

Gender and Sexuality

Spring 2021

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Course Description:

This course will examine historical and contemporary psychoanalytic understandings of gender and sexuality. In approaching such a broad and far-reaching area of study, this course will focus specifically on issues, concerns and examples of working clinically with lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, trans* or gender-variant individuals. We will be addressing the roles prejudice, hetero-normativity, misogyny, cis-normativity, racism, and historic as well as current hegemonies of mental health stigma continue to operate, consciously or beyond our awareness, in psychodynamic and analytic clinical treatments.

Course Objectives:

1. Candidates will be able to identify and trace historical changes in understanding gender and sexuality in psychoanalysis from mid-20th century to present.
2. Candidates will be able to consider a range of developmental factors encountered by and impacting LGBT*Q individuals.
3. Candidates will be able to examine and discuss various issues and struggles that LGBT*Q individuals may bring to treatment.
4. Candidates will be able to identify various ways clinicians are challenged in working with issues related to sexuality and gender. In this course we will emphasize the clinician's ethical, safe, and effective use of self (e.g., self-awareness, personal history, countertransference, enactments).

Course Expectations:

In fulfilling these objectives we ask that each candidate read the assigned material in advance of the class for which it is assigned. Please be prepared to engage in class discussions and activities informed by the assigned readings as well as by your personal experiences, observations, trainings and range of study.

Instructors will post several focus questions each week for your reflection and to guide your reading of material. We will also be posting video excerpts from the film, "Paris is Burning" for you to view and as our discussions in the course progress.

In-class activities will include discussions/exercises in full class and in breakout groups. Instructors will provide directions, focus questions, and comments to highlight clinical examples and related considerations in reading material assigned. We expect attendance at each class session and we request that you inform instructors directly by email if unavoidable circumstances arise preventing your class attendance.

Calendar:

Session 1 **Historical and Modern Clinical Perspectives**

1. Roughton, R. (2002). Rethinking homosexuality: What it teaches us about psychoanalysis. J. Amer.Psychoanal.Assn, 50:733-763.
2. Meyer, W. (2013). Part 1: The psychoanalyst and the “homosexual”: A long, dark journey into light, *Smith College Studies in Social Work*, 83(1): 18-35.

Video excerpt screened in class: 1967, CBS, *The Homosexuals*

Session 2 **Historical and Modern Clinical Perspectives**

1. Marcus B. & McNamara, S. (2013). Strange and otherwise unaccountable actions: Category, conundrum and trans identities. JAPA, 1:45-66.
2. Kulish, N. (2010). Clinical implications of contemporary gender theory. JAPA, 58:231-258.

Session 3 **Developmental Considerations: Gender, Sexuality and the Self**

1. Lingiardi, V. (2018). Who am I? And what makes me hot and bothered? Notes on identity, sexuality, gender and desire. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*. 19(4) 279-290.
2. Burch, B. (1996) Between women: The mother-daughter romance and homoerotic transference in psychotherapy. Psychoanal. Psychology,13:475-494.

Session 4 **Developmental Considerations: Gender, Sexuality and the Self**

1. Galit Atlas (2018) Has Sexuality Anything to Do with Relationality?, *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 28:3, 330-339.
2. Benjamin, J. Atlas, G. (2015). The ‘Too Muchness’ of Excitement: Sexuality in Light of Excess, Attachment and Affect Regulation, *Intl. J Psychoanalysis*, 96(1), 39-63.

Session 5 **Transgender Experience: Problems of the Concept of Normativity**

1. Corbett, K (2009). Boyhood femininity, gender identity disorder, masculine presuppositions, and the anxiety of regulation. Psychoanalytic Dialogues, 19:353-370.
2. Saketopoulou, A. (2011). Minding the Gap: Intersections Between Gender, Race, and Class in Work With Gender Variant Children. Psychoanalytic Dialogues 21:192-209.

