From its very beginnings, psychoanalysis has been concerned with the experience of the infant. In this short eight-week course we hope to cover three important areas; the historical evolution of psychoanalytic conceptions of infancy, contemporary research on infant cognition and attachment, and how this all relates to a developmental view of psychopathology.

We have decided to focus on the following book as a text for the class:

*Bringing Up Baby: the Psychoanalytic Infant Comes of Age* by Dianna T. Kenny (Karnac Books, 2013)

We will read most of the book. We suggest that you purchase a copy. It can be purchased on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, or directly from Karnac Books. The BPSI library will have a copy of the book.

This book is a wonderful summary both of the development of psychoanalytic ideas about infants, and of contemporary views of infancy including child development research and developmental neuroscience.

We will pair the chapter readings with some original source material, and make comparisons with contemporary developmental theory. In layers throughout the course, we will be introducing you to a relational view of development that is rooted in dynamic systems theory. Periodically, we will try to illustrate the concepts we are discussing with some videotape vignettes of a mother-baby dyad, and with case material.

We will usually be assigning only two readings per class, and we hope you will find them readable and suitable for discussion. Because there is so much material to cover and so many wonderful papers, we have also suggested recommended readings.
Class I: Introduction to Infant and Early Childhood Development  
November 12, 2015

 **Learning Objective:** To examine the place of infancy in the developmental lifespan including biological, social and theoretical constructs.

 **Readings:**

Class II: Freud’s Infant and Contemporary Developmental Theory  
November 19, 2013

 **Learning Objective:** To become familiar with the concept of dynamic systems theory and with how it differs from stage theories of development.

 **Readings:**

Class III: Infant of the Early Child Psychoanalysts  
December 3, 2015

 **Learning Objective:** To compare and contrast the views of infancy held by the early psychoanalysts through Winnicott.

 **Readings:**

Recommended:
Class IV: Attachment and Object Relations
December 10, 2015

Learning Objective: To be familiar with the categories of organized and disorganized attachment and with the seminal research that led to their description and elaboration both in “the Strange Situation” paradigm and the Adult Attachment Interview, as well as to understand the clinical implications of this research.

Readings:

Recommended:

Class V: Attachment and Trauma
December 19, 2013

Learning Objective: To understand how trauma impacts and influences human development and the nature and quality of attachment and how contemporary clinical theory has changed as a result of this new understanding.

Readings:

January 7, 2016 Academic Lecture

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Class VI: Intersubjectivity and Development of Self
January 21, 2016

**Learning Objective:** To understand the components of primary and secondary intersubjectivity and the differences between an intrapsychic and intersubjective perspective in psychoanalytic treatment.

**Readings:**
Also available on PEP Web as Benjamin, J. (1990) An Outline of Intersubjectivity: The Development of Recognition, Psychoanalytic Psychology, 7S:33-46. PEP Web Link

Recommended:

Class VII: Neuroscience and Implicit Processing
January 28, 2016

**Learning Objective:** To understand the development of the implicit memory system and explicit memory as well as the clinical implications of this understanding.

**Readings:**

Recommended:
Class VIII: Triadic Relating/Oedipal Development
February 4, 2016

Learning Objective: To examine how traditional theories of triadic relating and Oedipal development necessarily require modification in the light of contemporary research findings.

Readings:


Recommended:


Reference List


Some Recommended Texts:


Stern, D.
   The Interpersonal World of the Infant [Available on Reserve in the Library]
   The Motherhood Constellation [Available on Reserve in the Library]
   The Present Moment-In Psychotherapy and Everyday Life [Available on Reserve in the Library]
   The Diary of a Baby [Available on Reserve in the Library]
   The Birth of a Mother [Available on Reserve in the Library]
Learn about working at Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute. Join LinkedIn today for free. See who you know at Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute, leverage your professional network, and get hired. Boston Psychoanalytic Society is an institute devoted to higher education in the field of psychoanalytic, as well as public awareness of mental health. Located in Newton Center, MA.
School Details.