# SYLLABUS

**Psychology 18:820:503:03**  
**Foundations of Intervention: Analytic**  
Karen Riggs Skean

### Winter/Spring, 2008/2009

- **Room A340**  
- **Mondays, 1:15-4:00**

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## SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

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<td>Organization of Course. Get Acquainted. Overview Lecture</td>
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<td>Freud - The Unconscious and Dreams</td>
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<td>Dec. 1</td>
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<td>Psychoanalytic as a Theory of Development</td>
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<td>Psychoanalytic Treatment I DREAM PAPER DUE</td>
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<td>Diversity Issues in Psychoanalysis and Psychoanalytic ConceptsApplied to Groups and Organizations</td>
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<td>The Uses of Enchantment: Fairy Tales and the Unconscious Life of Children and Attachment Theory and Psychoanalysis</td>
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<td>Object Relations and Self Psychology Post-Freudian Developments in Theory &amp; Technique FINAL EXAM DUE</td>
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Required Texts


Optional Texts


Criteria for Grading
1. Class attendance and participation. (25%)
2. Dream Analysis Paper (25%)
3. Psychoanalytic Exercises (25%)
4. Final Exam (25%)

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, the student should have:

1. A basic knowledge of the concept of human nature represented by the psychoanalytic/psychodynamic tradition, an overview of its history and development.

2. "Psychoanalytic literacy," that is, an understanding of key terms and concepts as they are used in psychological discourse: transference, countertransference, resistance, defense, unconscious processes.

3. An introduction to psychoanalytic assessment and treatment, i.e., how the theory relates to actual work with clients.

4. An introduction to the mechanisms of defense and how they relate to character style and psychoanalytic diagnosis.

5. An understanding of some of the issues involved in applying psychoanalytic thinking to groups, organizations and diverse populations.
Assignments and Evaluation

Dream Analysis Paper (4-6 pages)

Due January 28. You will have the choice of writing about either a personal dream or one from a friend, acquaintance or client, so long as you have access not only to the dream but to a number of associations. The purpose of this paper is to get the feel of examining an experience from a psychoanalytic perspective and to demonstrate some knowledge of this approach to dreams and the unconscious. A specific format for the assignment will be given in class.

Psychoanalytic "Exercises"

There will be 6-7 homework handouts during the course designed to provide further practice in thinking about and working with some of the concepts we are studying. These will be graded on a pass/fail basis only (done or not done): the point here is not to get the "right or wrong" answer, but to engage actively with the material.

Final Exam

The take-home exam will be handed out in Class 7 and due the final class. Though the exam will be graded, I view it much like the exercises, primarily as a learning device. Should you not get the grade you want, you will have the option to rewrite it in response to feedback.

I welcome discussions about anything related to the course.

Instructor Availability

I will be at GSAPP on Mondays. Appointments for other times can be arranged either at GSAPP or in my office in Highland Park. Leave a message on my office phone at 732-247-7489.

I can be also by reached at kskean@aol.com and would be happy to answer questions, engage in e-mail dialogues, etc. This need not be limited to questions about papers, but could be a comment you didn't get to make in class, a question that comes up for you as you do the readings, a reflection or feedback about how the class is going for you.
Readings

Readings are divided into required and recommended. The required readings reflect the minimum necessary for participating meaningfully in class discussion and having a basic understanding of the topic. The recommended readings are to help you pursue a topic further or to serve as future reference.

READING ASSIGNMENTS BY WEEK

Class 1: Freud - Basic Concepts; Course Overview


Class 2: The Unconscious and Dreams

Rock, A. (2004). The mind at night: The new science of how and why we dream. New York: Basic Books, pp. 101-120. An accessible, well-written account of the scientific field of dream research from the discovery of REM sleep in the 50’s through the sophisticated neuroscience of today. Some of this work supports Freudian theory in various aspects, and some does not. This chapter will give you a look at some of the material most relevant to the rest of today’s readings. The entire book is recommended for those with an interest in the topic.

Class 3: Psychoanalysis as Theory of Development


Fonagy, P. (2001). Attachment Theory and Psychoanalysis. New York: Other Press. An excellent recent book on the evolving relationship between the attachment theory originally developed by John Bowlby and psychoanalysis. We will have a brief reading from this later in the course.
Class 4: The Mechanisms of Defense

Required: McWilliams, N. *Psychoanalytic diagnosis*. pp. 96-144.


Class 5: Character Styles and Psychoanalytic Diagnosis

Required: McWilliams, N. *Psychoanalytic diagnosis*. pp. 145-347. *This is obviously a very large reading assignment, and a thorough reading of all the material is not expected for this class. This entire portion of the book relates powerfully to this week's topic and was not easily broken down into smaller bites. Read carefully pp. 145-149 and skim over the remainder to provide yourself an overview to get the most out of class. Then read more carefully and systematically over the break or the first few weeks of next term, when the reading assignment is lighter.*


Class 6: Psychoanalytic Treatment I


Class 7: Diversity Issues in Psychoanalysis and Psychoanalytic Concepts Applies to Groups and Organizations


Luepnitz, D. *Schopenhauer’s porcupines*, pp. 21-102, 150-196. *These cases represent a range of clinical issues and presenting problems and also raise issues of diversity in class, religion and ethnicity/race.*


Zaretsky, E. (2004). *Secrets of the soul*. New York: Knopf. Epilogue: “Psychoanalysis in our time,” pp. 332-344. *This is the conclusion of Zaretsky’s impressive work on the social, cultural, and intellectual history of psychoanalysis. This chapter notes the dispersion of psychoanalysis worldwide and ways in which it was uniquely taken up in different countries.*
Class 8: The Uses of Enchantment: Fairy Tales and the Unconscious Life of Children
And Attachment Theory and Psychoanalysis


Class 9: To Be Announced

To be announced.

Class 10: Object Relations and Self Psychology

Required: Mitchell, S.A., & Black, M.J. Freud and beyond. pp, 149-169, 172-180. These are the sections on Kohut and Kernberg.

Recommended: Mitchell, S.A. & Black, M.J. Freud and beyond, pp. 60-205. For those of you with the time and interest, a good overview of developments in analytic thought.