

Course Description

Gender and sexuality are central aspects of our identity and sense of self, profoundly influencing our experience of, and relationship to, other people and society. Efforts to understand the development and expressions of gender and sexuality through a psychoanalytic lens have been complex, varied and controversial, dating back to Freud's earliest contributions. Nowhere has the nature/nurture debate been more controversial, clinically, theoretically and culturally, than with gender and sexuality.

In this course we will explore gender and sexuality as independent, yet intricately linked, and multiply determined components of human identity, experience and expression. We will utilize contemporary psychoanalytic literature to further our understanding of the development and emergence of gender identities and sexualities across the lifespan. Expressions of gender and sexuality within the therapeutic relationship will be emphasized in our discussions.

Course Objectives:

- Utilize critical thinking to explore varying theoretical perspectives in conceptualizing gender and sexuality development
- Review theoretical, clinical and cultural constructs of gender and sexuality across the lifespan
- Explore gender and sexuality identity development and expression to consider clinical implications
- Examine countertransference and unconscious bias in clinical work with gender and sexuality
- Consider the interplay of biological body (natal sex) and cultural context in the development of gender and sexuality

Week 1 – April 12, 2019: Sexuality - Then and Now

Required:

Benjamin, J. & Atlas, G. (2015). The 'too muchness' of excitement: Sexuality in light of excess, attachment and affect regulation. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 96:39-63.

Stein, R. (1998). The poignant, the excessive and the enigmatic in sexuality. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 79:253-268.

Recommended:

Rundel, M. (2015). The fire of eros: Sexuality and the movement toward union. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 25:614-630.

Atlas, G. (2018). Has sexuality anything to do with relationality? *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 28:330-339.

Week 2 – April 19, 2019: Gender/Sex Binaries

Required:

Corbett, K. (2008). Gender now. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 18:838-856.

Kulish, N. (2010). Clinical implications of contemporary gender theory. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 58:231-258. [only need to read pp. 231-240 and 254-255]

Pula, J. (2015). Understanding gender through the lens of transgender experience. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 35:809-822.

Recommended:

Chodorow, N. J. (2012). Beyond sexual difference: Same-sex/cross-generation and clinical individuality in the creation of feminine and masculine. In *Individualizing gender and sexuality: Theory and practice*. New York & London: Routledge, pp. 137-154.

Mitchell, S. (1996). Gender and sexual orientation in the age of postmodernism: The plight of the perplexed clinician. *Gender and Psychoanalysis*, 1:45-73.

Week 3 – April 26, 2019: Gender Identity Development

Required:

Fast, I. (1990). Aspects of early gender development: Toward a reformulation. *Psychoanalytic Psychology*, 7(Suppl):105-117.

Goldner, V. (1991). Toward a critical relational theory of gender. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 1(3):249-272.

Recommended:

Hansell, J. (2011). Where sex was, there shall gender be? The dialectics of psychoanalytic gender theory. *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 80(1):55-71.

Week 4 – May 3, 2019: Female Gender & Sexuality

Required:

Elise, D. (1997). Primary femininity, bisexuality, and the female ego-ideal: A re-examination of female developmental theory. *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 66:489-517.

Elise, D. (2002). The primary maternal oedipal situation and female homoerotic desire. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 22(2):209-228.

Recommended:

Kulish, N. (2000). Primary femininity: Clinical advances and theoretical ambiguities. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 48:1355–1379.

Week 5 – May 10, 2019: Male Gender & Sexuality

Required:

Diamond, M.J. (2015). The elusiveness of masculinity: Primordial vulnerability, lack, and the challenges of male development. *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, 84(1):47-102.

Goldsmith, S. (1995). Oedipus or Orestes? Aspects of gender identity development in homosexual men. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 15:112-124.

Recommended:

Corbett, K. (2001). Faggot = loser. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 2:3-28.

Goldsmith, S. (2001). Oedipus or Orestes? Homosexual men, their mothers, and other women revisited. 49(4):1269-1287.

Fogel, G. (2006). Riddles of masculinity: Gender, bisexuality and thirdness. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 54:1139-1153.

Week 6 – May 17, 2019: Trans Genders/Identities

Required:

Marcus, B. & McNamara, S. (2012). "Strange and otherwise unaccountable actions": Category, conundrum, and trans identities. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 61:45-67.

Saketopoulou, A. (2014). Mourning the body as bedrock: Developmental considerations in treating transsexual patients analytically. *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 62(5):773-806.

Recommended:

Harris, A. (2011). Gender as a strange attractor: Discussion of the transgender symposium. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 21:230-238.

Goldner, V. (2011). Trans: Gender in free fall. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 21:159-171.

Week 7 – May 24, 2019: Perverse Sexuality

Required:

Saketopoulou, A. (2014). To suffer pleasure: The shattering of the ego as the psychic labor of perverse sexuality. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 15:254-268.

Wood, H. (2014). Working with problems of perversion. *British Journal of Psychotherapy*, 30(4):422-437.

April 12, 2019 - May 31, 2019

Kirsten Beuthin, LMFT

Recommended:

Moss, D. (2015). Sexual Aberrations: Do we still need the concept? If so, when and why? If not, why not? Ch. 9 in A. Lemma and P.E. Lynch (Eds.) *Sexualities: Contemporary Psychoanalytic Perspectives*. London: Routledge. Pp. 177-188.

Week 8 – May 31, 2019: Sexual Preoccupations

Required:

Atlas, G. (2013). What's love got to do with it? Sexuality, shame, and the use of the other. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 14:51-58.

Giffney, N. (2015). Sex as evacuation. *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, 16:103-109.