory of Thinking. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 92:925-942. [PEP Web Link](#)

Spillius, E. B. (2001). Freud and Klein on the Concept of Phantasy. *Int. J. Psycho- Anal.*, 82:361-373. [PEP Web Link](#)