

# Society for Social and Critical Psychoanalysis

## **A Social and Critical Introduction to Psychoanalysis**

### A 10 week online evening course

## **Programme 2023**

How might we take a critical approach to psychoanalytic thought and practice? In what ways can we ensure that psychoanalysis is grounded in the contemporary social field? This course is offered as an introduction to how the foundations of psychoanalysis can be examined and interrogated, a forum to discuss how psychoanalytic ideas can be put to work in new ways that help us understand and respond to the crises and challenges of life in 2023. Taught by members of the Society for Social and Critical Psychoanalysis, this course will address questions including: How might social inequalities produce states of abjection in working class communities? What can Freud's famous patient, the Rat Man, tell us about the relation between capitalism and masculinity? Is melancholia an idea that can help us think about the immigrant experience? What do we refer to when we talk of feminine sexuality? Along the way we will draw upon neglected figures from the history of psychoanalysis, such as Sándor Ferenczi, whose radical ideas about mutuality challenge classical assumptions about clinical practice; we will ask questions about the nature of the bond between analyst and patient, discussing how to be open to difference and the dangers of colonising the other. Over the past 125 years, encounters between psychoanalytic thinking and other disciplines such as Marxism, feminism, and queer theory have generated a rich, dense, heterogenous body of thought that we will bring to bear upon topics that touch our daily lives, including dreams, time and politics.

This course will be of interest to those who are curious about the relevance of psychoanalysis to the dilemmas and questions posed by contemporary life. For those interested in embarking upon a full psychoanalytic training, the course will provide an entry point into psychoanalytic thought and practice within the culture of the SSCP. The course can also serve as CPD for counsellors and therapists who want to invigorate their clinical practice with new and diverse ideas.

Seminars will be led in different ways according to the different teachers: some will be lectures while others may be more unstructured. There will be ample opportunity for discussion and questions. There are no formal entry requirements for the course, but those who are able to engage with the set texts tend to be more able to participate in the seminars and subsequently benefit more from the course. Most core readings will be made accessible online.

## **General Information**

The course will run online over Zoom, on Thursday evenings (6pm-8pm), over ten weeks from 14th September to 16th November 2023.

The fee is £225. There are limited spaces on the course so early booking is recommended.

Book your place at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-social-and-critical-introduction-to-psychoanalysis-zoom-evening-course-tickets-605066689757>

For all general enquires please email [enquiries@sscp.uk](mailto:enquiries@sscp.uk) and if need be your message can be forwarded to the course lead Dr Guy Millon.

# Seminar Programme

- 1** Thursday 14th September  
**Introducing Social and Critical Psychoanalysis**  
Dr Sally Sales
  
- 2** Thursday 21st September  
**Dreams: Pathology, Ideology or Creative Resource...?**  
Andrew Bryant
  
- 3** Thursday 28th September  
**Melanie Klein: Clinical and Social Applications**  
Linda Buckingham
  
- 4** Thursday 5th October  
**Psychoanalysis & Masculinity**  
Ilric Shetland
  
- 5** Thursday 12th October  
**Transference Through the Social Field**  
Karen Jackson
  
- 6** Thursday 19th October  
**Sándor Ferenczi – His Life and Works**  
Dr Anastasios Gaitanidis
  
- 7** Thursday 26th October  
**The Genealogy of Feminine Sexuality**  
Dr Lesley Boswell
  
- 8** Thursday 2nd November  
**The Unpast - in Search of Lost Time - an Overview of Psychoanalytic Perceptions of Temporality**  
Anita Causer
  
- 9** Thursday 9th November  
**The Abject(ed) and Psychoanalysis**  
Kerry St Leger
  
- 10** Thursday 16th November  
**Love Escapes Extinction: Melancholic Subject, Melancholic World**  
Dr Guy Millon

There is set reading for each seminar, the core texts have been indicated on the following pages in **bold**. Most readings will be made available to students via a Padlet link that will be circulated before the start of the course.

