

## NYU Postdoctoral Program

### Examining the Transference-Countertransference Matrix: A Clinical Seminar

Irwin Hirsch, Ph.D.  
Spring 2022

This 8-week clinical seminar will emphasize facilitating alertness to patients' transferences while simultaneously being attuned to countertransference experience. Analysts always have the opportunity to address transference themes, though these are often avoided. As well, countertransference experience can always be used productively, though this is often not taken advantage of.

The instructor will lecture about the concepts of transference and countertransference at the outset. However, most of the seminar will be devoted to the presentation of clinical material by both the instructor and the candidates.

There are no required readings for this seminar, though the following will be used as background.

Gill, M. (1982). *The Analysis of Transference, Volume 1*. New York: International Universities Press.

Hirsch, I. (2008). *Coasting in the Countertransference: Conflicts of Self-Interest between Analyst and Patient*. London & New York: Routledge.

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

Searles, H. (1979). *Countertransference and Related Subjects*. New York: International Universities Press.

Stern, D. & Hirsch, I. (2017). *The Interpersonal Perspective in Psychoanalysis, 1960s-1990s: Rethinking Transference & Countertransference*. London & New York: Routledge.

#### Educational Objectives

1. Candidates will examine ways to increase sensitivity to patients' transferences to them.
2. Candidates will learn to appreciate the extent to which different patients provoke different emotional reactions and responses.
3. Candidates will learn to be more acutely aware of the degree to which their own unconscious processes impact patients' experience.