Session 6

Transgender Experience: The Trauma of Growing Up Nonconforming

1. Lemma, A. (2018). Trans-itory identities: Some psychoanalytic reflections on transgender identities. *Int J Psychoanal*, 99(5): 1089-1106.
2. Winograd, W. (2014). The wish to be a boy: Gender dysphoria and identity confusion in a self-identified transgender adolescent. *Psychoanalytic Social Work*, 21:55-74.

Additional Readings for Continued Study

1. Auchincloss, E. & Vaughan, S. (2001). Psychoanalysis and homosexuality: Do we need another theory? *JAPA*, 49: 1157-1186.
2. Balsam, R.H. (2008). Women Showing off: Notes on Female Exhibitionism. *J. Amer. Psychoanal. Assn.*, 56(1):99-121.
3. Balsam, R. (2001). Integrating Male and Female Elements in a Woman's Gender Identity. *J. Amer. Psychoanal. Assn.*, 49(4):1335-1360.
4. Bechdel, A. (2006). Fun Home.
5. Benoit, D.L. (2009). Coming out in middle school. *New York Times*.
6. Blum, A. & Pftzing, V. (1997). Assaults to the Self: The trauma of growing up gay. *Gender & Psychoanalysis*, 2:427-442.
7. Butler, J. (1995). Melancholy gender-refused identification. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 5, 165-180.
8. Chodorow, N.J. (1992). Heterosexuality as a Compromise Formation. *Psychoanal. Contemp. Thought*, 15(3):267-304.
9. Chodorow, N. (2004). Psychoanalysis & Women, A Personal 35 Year Retrospect, *The Annual of Psychoanalysis*, 32: 101-132.
10. Colarusso, C.A. (2012). The Central Masturbation Fantasy in Heterosexual Males across the Life Cycle: Masturbation Fantasies across the Normality-Pathology Spectrum. *J. Amer. Psychoanal. Assn.*, 60(5):917-948.
11. Corbett, K., Dimen, M., Goldner, V. & Harris, A. (2014). Talking Sex, Talking Gender—A Roundtable. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 15:4, 295-31
12. Corbett, K. (2008). Gender now. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 18:838-856.
13. Corbett, K. (2009). *Boyhoods: Rethinking masculinities*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
14. Corbett, K. (2008). Gender now. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 18:838-856.
15. Diamond, L. (2008). Implications of female sexual fluidity. Chapter 8 in: *Sexual Fluidity: Understanding Women's Love and Desire*. Harvard Univ. Press, pp. 235-259.
16. Drescher, J. (2013). *New York Times* article and responses.
17. Drescher, J. (2007). From bisexuality to intersexuality: Rethinking gender categories. *Contemporary Psychoanalysis*. 43:204-228.
18. Ehrensaft, D. (2014). Found in transition: Our littlest transgender people. *Contemporary Psychoanalysis* 50: 571-592.