# Introducing Social and Critical Psychoanalysis

1

Dr Sally Sales

This opening seminar will be a broad introduction to the culture of the SSCP training. It will be in two parts: the first part will introduce the critical thinking of the SSCP training by comparing some of the key foundational concepts that shape psychoanalysis across its various traditions. We will look at the various psychoanalytic schools and critically compare how differently they have theorised and clinically applied these concepts. The second part of the evening will critically consider the place that psychoanalysis occupies in the social field. Drawing on the work of Foucault we will explore how far psychoanalysis emerged as a support for a particular form of family life. Does psychoanalysis today continue to uphold and transmit specific familial, classed, gendered and raced forms of subjectivity?

## READINGS

**Freud, S (1914) 'Observations on transference-love' in *SE XII*, London: Vintage**

**Freud, S (1915) 'The Unconscious' in *SE XIV*, London: Vintage**

**Foucault, M (1976) *History of Sexuality Volume I*, London: Penguin pp.103-114**

**Sales, S (2010) 'The Making of Docile Working Class Subjects: CBT, Class and the Failures of Psychoanalysis' in *Journal of Psycho-Social Studies* 4(2)**

## BIOGRAPHY

Dr Sally Sales is chair of training for the SSCP and a psychoanalyst and supervisor in private practice near Fowey. Her research is primarily addressing the neglect and marginalisation of class in the field of psychoanalysis and child welfare work, specifically adoption. She is writing a book on psychoanalysis and working class experience for Routledge.

## Dreams: Pathology, Ideology or Creative Resource...?

2

Andrew Bryant

Over the course of this evening we will look at dreams from three quite different perspectives: firstly Freud, who sees dreams as emanating from the repressed unconscious, locating them alongside other 'symptoms' in the register of pathology; secondly Žižek, for whom dreams are idealised reflections of our consumerist society—ideological rather than pathological; and thirdly Roustang, who asks if dreams might represent a creative resource which, if handled correctly, can alleviate suffering through self-authorisation.

### READINGS

**Freud, S (1901) 'On Dreams, in *SE V*, London: Vintage**

**Roustang, F (1983) 'The Patient: a Novelist', in *Psychoanalysis Never Lets Go*, pp 134—149**

### VIEWING

The Pervert's Guide to Ideology (2013), directed by Sophie Fiennes and featuring Slavoj Žižek

### BIOGRAPHY

Andrew Bryant is in private practice as a psychoanalyst and supervisor in Truro. He is the SSCP chair of council and co-coordinates the SSCP's psychoanalytic clinic.

## Melanie Klein: Clinical and Social Applications

3

Linda Buckingham

In this seminar we will explore how Klein's theory of changing states of mind in young children opened up a dynamic view of the human psyche, which describes some fundamental psychological processes in groups and societies.

### READINGS

**Klein, M. (1952) 'The Origins of Transference', in *The Selected Melanie Klein (Edited by Mitchell, J)*, New York: The Free Press**

**Buckingham, L. (2013) 'Illuminations: The Far Reaches of Melanie Klein's Ideas'**

### BIOGRAPHY

Linda Buckingham is a Tavistock trained Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist with 30 years experience in the NHS. She has taught psychoanalytic theory in several training organisations and is currently involved in the teaching program of the SSCP.

## Psychoanalysis & Masculinity

4

Ilric Shetland

Freud's 'Ratman' is an iconic representation of capitalist 'man' — a mind so dissociated that it mistakes itself for a body. We will discuss how this form of masculinity has become the dominant mode of being, with disastrous consequences.

### READINGS

**Freud, S (1909) 'Notes Upon a Case of Obsessional Neurosis' in *SE X*, London: Vintage**

### BIOGRAPHY

Ilric Shetland is on the SSCP training committee and is also a member of the Council. He is in private practice as an analyst and supervisor in SE Cornwall. He worked for many years in the NHS in London as a psychotherapist and based on that experience, he established the SSCP psychoanalytic clinic in Cornwall.

