

Miri Abramis, Ph.D.  
drmabramis@gmail.com  
212 8778419  
Infancy Research and Adult Treatment 2020

From Freud's early discoveries, psychoanalysts have known that the past lives in the present, and that the present can transform the past. We use this understanding daily to form our hypotheses and engage in clinical work. Contemporary developmental research and neuroscience have vastly enriched our psychoanalytic understanding of development, and especially how psychic growth and the emergence of the embodied mind, namely, our "coming into being," is shaped by our immersion in interpersonal and cultural/societal surround. In this course, we will examine contemporary infant and child development research, and consider how we might use it in thinking about adult clinical work. While the research can sometimes sound "dry" compared to the language and poetry of much analytic theory, I urge you to "hang in." The research will enrich your understanding of psychoanalytic process as well as further psychoanalytic discourse with other disciplines.

**Week 1: February 25, 2020 Overview: From sensori-motor affect communication to embodied mind, language and symbols**

Abramis, M. (2018). Unpublished paper. Tenderness to mutuality: Interpersonal psychoanalysis and developmental theory

Panskepp sheet- from Panskepp and Biven (2012) Archeology of the Mind

Malberg, N. (2018). Book Review. Beebe, Cohen and Lachmann, The mother-infant interaction picture book: Origins of attachment. *Psychoanalytic Psychology*. Vol 35. 477-479.

Beebe.B., Cohen, P., Lachmann, F. (2016). The mother-infant interaction picture book: Origins of attachment. pp 1-50. W.W. Norton. New York.

**Week 2: March 3 Regulation, Repair, Recognition: The roots of intersubjectivity (sharing and social understanding) and the development of the embodied self/mind-**

Beebe.B., Cohen, P., Lachmann, F. (2016). The mother-infant interaction picturebook: Origins of attachment. pp. 53-232. W.W. Norton. New York.

Tronick E. and Beeghly, M. (2011) Infants' meaning-making and the development of mental health problems. *American Psychologist*. February-March 2011. American Psychological Association.

### **Week 3: March 10 Beatrice Beebe, Ph.D. Guest presentation- double session**

#### **Prep for Beebe**

Beebe, B. (2004) Faces in relation: A case study. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 14 (1) pp 1-51.

Beebe B. and Sandberg, L. (2019). A patient who does not look: A collaborative treatment with video feedback. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues* 2019 in press (not for circulation)

Auerbach, J. (2019). Book Review: Beebe and Lachmann, The origins of attachment: Infant research and adult treatment, *Psychoanalytic Psychology* 2019, Vol. 36, No. 3, 268-275.

### **Week 4 March 17 Attachment and Safety**

Holmes J. and Slade, A. (2018). Chapters 1-5, 10-12 Attachment Informed Psychotherapy In: Attachment in therapeutic practice. pp. 1-52 and 104-158. Sage Publications.

Wallin, D. (2007). Attachment in psychotherapy. pp.29-34. New York. Guilford Press. (Please bring this and the AAI to class).

Slade, A. (2014). Imagining fear: Attachment, threat, and psychic experience. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*. 24: 253-266.

The Adult Attachment Interview (AAI)

### **Week 5 March 24 Theory of mind and reflective functioning**

Vorus, N. (2018). Theory of mind and therapeutic action. In: Developmental perspectives in child psychoanalysis and psychotherapy. Eds. Christopher Bonovitz and Andrew Harlem. Routledge, NY. pp.158-180.

Holmes J. and Slade, A. (2018). Chapter 7. Mentalizing. In: Attachment in therapeutic practice. pp. 61-84. Sage Publications.

For clinical examples- bring to class:

Bateman A. and Fonagy P. (2013). Mentalization-Based treatment. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, vol. 33. Pp 595-613.

### **Week 6: March 31 Reflective Functioning in Clinical Work**

Bonevitz, C. (2016). On seeing what is not said: The concrete mode of psychic functioning and the development of symbolization. *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*. 26:3, 280-293.

Reading, R., Safran, J., Muran, C. (2019). Investigating therapist reflective functioning, Therapeutic Process, and Outcome. *Psychoanalytic Psychology*. Vol. 36. 115-121.

### **Week 7: April 14 Language and Symbolism**

Browning, M. (2019). Our symbolic minds. What are they really? *The Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, vol. 538, 25-52.

Vivona, J (2019). The interpersonal words of the infant: Implications of current infant language research for psychoanalytic theories of infant development, language, and therapeutic action. *The Psychoanalytic Quarterly*. vol. 538:685-725.

OFF FOR A WEEK

### **Week 8: April 21 Developmental perspectives on transference and countertransference**

Music, G. (2018) Neglect and its neglect. Developmental science, psychoanalytic thinking, and countertransference vitality. In C. Bonovitz and A. Harlem Eds.: Developmental perspectives in child psychoanalysis and psychotherapy. Routledge:NY. Pp 73-95.

Lyons-Ruth, Karlen (2017). Revisiting the idealizing transferences: “Needful things”and the Faustian bargain. *Psychoanalysis, Self and Context*. 12:197-210.

## **Week 8: April 21 Culture in development: examples from black experience in America**

McClain, D. (2019). As a black mother, my parenting is always political. *The Nation*.

Spielberg, W. (2014). Chapter 2. Trying not to know. In: The psychology of black boys and adolescents. Eds. K. Vaughns and W. Speilberg. Vol. 1 pp. 45-73.

## **Week 9 April 28 Epistemic trust and case presentation**

Fonagy, P. and Alison, E. (2014). The role of mentalizing and epistemic trust in the therapeutic relationship. *Psychotherapy*. pp. 1-27.

## **Week 10 May 5 Rappaport double session**

### **OPTIONAL:**

Myron Hofer. Hofer, M. (2014). The emerging synthesis of development and evolution: A new biology for psychoanalysis. *Neuropsychoanalysis*. 1-20.

Beebe, B. (2014). Myron Hofer's synthesis of evolution and development: A commentary. *Neuropsychoanalysis*. 23-29.

Stern, Sander, Nahum, Harrison, Lyons-Ruth, Morgan, Bruschiweiler-Stern and Tronick. (1998). Non-interpretive mechanisms in psychoanalytic theory. *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 79. 903-921.

Process of Change Study Group. (2005). The "something more" than interpretation revisited: sloppiness and co-creativity in the psychoanalytic encounter. *JAPA* 53/3.

Baradon, T. (2018) Microanalysis of multimodal communication in therapy: A case of relational trauma in parent-infant psychoanalytic psychotherapy. *Journal of Infant, Child, and Adolescent Psychotherapy*. Vol 17. 1-13.