

Foundations in Psychoanalysis



Clinical College of Psychoanalysis
Aotearoa New Zealand

Foundations in Psychoanalysis Course Outline

Introduction to Psychoanalysis within the Freudian Field of Psychoanalysis in the
Lacanian Orientation

Seminars

Tuesdays 5:00PM - 8:00PM NZST/NZDT

On Zoom and in-person from Auckland,
New Zealand

TBC

Clinical Thinking Workshops

Saturdays 1:30PM - 3:30PM
NZST/NZDT

On Zoom and in-person from Auckland,
New Zealand

23 August

6 September

20 September

18 October

25 October

8 November

22 November

6 December

Overview

Foundations in Psychoanalysis is a one-semester course comprising eight Seminars and eight Clinical Thinking Workshops. Offering an introduction to a Lacanian approach to psychoanalysis, grounded in the Freudian tradition, it is designed to explore the clinical application of psychoanalytic theory. Participants engage with core concepts such as repetition, repression, the drive, transference, and the unconscious.

Led by experienced psychoanalysts, the Seminars provide a strong theoretical foundation, while the Clinical Thinking Workshops offer a focused forum for discussing clinical material and developing psychoanalytic thinking. These workshops are particularly valuable for those interested in the psychoanalytic clinic. Foundations in Psychoanalysis serves as an entry point for those considering the Clinical Training in Psychoanalysis Programme, as well as for individuals with a broader interest in the field. This course is suited to those wishing to deepen their understanding of psychoanalytic theory, whether to complement academic study, to enrich clinical experience through their own psychoanalysis, or as preparation for the three-year Clinical Training in Psychoanalysis programme.

Places are limited and we welcome your enquiry.

Entry Requirements

Applicants should have an interest in and curiosity about the Lacanian orientation of psychoanalysis, although prior formal education in psychoanalysis is not necessary.

Course Outline

Module One / Theory of the Unconscious

Participants are introduced to the foundational concepts of Freud's work, their elaboration by Jacques Lacan and their application in clinical practice. This involves a comprehensive study of the unconscious and its formations, the epistemological, philosophical and clinical questions they give rise to.

Module Two / Theory of the Drive and Sexuality

The theory of the drive and the infantile sexuality. This subject includes a close study of the structure of the drive, Lacan's unique theory of the object, and the complex topic of sexual identity.

Module Three / Theory of Discourse and Repetition

Freud's theory of repetition and Lacan's extension which situates it as the effect of language on the speaking being. Lacan gives the name "Discourse" to the particular social bonds that are possible as the result of this effect, arguing the "Analyst's Discourse" marks a new form of social bond possible for the speaking-being.

Module Four / Transference

This area of study involves a close examination of Freud and Lacan's theory of transference, which is fundamental to the appearance of repetition compulsion in psychoanalytic practice.

Clinical Thinking Workshops

Clinical Thinking Workshops are organised around the clinical basics of psychoanalysis in the Lacanian tradition. Each session will involve the close reading of selected academic texts, providing a foundation for critical discussion. Participants will engage with clinical vignettes drawn from both published texts and the direct clinical experience of practicing psychoanalysts.

Workshops will also include presentations by Psychoanalysts-in-Training from the Clinical College, who will contribute to the discussion by sharing their developing clinical practice and reflections. These sessions aim to create a collaborative space in which the 'savoir faire' of the psychoanalyst in clinical practise can explored.

Further Studies: The Training Pathway

For those who wish to continue, the Foundations in Psychoanalysis course offers an entry into the Clinical Training in Psychoanalysis, a three-year programme dedicated to the development of psychoanalytic psychotherapy as a clinical practice. Bringing together theoretical study, close engagement with clinical work, and ongoing ethical reflection, the training creates the conditions for a sustained encounter with the unconscious in its clinical form.

Grounded in the context of Aotearoa and enriched by local and international psychoanalysts and thinkers, the programme supports participants to deepen their listening, refine their clinical sensibility, and explore what it might mean to take up the position of the psychoanalytic psychotherapist. Progression into the training is not assumed, but emerges from each participant's own engagement with the work and their developing interest in the field.

Applications are considered on a case-by-case basis by the Training Council of the Clinical College. Please request the Clinical Training in Psychoanalysis Programme Outline for further information.

Fees

The fee for the Foundations in Psychoanalysis Course is \$1750. Please contact us if you require a payment plan.

To Apply

To apply for entry into the Foundations in Psychoanalysis course, please submit your initial expression of interest to secretary@lacan.org.nz