

Fall 2018 Course Descriptions

We are pleased to introduce two classes that have different format this fall 2018 semester. Dr. David Rosenthal will be teaching the Continuing Case Seminar from Zoom. Some of us will be on Zoom and some will be in our classroom at ACAP. Dr. Maurice Lovell will be teaching the Psychoanalytic Theory course from his office in Leonia, NJ on Sunday mornings (time to be arranged).

GPSA 104 Multicultural Issues in Mental Health Work - 3 credits

Multicultural Issues in Mental Health Work is a course designed to introduce students to theoretical models of diversity and identity development. Students will examine theories of Race, Ethnicity, Class, Sex, Gender, Sexual Orientation and Ability, as a means of understanding the development and utility of one's own belief system, as well as the beliefs, values and experiences in a diverse society. This course will address the notion of 'difference' within the therapeutic hour and examine the role and influence of systemic factors within the counseling process. (CERT or MA)

GPSA 161 Psychoanalytic Theory II: Fundamentals of Freud - 3 credits

This course follows Freud's conception of libido theory from its inception through later developments. It then examines Freud's later papers on drive theory and the repetition compulsion; the division of the psyche into ego, id and superego; the sources of anxiety; the effects of innate destructiveness on the prospects for civilization; and Freud's final summary of the state of analysis. Students also consider the continuing influence of these papers on contemporary thought, examining current uses of Freud's drive theories. (CERT or MA)

GPSA 507 Human Development: Thru the Lifespan from Birth to Death - 3 credits

This course focuses on the vicissitudes of human development through the life span and within intrapsychic, biological, family, environmental and cultural context. How the individual approaches developmental tasks or copes with challenges of inner and outer reality, from conception through old age, is reflected in his/her sense of self and is manifested in behavior and life choices. The maturational tasks of adapting and coping that enable growth over the lifespan are examined. (CERT or MA)

GPSA 511 The Counseling Profession - 3 credits

This course provides a broad understanding of the psychoanalytic counseling profession as defined by the history, professional standards, scope of practice and application of ethics to theory and practice. The professions of counseling and psychoanalysis are defined and compared through their historical roots with exploration of overlapping practice methods. The importance of personal and professional self-care is emphasized. Students learn ethical decision-making models to assist in making practice decisions. (MAMHC)

GPSA 526 Resistance and Defense - 3 credits

Psychic defenses are essential tools available to us for dealing with psychic pain. This course will study the use of defenses, from projection and splitting to repression and sublimation, in relation to emotional, psychosexual, and cognitive development in relation to cases. This course will consider mental illness a maladaptive psychic defense process, and psychoanalytic cure a state of mental wellbeing in which thoughts, feelings, and impulses can be tolerated comfortably without resorting to inappropriate action or self-destructive defenses. This course is combined with clinical case and will meet together. (CERT or MA elective)

GPSA 552 Introduction to Research in Human Sciences: Quantitative and Qualitative Studies - 3 credits

This course examines the bases of scientific inquiry. It provides a theoretical and practical knowledge of research and methodology, including principles of concept formation and research design. Special emphasis is given to ethical research practices. After a general review of research in the human sciences, students will concentrate on aspects of qualitative research. Students review the important tools, methods and techniques for sound and ethical research, including the tools and date of outcomes research. They also learn to evaluate research literature critically. (CERT or MA)

GPSA 554 Masters Research Seminar - 3 credits

This intensive course guides students in their design and completion of the Master's paper within the guidelines of ethical research practices. The paper is usually based on the fieldwork experience. Group work and close guidance of the instructor facilitates the thesis writing process. The course pays special attention to the formation of research question, research methodology, and writing appropriate literature reviews. The course operates as an intellectual workshop in which students share the process as well as the results of their research with the group throughout the semester. Each seminar member chooses a research topic, collects and analyzes data, writes a report, and then presents his/her research proposal in the middle of the semester and his/her research results in the seminar sometime during the last two weeks of the semester. The completed paper, when accepted by the instructor, counts as the Master's Paper. Papers should be written in the style of the American Psychological Association (APA) Style Manual. (MA)

