Learning Objectives

1. Critique the content, meaning, and unconscious material of the patient.
2. Analyze the affect, anxiety and defenses being used.
3. Describe the transference and countertransference implications of the clinical material.
4. Identify and think about how to use transference and countertransference to deepen and further the clinical work.

This is the first of two semesters of psychoanalytic listening. In this first semester, we will focus on how to listen to process material from a psychoanalytic perspective – how we use our own senses to hear, perceive, and experience what is being communicated both verbally and nonverbally by the patient. Some of the questions we will explore include: What is being expressed directly by the patient and what is implied? What is the analytic surface? What is occurring in the transference and countertransference? What are the primary affects being expressed? What defenses are being utilized? How does the analyst experience the material being conveyed and decide what to address and when?

Several books you might want to read/skim to establish some foundation for our discussions:


We will read and focus more on the following articles throughout the semester:


