Learning Objectives:

After completion of these classes, the student will:

One: be able to describe two contrasting readings of Freud’s outline of the boy’s oedipal development: one positing fear of castration as a necessary component and the other giving primacy to the child’s love for the father and an emergent primary identification with his father.

Two: be able to describe a way in which the Persephone myth provides a compelling alternative myth for a girl’s early psychic development.

Three: be able to discuss the way in which Freud developed the concept of splitting of the ego in his late papers to assume a significant role in the understanding of psychopathology and psychic functioning,

Four: be able to identify what Freud found to be “bedrock” in psychoanalysis

Class Four – March 14, 2020    Perspectives on the Oedipus Complex

Assignment for first class: identify a paragraph or passage from one of the following Freud papers in which you found discovery or delight. You will be asked to identify the passage in our first class.

The Psychogenesis of a case of female homosexuality (1920) S.E. 18

The Dissolution of the Oedipus Complex  (1924) S.E. 19

The Infantile Genital Organization (1923) S.E. 19

Female Sexuality (1931) S.E. 21


Optional reading


Class Five - April 4, 2020    Final papers on technique
Analysis Terminable and Interminable (1937) S.E. 23

Constructions in Analysis (1937) S.E. 23

Optional Reading


Class Six – April 25, 2020 Papers on Denial of Reality and Splitting

Neurosis and Psychosis (1924) S.E. 19

The Loss of Reality in Neurosis and Psychosis (1924) S.E. 19

Negation (1925) S.E. 19

Some Psychical Consequences of the Anatomical Distinction Between the Sexes (1925) S.E. 19

Fetishism (1927) S.E. 21

The Splitting of the Ego in the Process of Defense (1940), S.E. 23

An Outline of Psychoanalysis - Part Three (1938) S.E. 23

Optional Reading