GPSA 555A Proposal Writing: Professional Ethics - 3 credits

In this course, students will learn how to develop a proposal for the project in the Certificate program. Students will prepare a narrative of the case dynamics, which describes the course of treatment and presents a question about some aspect of the case that puzzles the student; show how the therapist listens in order to form an impression of the individual's emotional experience; write a review of the clinical literature that relates to the research question; and describe a method for analyzing a series of process recordings. *Students must submit a request to the training committee for permission to enroll in this course. (CERT)

GPSA 559-562 Directed Research - 0.5 to 3 credits

The master's degree student chooses to work with a research chair on the research paper, which is usually a single case from the fieldwork experience. The student enrolls in a directed research with a thesis advisor and works individually with that faculty member until the project is completed. A second reader approves the paper as well. (MA only)

GPSA 586 Career Counseling - 3 credits

This course is designed to provide an understanding of career development and the interrelationship between careers and personality; lifespan development; family; lifestyle choice; use of defense mechanisms and diversity. A broad understanding of career development theories, occupational and educational information sources, assessment tools, and measures, decision-making models and online resources will be reviewed. Students' assignments will be based on self-assessment modules in which the student will apply concepts, tools and theory to the student's own life experience. (MAMHC)

GPSA 703 Fieldwork Seminar – Issues of Bias in the Treatment of Mental Illness & SGS - 4 credits

In this course, students will study their countertransference responses, listen to, and become aware of dynamics and how each individual speaks in therapy to present these dynamics through symbolic communication. This clinical course has a focus on how perceptions shape our views of various society groups. Aspects of bias that influence practice experiences are examined while providing hours at an externship site. Students will identify the phenomena of bias in cases presented in relation to diversity in terms of ethnic, sociological and psychopathological processes. They will learn to observe their own reactions to the clinical work and use with growing understanding as a clinical and technical tool. Students' will achieve this by studying internal unexamined perceptions as well as broader societal prejudices, society trends and subgroups, interactions patterns and the impact of differing lifestyles and maladaptive behaviors, including stress, abuse and discrimination on subjective responses. (CERT or MA)

GPSA703B-E Small Group Studies (SGS)

This supervised group study course is taken concurrently with Fieldwork Seminar (GPSA 703). The students study individual cases at their Fieldwork Site in depth, presenting and reading about the dynamics of each case as well as their personal reactions in the therapy. The students process the challenges in working with and learning about serious psychopathology in a treatment relationship. The goal of the course is to help students identify the defenses of narcissistic individuals and the countertransference reactions of the treating therapist. Students will present cases with process notes as a way to study the dynamics of the cases. Each week three students meet with the faculty person and present their cases, studying the most therapeutic approach to each case. (Required concurrently with fieldwork seminar 701-704) (CERT or MA)

GPSA 752 Clinical Case: Resistance, Transference and Countertransference Issues - 3 Credits

Through readings and clinical case presentations, the students in this advanced clinical course will learn how to analyze the unique and diverse ways in which resistance, transference and countertransference responses are expressed during treatment. Transference and countertransference will be analyzed in both its historical and present contexts including the unconscious forces motivating the responses, the defenses underlying their operation and their impact on the therapeutic process. Students will explore the verbal and non-verbal expression of transference, especially in its pre-verbal form and countertransference along with the resistances that interfere with "knowing" and awareness. The clinical uses of following the contact, joining, mirroring and psychological reflection will be studied as key elements in the development of the positive and negative narcissistic transference. Ethical practice considerations of the therapist's subjective and objective countertransference (& countertransference resistance) will also be highlighted through the readings and analysis of case presentation material. (CERT only)

GPSA758 Continuing Case Seminar: Resistance & Defense - 3 credits

Students must have permission from the training committee to be enrolled in Continuing Case.

Through continuing case presentations of three cases, students will apply theory to practice. With the agreement of the training committee, this course can be selected as fulfilling the requirement for the clinical case course after four semesters of successful completion of clinical case coursework. (CERT or MA elective)

GPSA760/761 Clinical Research Tutorial – 3 credits

Students in the Certificate program work individually with a research chairperson after development of a proposal approved by the training committee. The chairperson assists the student in completion of the proposal for the project through completion, approval and final presentation of the project. (CERT only)