# Transference Through the Social Field

5

Karen Jackson

In this seminar we will explore what is meant by working in and with the transference in psychoanalysis. We will explore how transference is inflected by the social field of class and will look at examples of working clinically with older people and university students from differing ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

## READINGS

Freud, S (1912) 'The Dynamics of the Transference' in *SE XII*, London: Vintage

Gurney, P (2010) 'The Acc(id)ental Tourist, Exploring the Tribal areas Between Class and Race' in *Journal of Psycho-Social Studies* 4(1) pp47-56

King, P (2006) 'The Life Cycle as Indicated by the Nature of Transference in the Psychoanalysis of the Middle-Aged and Elderly' in *Is It Too Late, Key Papers on Psychoanalysis and Ageing (Edited by Junkers, G)*, New York: Routledge

Ryan, J (2017), 'Class Within Therapy Relationships', in *Class and Psychoanalysis: Landscapes of Inequality*, New York: Routledge

## BIOGRAPHY

Karen Jackson is a UKCP Registered Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist, a member of the Society for Social & Critical Psychoanalysis and has a private psychoanalytic practice based in Penryn in Cornwall. She is a training analyst, tutor and supervisor, and also works part-time in a university setting. She has over twenty years of experience as a therapist particularly with young people from a variety of different cultures and ethnic groups and has a keen interest in working analytically with older people. She also has experience of working with the women's refuge movement and the LGBTQ+ community. She is a British Wheel of Yoga trained Yoga Teacher and is qualified to teach yoga to people who have been or are currently diagnosed with cancer.

## Sándor Ferenczi – His Life and Works

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Dr Anastasios Gaitanidis

Sándor Ferenczi was a Hungarian psychologist and psychoanalyst who was born in 1873 and died in 1933. He was a close associate of Sigmund Freud and a prominent member of the early psychoanalytic movement. In this seminar, we will examine Ferenczi's contributions to the field of psychoanalysis including his work on child development, the idea of 'active intervention' in therapy, and the concept of 'mutual analysis' (i.e., that psychoanalytic treatment should involve a collaborative and participatory relationship between the patient and the analyst). We will also address how Ferenczi's ideas were influential in the development of interpersonal and relational psychoanalysis. Despite his impact on the field, Ferenczi's ideas were controversial in his time and he was often at odds with other prominent psychoanalysts. Nevertheless, his ideas and legacy continue to be studied and debated by psychoanalysts and psychologists today.

### READINGS

**Ferenczi, S (1933). 'Confusion of Tongues Between Adult and the Child: The Language of Tenderness and Passion'. In M. Balint (ed.) International Journal of Psychoanalysis, 30.**

**Ferenczi, S (1988). The Clinical Diary of Sándor Ferenczi (Edited by Judith Dupont). Cambridge: Harvard University Press.**

Aron, L & Harris, A (1993). The Legacy of Sandor Ferenczi. London: The Analytic Press.

Balint, M (1949). 'Sándor Ferenczi'. International Journal of Psychoanalysis, 30.

Dimitrijevic, A et al. (2018). Ferenczi's Influence on Contemporary Psychoanalytic Traditions. London and New York: Routledge

Ferenczi, S (1999). Selected Writings. Edited by Julia Borossa. Harmondsworth: Penguin

Laplanche, J (1980). New Foundations for Psychoanalysis. Translated by David Macey. Oxford: Blackwell.

Likierman, M (2001). Melanie Klein: Her Work in Context. London: Continuum.

Masson, J (1984). Against Therapy. New York: Collins.

Masson, J (1984). The Assault on Truth. New York: Faber.

Stanton, M (1990). Sándor Ferenczi: Reconsidering Active Intervention. London: Free Association Books.

