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**NYU POSTDOC**

**Working with Envy, Hatred and Sadism in the Therapeutic Moment:  
A Clinical Seminar using a Contemporary Kleinian Approach.**

Contemporary clinicians in different parts of the world continue to develop and expand Melanie Klein's seminal ideas such as unconscious phantasy, projective identification, the therapeutic process and paranoid/ schizoid and depressive positions. Their contributions have increased our ability to understand and treat the more disturbed patients. Unconscious destructiveness in the transference-countertransference engagement is a central aspect of our work. The therapeutic interventions address psychotic layers that include aggressive and threatening elements.

The instructor will provide difficult clinical material from her cases to illustrate the clinical challenges and ways of working as applied to each conceptual unit.

As the course progresses and we become more familiar with contemporary Kleinian ways of working, candidates will have the opportunity to present their own clinical material to the group so that we can move back and forth between the reading material and its application to actual clinical data. We will consider alternative ways of framing interpretations to reach the patient.

This seminar is open to all candidates.

**Course Learning Objectives:**

At the end of this course, candidates will be able to: 1. Define and discuss the clinical and theoretical concept of Projective Identification and its use in the clinical situation. 2. Recognize the role of unconscious fantasy in the emotional experience of the analyst. 3. Illustrate ways in which complex manifestations of aggression (hatred, envy and sadism) appear in the transference and countertransference. 4. Recognize when there is value in utilizing analyst-centered interpretation (Steiner) with patients who suffered early trauma and loss.

## **Week 1: Background and Central Ideas**

Lectures on Technique by Melanie Klein. Edited with Critical Review by **John Steiner** (2017)  
Read the Introduction to the book pages 1-23

Learning Objectives: At the end of this introductory class, candidates will be able to describe the context and some basic ideas of the Contemporary Kleinian approach to clinical work.

## **Week 2: Projective Identification**

Projective Identification in Clinical Practice. **Herbert Rosenfeld**  
In H. Rosenfeld Impasse and Interpretation. Routledge: London and New York (1987)

Projective Identification: Some Clinical Aspects. **Betty Joseph**  
In her book Psychic Equilibrium and Psychic Change

Projective Identification: The Analyst's Involvement. **Michael Feldman**  
International Journal of Psycho-Analysis, 78, (1997):227-241

Learning Objectives: At the end of this class, candidates will be able to describe and compare several aspects of Projective Identification from a contemporary Kleinian perspective and to consider some clinical interventions to deal with challenging moments in the session that stem from these projections.

## **Week 3 and 4: Transference and Countertransference**

Transference: The Total Situation. **Betty Joseph**  
International Journal of Psycho-Analysis, 66, (1985):447-54

Working Through the Counter-transference. **Irma Brenman Pick**  
International Journal of Psycho-Analysis, 66, (1985):157-66

Where is Here? Where is Now? **Edna O'Shaughnessy**  
International Journal of Psycho-Analysis, 94, (2013) 7-16

Taking the Transference: Some technical implications in three papers by Bion. **Judith Mitrani**  
International Journal of Psycho-Analysis, 82 (2001) (6):1085-1104

Learning Objectives: At the end of this two-week module, candidates will be able to address the current emphasis on moment-to-moment vicissitudes of the transference-countertransference engagement and less revert in their work to reconstruction of the distant past.

### **Week 5 and 6: Envy**

Varieties of Envious Experience. **Elizabeth Bott Spillius**  
International Journal of Psycho-Analysis, 74, (1993):1199-1212

He thinks himself impaired: the pathologically envious personality. **Ronald Britton**  
In: Roth, P. and Lemma, A (Ed) Envy and Gratitude Revisited, (2008)

Envy and the Negative Therapeutic Reaction. **Michael Feldman**  
In M. Feldman Doubt, Conviction and the Analytic Process. Routledge: London and New York (2009)

Learning Objectives: At the end of this two-week module, candidates will be able to describe envy as a potent factor in the transference-countertransference, to differentiate between conscious and unconscious envy and address the various roles envy plays such as inhibiting progress, negating feeling gratitude and avoiding feelings of inadequacy.

### **Week 7 & 8: Interpretation and Beyond:**

Patient-Centered and Analyst-Centered Interpretation: Some implications of Containment and countertransference. **John Steiner**. Psychoanalytic Inquiry, (1994) 14 (3), 406-422

Interpretation: Selected fact or Overvalued Idea? **Ron Britton and John Steiner**  
International Journal of Psycho-Analysis (1994), 75, 1069-1078

Addressing Parts of the Self. **Michael Feldman**  
International Journal of Psycho-Analysis (2007) 88(2) 371-386

Interpretative enactment and the Analytic Setting. **John Steiner**  
International Journal of Psycho-Analysis, (2006) 87 315-321

Commentary on Three Papers by Wilfred R. Bion. **Ronald Britton**  
Psychoanalytic Quarterly (2013), 82(2):311-321

Mapping the Landscape: Levels of Transference Interpretation. **Priscilla Roth**  
International Journal of Psychoanalysis, 82, (2001):533-543

The Value of Uncertainty. **Michael Feldman**  
Psychoanalytic Quarterly, 82, (2013) (1):51-61

Violent emotions and the Violence of Life. **Avner Bergstein**  
International J of Psychoanalysis, 2020, vol101, No 5, 863-878

Learning Objectives: At the end of this two-week module, candidates will be able to compare a few alternative options to frame interpretations and to assess their clinical implications when working with both overt and unconscious aggression.