19. Ehrensaft, D. (2015). Listening and learning from gender non-conforming children. *Psychoanalytic Study of the Child* 68.
20. Elise, D. (2008). Sex and Shame: The Inhibition of Female Desires. *J. Amer. Psychoanal. Assn.*, 56(1):73-98.
21. Fonagy, P. (2008). A Genuinely Developmental Theory of Sexual Enjoyment & its Implications for Psychoanalytic Technique. *JAPA*, 56:11-36.
22. Freud, S. "The Sexual Aberrations" (first essay in the "Three Essays of the Theory of Sexuality"). SE 7: 135-172.
23. Freud, S. "The Psychogenesis of a Case of Homosexuality in a Woman". SE 18:145-172.
24. Freud, S. "Female Sexuality". SE 21: 225-243.
25. Gabbard, G. & Wilkinson, S. (1996). Nominal gender and gender fluidity in the psychoanalytic process. *Gender & Psychoanalysis*, 1:463-481.
26. Goldner, V. (2003). Ironic gender/authentic sex. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 4:113-139.
27. Goldner, V. (2011). Trans: gender in free fall. *Psychoanal. Dialogues*, 21:159-171.
28. Harris, A. (2000). Gender As Soft Assembly: Tomboys' Stories. *Studies of Gender and Sexuality*, 1, 223-250.
29. Harris, A. (2011) Gender as a strange attractor: Discussion of the transgender symposium. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 21:230-238.
30. Holtzman, D. and Kulish, N. (2000). The Feminization of the Female Oedipal Complex, Part I. *J. Amer. Psychoanal. Assn.*, 48(4):1413-1437.
31. Horney, K. (1933). The Denial of the Vagina—*A Contribution to the Problem of the Genital Anxieties Specific to Women*. *Int. J. Psycho-Anal.*, 14:57-70
32. Jacobo, M.C. (2001). Revolutions in Psychoanalytic Theory of Lesbian Development: Dora to Dykes and Back Again. *Psychoanal. Psychol.*, 18:667-683.
33. Laufer, M. (1976). The Central Masturbation Fantasy, the Final Sexual Organization, and Adolescence. *Psychoanal. St. Child*, 31:297-316
34. Marcus, L., et al. (2015). Genderqueer: One family's experience with gender variance. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry* 35: 795-808.
35. Martin, A. (1995). A view from both sides: Coming out as a lesbian psychoanalyst. In: *Disorienting sexuality: Psychoanalytic reappraisals of sexual identities*, eds. T. Domenici & R. Lesser, New York: Routledge, pp. 255-261.
36. Moss, D. (1997). On Situating Homophobia. *J. Amer. Psychoanal. Assn.*, 45:201-215
37. Moss, D. (2002). Internalized Homophobia in Men. *Psychoanal. Q.*, 71(1):21-50
38. Moss, D. (2012) *Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Man: Psychoanalysis and Masculinity*. New York: Routledge.
39. Moss, D. (2006). Masculinity as masquerade. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* 54:1187-1194.
40. Phillips, S.H. (2001). The Overstimulation of Everyday Life. *JAPA*, 49(4):1235-1267.
41. Pula, J. (2015). Understanding Gender through the Lens of Transgender Experience. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 35, 809-822.

42. Riddle, B. (2007). Out of bounds: Demanding recognition for a queer identity. Psychoanalysis, Culture & Society, 12: 26-31.
43. Riviere, J. (1929). Womanliness as a masquerade. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis* 10:303-310.
44. Roughton, R. (2000). Sometimes a desire is just a desire: Gay men and their analysts. *Gender & Psychoanalysis*, 5:259-273.
45. Saketopoulou, A. (2014). To Suffer Pleasure: The shattering of the Ego as the Psychic labor of Perverse Sexuality. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 15(6), 254-268.
46. Saketopoulou, A. (2014) Mourning the Body as Bedrock: Developmental considerations in treating transgender patients analytically. *JAPA*, 62:773-806.
47. Saketopoulou, A. (2019). The draw to overwhelm: Consent, risk and the retranslation of enigma. *JAPA*, 67:1, 133-167.
48. Schafer, R. (1995). The evolution of my views on nonnormative sexual practices. In: *Disorienting sexuality: Psychoanalytic reappraisals of sexual identities*, eds. T. Domenici & R. Lesser, New York: Routledge, pp. 187-202.
49. Schiller, B. (2012). Representing Female Desire within a Labial Framework of Sexuality. *JAPA*, 60:1161-1197.
50. Solomon, A. (2012). Transgender. In: *Far from the tree: Parents, children and the search for identity*, New York: Scribner, pp. 599-676.
51. Stoller, R.J. (1968). *Sex and Gender*. New York: Science House.
52. Vaughan, S. (2000). The hiding and revelation of sexual desire in lesbians: The lasting legacy of developmental traumas. Journal of Gay and Lesbian Psychotherapy, 3:81-90.