Relational Psychoanalysis
2016 – 2017 weekday program

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ATTN: Students will need to purchase Stephen Mitchell’s Can Love Last?: The Fate of Romance over Time

Course Purpose

Relational Psychoanalysis is a contemporary theory of the last 25 years. It is not a single, contained theory but a school of thought emerging from Interpersonal Psychoanalysis and Object Relations, and encompassing a wide range of contributions from psychoanalysis, feminism, infant research, attachment, philosophy, anthropology, etc.

The course will instill a strong understanding of the spirit of the Relational Tradition as it was first conceived and generated in the United States. Early influential papers that form this unique tradition as it first came together in New York City will be reviewed. This course will also include current perspectives as they continue to evolve within the Relational tradition throughout the world, and here at ICP.

Course Goals

1) To understand the history and development of Relational Psychoanalysis

2) To have a strong grasp of the basic concepts and therapeutic action in Relational Psychoanalysis and its clinical sensibilities.

3) To be well versed in the original contributors to the Relational Tradition as a foundation to appreciate current writings in contemporary psychoanalysis as it evolves.

Written Case Presentations

For our last 2 classes each student will present a written case study. This will be a confidential case study of your work with an individual patient (disguised). Please use applicable concepts from Relational Psychoanalysis you have learned in this course to describe your conceptualization of your patient and the work. Make sure to include your understanding of any enactments (transference/counter-transference). You will present to the class by reading your write up and the class will have time to discuss it with you.

Session 1, February 2:


**Session 2, February 9 (Robin Cohen):**

Mitchell, S.A.  Can Love Last, Chapters 1, 2, 3

**Session 3, February 16 (Robin Cohen):**

Mitchell, S.A.  Can Love Last, Chapters 4, 5, 6

**Session 4, February 23 (Larry Green):**


**Session 5, March 2 (Larry Green):**


**Session 6, March 9 (Elaine Silberman):**


**Session 7, March 16:**


**Session 8, March 23:**


**Session 9, April 6 (Leslie Maxson):**

Introduction to Jessica Benjamin


**Session 10, April 13 (Leslie Maxson):**


**Session 11, April 20 (Phil Ringstrom):**


Ringstrom, P. 2015. Creating Space for Being Improvisational in Psychoanalytic Treatment, a plenary presentation at the Self Psychology conference in LA in October 2015

**Session 12, April 27:**


**Session 13, May 4  (Estelle Shane):**

Shane & Magid. What Self Psychology and Relationality can learn from each other (still to come)

**Session 14, May 11**

Student case presentations

**Session 15, May 18**

Student case presentations

**Optional for your own interest:**

*The following series is an interesting and thorough dialogue about the concept of Recognition as coined by Jessica Benjamin*


The next 2 articles are classics by Jessica Benjamin and really outline her ideas well.


Additional chapters by Bromberg in *Awakening the Dreamer* worth reading
