

Relational Psychotherapy in Latin America

12 Hours of Continuing Education Credit for Mental Health Professionals

Four Sections 90 Minute Each Meeting the Third Week of the Month

Mondays 11:45-1:15; Tuesdays 10:30-12; Wednesdays 10:30-12; Thursdays 11:00-12:30

Instructor: Dr. Lawrence Hedges

Course Description:

Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy has evolved very differently in Latin America and contrasts with North American and European theory and practice, The readings and discussions will focus on countertransference and field theory. The essence of psychoanalysis in Latin America is embedded in the socio-politico-economic atmospheres of countries struggling with unrest and dictatorships. The ways in which the work of Wilfred Bion, Melanie Klein and Jacques Lacan have organized much that was to follow will be studied.

Learning Goals:

Participants will be introduced into the wide diversity and creative thinking of a therapy that has evolved under different condition and influences. Through discussions and case presentations these imaginative ways of thinking and working will be integrated into what we already know. The various kinds of countertransference studied in Argentina and Rio de la Plata will be added to European and North American work with an effort to broaden our own use of countertransference as a tool.

Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course the participants will be able to:

- State three differences between Latin American and North American/European models of psychoanalytic psychotherapy.
- State how the influence of civil wars and dictatorships has affected South American therapists.
- Give three characteristics of Garma's work on dreams.
- Define what the Latin Americans specify as the vulnerability of the analyst.
- Specify what is meant by "the confrontation between the generations as a field theory".
- Explain what is meant by "the dialogue between psychoanalysis and linguistics".
- State why a real dichotomy between internal and external reality is said not to exist.
- Define "the experience of truth in psychoanalysis".
- State what is meant by "psychic zones" and the process of "unconscientization".
- List two of Kernberg's reasons why Latin American psychotherapy has not stagnated like North American.
- List three ways that Latin American understandings of trauma differ from Freud's.
- Define retroactive reconstruction.
- Describe what happens in an analyst's mind between perception and interpretation.
- State what is meant by "the analytic situation as a dynamic field".
- Define a "split off unconscious bastion".
- Explain what is meant by "countertransferential induction or grafting".
- Specify what is meant by the analyst's "unconscious masochism".
- Define concordant identification.
- Define complementary identification.
- Explain the difference between controversy aimed at protecting premises and controversy aimed at conflict.

- State the importance of what Chuster considers the psychoanalyst imagination.

Required Text: *Truth, Reality, and the Psychoanalyst: Latin American Contributions to Psychoanalysis*. Edited by Sergio Lewkowicz & Silvia Flechner. Routledge 2005.

Required Reading Materials: All readings labelled “handout”t will be available Google drive for this course.

Monthly Assignments:

<p><u>Session 1: Introduction to Latin American Psychoanalysis</u> Date: October 2023 Handout: Truth, Reality, and Psychoanalyst (book review by Isaac Tylim 2006). Text: Forward, Chapters 1 & 2, Commentary</p> <p><u>Session 2: Madeleine and Willie Baranger</u> Date: November 2023 Handout: The Infantile Psychic Trauma (1988). Handout: The Mind of the Analyst (1993)</p> <p><u>Session 3: Field Theory</u> Date: December 2023 Handout: The Analytic Situation as a Dynamic Field (Madeleine & Willie Baranger, 2008). Handout: The Intrapsychic and the Intersubjective (Madeleine Baranger, 2012)</p> <p><u>Session 4: The Countertransference</u> Date: January 2024 Handout: The Countertransference (De Bernardi, 2000) Handout: Racker, H. (1953). A Contribution to the problem. Handout: Racker, H. (1958). Psychoanalytic Technique. Handout: Racker, H. (2007). The Meanings and Uses.</p>	<p><u>Session 5: Linguistics and Truth</u> Date: February 2024 Text: Chapter 4: Psychoanalysis and Linguistics Commentary Chapter 5: The experience of truth and commentary.</p> <p><u>Session 6:</u> Date: March 2024 Text: Chapter 6: External Reality/Internal Reality</p> <p><u>Session 7: Current Practice</u> Date: April 2024 Text: Chapter 7: Current Psychoanalytic Practice and Commentary.</p> <p><u>Session 8:</u> Date: May 2024 Handout: The Importance of Imagination (Chuster, A., 2015) [NPI Symposium] Handout: Eaton, J. Discussion of Chuster’s Paper (2015).</p>
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