

**Essentially Interpersonal:  
Understanding Relational Theory from its Interpersonal Psychoanalytic  
Roots**

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**Fall 2018 (Six Mondays, 11am-1:10pm: 11/5,12,19,26,12/3)**

In this course we examine the foundations of Interpersonal Psychoanalysis with an eye toward key Interpersonal papers and concepts that shifted and redefined the practice of psychoanalysis ultimately becoming the basis and the ancestors of, Interpersonal/Relational Theory.

**(Not all readings listed will be assigned. The interests of the class will influence what we read and some members of the class will read different papers for in class presentations.)**

**Class 1. Introduction-Early history --- Participant Observation**

D'Ercole, A. (2017) The Repossession of the Interpersonal Tradition: On Holding Close Our Trans-disciplinary Roots, *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*, 53:1, 95-111.

D'Ercole, A. (2016). On Finding Clara Thompson. *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*, 53:1,63-68.

Learning Objective: To be able to trace the history of the development of the concept of participant observation and subjectivity.

**Class 2. Early Papers---Mutuality, Co-participation, Subjectivity**

Sandor Ferenczi (1873-1933)

Ferenczi, S. (1988). Confusion of Tongues Between Adults and the Child—The Language... *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 24:196-206.

Otto Rank (1884-1939) “It is always easier to talk about the past because it is not present.”

Ferenczi, S. and Rank, O. (1925). *The Development of Psychoanalysis*, Nervous and Mental Disease Publishing, New York and Washington, Martino Publishing, Mansfield Centre, CT 2012, pgs. 1-27.

Suggested reading:

Menaker, E. (1982) *Otto Rank: A Rediscovered Legacy*. Columbia University Press, New York.

Learning Objective: To develop a foundation for the concept of mutuality, co-participation and subjectivity and their application to clinical work.

### **Class 3. Early Papers-**

Harry Stack Sullivan (1892-1949)---**Organization of Self, Anxiety, Selective Inattention and Dissociation**

Sullivan, H.S. (1954) *The psychiatric interview*. NY: W.W. Norton, Chapter 1: Pgs 3-27.

Sullivan, H. S., (1950) *The illusion of personal individuality*” in *Psychiatry*, 1950, 13(3), 317-332.

Suggested reading:

Wake, N. (2011) *Private Practices: Harry Stack Sullivan, the Science of Homosexuality and American Liberalism*, Rutgers University Press, New Jersey.

Perry, H. S. (1982) *Psychiatrist in America: The Life of Harry Stack Sullivan*, The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA and London, England.

Wolstein, B. (1977). *Vintage Sullivan: Comments on the 1946-1947 seminar*. *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*, 13:407-411.

Sullivan, H.S. (1953). *The Interpersonal Theory of Psychiatry*. New York: W.W. Norton.

Sullivan, H.S. (1956). *Clinical Studies in Psychiatry*. New York:

W.W.Norton.

Levenson, E.A. (1992). Harry Stack Sullivan: From Interpersonal  
Psychiatry to Interpersona... *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 28:450-466.

Clara Thompson (1893-1958)---**Analytic respect, Love and Feminism**

Thompson, C. (1979). Sullivan and Fromm. *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 15:195-  
200.

Thompson, C.M., (1931). "The Dutiful Child" Resistance. *Psychoanalytic  
Review*, 18(4):426-433

Thompson, C. (1964). *The Selected Papers of Clara M. Thompson* (Edited by  
Maurice R. Green) Basic Books, New York, London.(pgs.139-149;  
248-256)

Suggested reading:

Blechner, M.J. (2005). The gay Harry Stack Sullivan: Interactions  
between his life, clinical work, and theory. *Contemporary.  
Psychoanalysis.*, 41:1-20

Flax, J. (2002). Resisting Woman: On Feminine Difference in the Work  
of Horney, Thompson,... *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 38:257-276.

Learning Objective: To be able to trace Sullivan's ideas about the organization of self,  
anxiety, selective inattention and dissociation and Thompson's feminist critiques of  
psychoanalysis.

#### **Class 4. Early Papers-**

Erick Fromm (1900-1980)---**Anxiety and Freedom**

Fromm, E. *Escape from Freedom*, Avon Books, Chapter 5, Mechanisms of  
Escape, pgs. 157-186.

Fromm, E. (1994). Excerpt from "Man for Himself"—From Chapter III:  
Human Nature & Character. *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 30:415-418.

Frieda Fromm-Reichmann (1889-1957)

Fromm-Reichmann, F. (1990). Loneliness. *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 26:305-329.

Learning Objective: To develop a working knowledge of Fromm's views on anxiety and freedom and Fromm-Reichmann's ideas regarding loneliness.

### **Class 5. Second Generation Interpersonalists**

Tauber (1909-1988)--- **Analytic Participation, Dreams**

Tauber, E. & Green, M.R. (1959) Prelogical Experience: An inquiry into dreams and other creative processes (pgs.113-126; 170-186)

Tauber, E. (1959) Countertransference re-examined. In Epstein. L. and Feiner. Eds. Countertransference, New York Aronson Pg. 59-69.

Suggested Reading:

Tauber, E.S. (1979). Erich Fromm: Clinician and Social Philosopher. *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 15:201-201.

Edgar Levenson- **Shifting the focus --what it all means to what is going on.**

Levenson, E.A. (1989). Whatever Happened to the Cat?—Interpersonal Perspectives on t... *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 25:537-553.

Levenson, E. (2003). On Seeing What is Said: Visual Aids to the Psychoanalytic Process, *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*, 39(2):233-249

Levenson, E.A. (1987). The Purloined Self. *J. Amer. Acad. Psychoanal.*, 15(4):481-490.

Suggested readings:

Levenson, E. (1987). An Interpersonal Perspective. *Psychoanal. Inq.*,  
7:207-214.

Singer, Irwin. ( - ) ---**Self Disclosure**

Singer, E. (1977) The fiction of analytic anonymity. In J. Frank ed. *The  
Human Dimension in Psychoanalytic Practice*. New York: Grune &  
Stratton.

Wolstein, Benjamin (1922-1998)---**Engagement of self and other,  
transformation**

Wolstein, B. (1975). Countertransference: The Psychoanalyst's Shared  
Experience and Inq... *J. Amer. Acad. Psychoanal.*, 3:77-89.

Hirsch, I. (2000). Interview with Benjamin Wolstein *Contemporary  
Psychoanalysis*, 36:187-232.

Suggested reading:

Held-Weiss, R. (1984). The Interpersonal Tradition and its  
Development:—Some Implica... *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 20:344-362

Learning Objective: To develop a working knowledge of second generation  
Interpersonalists and their views on transformation in the clinical relationship.

### **Class 6. Contemporary Contributions-**

Ehrenberg---**Intersubjectivity, Process, Use of Self**

Ehrenberg, D.B. (1974). The Intimate Edge in Therapeutic Relatedness.  
*Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 10:423-437.

Ehrenberg, D.B. (2006). The Interpersonal/Relational Interface: History, Context, and Pers... *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 42:535-550.

### Donnel Stern---**Unformulated Experience, Trauma and Dissociation**

Stern, D.B. (1983). Unformulated Experience, —From Familiar Chaos to Creative Disorder. *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 19:71-99.

Stern, D.B. (2006). States of Relatedness: Are Ideas Part of the Family?. *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 42:565-576

### Hirsch---**Use of the self, Subjectivity**

Hirsch, I. (1984). Toward a More Subjective View of Analyzability *American Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 44(2):169-182

Hirsch, I. (1985). The rediscovery of the advantages of the participant-observation model. *Psychoanalytic. Contemporary Thought*, 8:441-459.

#### Suggested Readings:

Hirsch (2015). *The Interpersonal Tradition: The Origins of Psychoanalytic Subjectivity*. Routledge, New York.

Bromberg, P.M. (2001). The Gorilla Did It: Some Thoughts on Dissociation, the Real, and the R... *Psychoanal. Dial.*, 11:385-404

Fiscalini, J. (2004) Co-participant Psychoanalysis, Openness to Singularity: Facilitating Aliveness in Psychoanalysis Ch. 10, 155-168.

Fiscalini, J. (1994). The Uniquely Interpersonal and the Interpersonally Unique—On I... *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 30:114-134.

Lesser, R.M. (1992). Frommian Therapeutic Practice: "A Few Rich Hours". *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 28:483-494. (12 pgs)

Wilner, W. (1999). The Un-Consciousing of Awareness in Psychoanalytic Therapy. *Contemp. Psychoanal.*, 35:617-628.

Learning Objective: To develop a foundational knowledge of how key clinical interpersonal concepts evolved and changed.

