Objective: For this class we will examine two of Freud’s early papers, pre-dating the end of his ‘seduction theory’ and before the birth of the structural theory. Both works demonstrate his early thinking about the significance of childhood memory, trauma, early ideas about defense and abreaction, nodal points, and chain of associations- all of which are relevant to understanding unconscious process. Some points of discussion include the place of memory and psychic reality, the meaning of defense, the technique of free association.


Objective: The two principles of mental functioning, according to Freud, are the pleasure principle and the reality principle. These principles interact and collide with one another as the mind develops through compromises that satisfy the principles of pleasure and reality. This paper offers his beginning understanding of how the psychic apparatus manages wish fulfillment with the impediments of reality (frustration) laying the foundation for what will be unconscious processes. The Interpretation of Dreams will be read selectively, to provide an understanding of classical dream theory and technique.

Read: Freud S. (1911) The Two Principles of Mental Functioning (1911)

Objective: to learn the key concepts of Freudian dream analysis
**Read:** Chapter II- The Method of Interpreting Dreams 96- 122 (Specimen Dream-psychoanalytic method)
- the psychoanalytic method
- day residue
- wish fulfillment

**Class 3- 9/26**

**Read** Chapter III  A Dream is the Fulfillment of A Wish (122-134)


10/17


*(No Classes 10/3 and 10/10)*

**Class 4- 10/17**

10/17  Chapter IV Distortion in Dreams  (134-163)

**Class 5- 10/24  Chapter VI Dream Work**
- Focus on:
  - 279 condensation
  - 282 Dream of the Botanical Monograph
  - 305 Displacement
  - 310 Means of Representation
  - 339 Considerations of Representability
  - 488 Secondary Revision

**Contemporary clinical papers on dream work**

**The second half of this course will focus on the development of the capacity for symbolic thinking.**
Class 6


Ogden, T.H. (2010). On Three Forms of Thinking: Magical Thinking, Dream Thinking, and Transformative Thinking. Psychoanal Q., 79:3...

Class 7 and 8 ---10/31 and 11/7

Objective: Based on her work with difficult to reach children Anne Alvarez’s offers a nuanced theory, one that takes into consideration the child’s capacity to make use of interpretations. Her findings indicate that not all children were able to hold multiple thoughts and feelings in mind. She suggests a more descriptive way of working that is informed by counter transference experience. Her theory also has implications for working with adults who cannot bear psychic pain and are prone to action or concrete thinking.

Alvarez Anne, The Thinking Heart Three levels of psychoanalytic therapy with disturbed children – Chapters 1 thru 3.

Class 9 - 11/14


Class 10 -11/21

Review of course