Thompson, C (1950). 'Introduction: S. Ferenczi'. Sex in Psychoanalysis. New York: Basic Books.

### BIOGRAPHY

Dr Anastasios Gaitanidis is the Director of Relational Psychoanalytic Therapy Ltd, a Relational Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist, Director of Studies, Author, Theory Editor and Supervisor. In addition to his clinical work as a psychoanalyst, Anastasios held appointments as a Senior Lecturer and Director of Studies and provided clinical and research supervision to psychotherapists and counselling psychologists at Regent's University London, University of Roehampton and Metanoia Training Institute. He currently holds the position of Visiting Professor for the professional doctorate in counselling psychology at Regent's University London. Anastasios is the Theory Editor of the European Journal of Psychotherapy and Counselling (EJPC) and an author who published a substantial body of academic work including journal articles and edited books over the years, with a recent book publication entitled "The Sublime in Everyday Life".



# The Genealogy of Feminine Sexuality

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Dr Lesley Boswell

What does feminine sexuality mean? What is between female and feminine in a psychoanalytic sense? Psychoanalysis and feminism have been in constant dialogue for decades. To this day a cohesive psychoanalytic theory of feminine sexuality has not emerged. This seminar asks why. The aim for this seminar is to examine the psychoanalytic genealogy of feminine sexuality, exploring how the ideas of Freud and Lacan may be relevant to ongoing debates within feminism and psychoanalysis. Through a critical reading of Joan Riviere's classic paper, *Womanliness as Masquerade*, we will also think about how race operates within the construction of feminine sexuality, and how racialised fantasies are necessary to the coherence of White feminine subjectivity.

## READINGS

**Mitchell, J (1982). 'Introduction – I.' In *Feminine Sexuality* (Edited by Mitchell, J and Rose, J) pp.1–26. New York: Norton**

**Riviere, J (1929). 'Womanliness as a Masquerade' *IJPA*, X.pp.303-13**

**Walton, J (1995) 'Re-placing Race in (White) Psychoanalytic Discourse. Founding Narratives of Feminism.' *Critical Inquiry*, 21(4) pp.780-787**

Freud, S (1905) 'Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality' in *SE VII*, London: Vintage

Freud, S (1925). 'Some Psychical Consequences of the Anatomical Distinction Between the Sexes' in *SE XIX*, London: Vintage

Freud, S (1931). 'Female Sexuality' in *SE XXI*, London: Vintage

Horney, K (1924). 'On the genesis of the Castration Complex in Women'. *IJPA*, 5 pp 50- 65

Lacan, J (1975). *Encore: Le Seminaire XX, 1972-73*. Paris: Seuil

Rose, J (1982) 'Introduction – II.' In *Feminine Sexuality* (Edited by Mitchell, J and Rose, J), pp.27–58. New York: Norton

## BIOGRAPHY

Dr Lesley Boswell is a clinically qualified Psychoanalyst and Psychosexual Therapist with many years of experience working in private practice, the NHS, and charitable sector. She has a specialist clinical and academic interest in gender and sexuality. She has full clinical registration with the UK Council of Psychotherapy (UKCP) and full membership with the Society for Social and Critical Psychoanalysis (SSCP).

# The Unpast - in Search of Lost Time - an Overview of Psychoanalytic Perceptions of Temporality

Anita Causer

Psychoanalysis is replete with time travel, be it through memories, both voluntary and involuntary, transference or afterwardsness. It is not surprising, therefore, that several theorists and practitioners, such as Jean Laplanche and Andre Green, became interested in making explicit the notion of time from within Freud's oeuvre and, furthermore, developing these concepts for a contemporary psychoanalysis.

This teaching will summarise some understandings of time in both theory and practice. Furthermore, there are useful intersections with psychoanalytic time and literature (Proust), where time has long been imagined at a psychological level. We shall also look at an overlapping with philosophy (Bergson and Deleuze) as well as relevance to psychosocial theory.

## READINGS

**Campbell, J (2006) 'Introduction' in *Psychoanalysis and the Time of Life*, New York: Routledge**

**Green, A (2002) 'The Construction of Heterochrony' in *Time in Psychoanalysis - Some Contradictory Aspects*, London: Free Association Press**

Baraitser, L (2017) *Enduring Time*, London: Bloomsbury Academic

Laplanche, J (1999) *Essays on Otherness*, New York: Routledge

Scarfone, D (2015) *The Unpast*. New York: The Unconscious in Translation

## LISTENING

New Books in Psychoanalysis podcast episode 'Dominique Scarfone, "The Unpast: The Actual Unconscious" (The Unconscious in Translation 2015)

<https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/new-books-in-psychoanalysis/id423338807?i=1000409715106>

## BIOGRAPHY

Anita Causer is a psychoanalyst in private practice in Penryn. She is a graduate of SSCP following a Masters in Psychodynamic Counselling from the University of Reading. Whilst studying on the training, she developed an in-depth interest in philosophy read alongside psychoanalysis.

# The Object(ed) and Psychoanalysis

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Kerry St Leger

In this seminar we will explore the ideas of abjection/social abjection as one way to think about how inequalities may produce and exacerbate troubled psychological states. Following a brief introduction to the theory, we will use practice examples to consider: what do these ideas offer to our practice of social and critical psychoanalysis? How might the use of this theory shape what we hear, see, and feel in the clinical encounter?

In preparation for our discussion, you could try to find an article or otherwise from your local area that feels relevant to the topic.

## READINGS

Hughes, M (2008) *Curfew Calls Time on the Rowdy Youth of Cornwall's Moss Side*. The Independent. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/curfew-calls-time-on-the-rowdy-youth-of-cornwall-s-moss-side-877801.html>

Kristeva, J (1988) 'Approaching Abjection' in *Powers of Horror: an Essay on Abjection*. West Sussex: Cambridge University Press

Tyler, I (2013) 'Social Abjection' in *Revolted Subjects: social abjection and resistance in Neoliberal Britain*. London: Zed Books Ltd

## BIOGRAPHY

Kerry St Leger is an SSCP graduate and a psychoanalyst in private practice in Truro. She is also a member of the SSCP Council.

# Love Escapes Extinction: Melancholic Subject, Melancholic World

10

Dr Guy Millon

In 'Mourning and Melancholia', Freud writes about a kind of loss that leaves the subject impoverished and empty, filled with self-hatred. Psychiatric discourse names this as depression, but what if rather than pathology, this says something about contemporary subjectivity? If we are constituted out of our ambivalent ties to those on whom we depend, and neoliberal economics is a project of ruthless individualism, perhaps melancholia is a way of navigating this bind. In this seminar we will explore how Freud's formulations have been put to work in theorising how certain forms of love cannot be mourned, and live on in us as phantoms. We will look at the foreclosure of queer desire, the demand to assimilate into Whiteness and the destruction of the non-human world.

## READINGS

Freud, S (1917) 'Mourning and Melancholia' in *SE XIV*, London: Vintage.

Butler, J (1995) 'Melancholy Gender - Refused Identification' in *Psychoanalytic Dialogues* 5(2) pp165-180

Eng, D & Han, S (2000) 'A Dialogue on Racial Melancholia' in *Psychoanalytic Dialogues* 10(4) pp667-770

## VIEWING

*Melancholia* (2011), directed by Lars Von Trier

## BIOGRAPHY

Dr Guy Millon is a psychoanalyst working in private practice in Exeter. They are particularly interested in queer thought and in 2018 they received the Rozsika Parker Prize for their paper, 'Metamorphosis, Refuge and the Gaze: Non-Binary Shorelines'. Guy is the course lead for the SSCP introductory programme and a member of the SSCP Ethics Committee. They are a member of the review panel for the British Journal of Psychotherapy.

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