

Clinical Training in Psychoanalysis



Clinical College of Psychoanalysis
Aotearoa New Zealand

1. Programme Overview

Clinical Training in Psychoanalysis is a three-year programme dedicated to the praxis of psychoanalytic psychotherapy, with a particular emphasis on developing clinical work. It is led by registered and experienced psychoanalysts of the Clinical College of Psychoanalysis Aotearoa New Zealand (Clinical College) and enriched by contributions from colleagues both within Aotearoa and internationally.

The training cultivates theoretical knowledge, clinical practice, and ethical reflection, while situating psychoanalytic psychotherapy within the social and cultural context of Aotearoa. Each semester combines theoretical seminars and clinical workshops, enabling trainees to engage with psychoanalytic psychotherapeutic concepts, reflect on their ethical implications, and work with clinical material. Concepts introduced in seminars are integrated into workshop discussions, ensuring that psychoanalytic psychotherapeutic theory is consistently tested and elaborated in relation to clinical practice.

Over the course of the programme, trainees may undertake the series of passages that mark the formation of a psychoanalyst: from trainee, to *Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist-in-Training*, toward independent clinical practice. Places in the programme are limited, expressions of interest are warmly welcomed.

2. Training With Us

This programme is designed to provide participants with a working knowledge of Freudian, Lacanian, and contemporary psychoanalytic psychotherapy theory and its application within the context of Aotearoa, incorporating *Te Ao Māori* principles of teaching and learning. These principles emphasise relationships, reciprocity, and shared responsibility - being in community with others and working through difficulties and conflicts together.

Trainees are supported to develop an awareness of the distinctive psycho-social landscape of Aotearoa, grounded in a commitment to *Te Tiriti o Waitangi* within our multicultural society as the foundation of psychoanalytic psychotherapeutic work. Graduates are expected to engage in culturally responsive and ethically informed practice consistent with, and extending beyond the *Psychotherapists Board of Aotearoa New Zealand's (PBANZ)* core competencies. Through sustained study, supervision, collaborative learning, ethical reflection, and psychoanalytic psychotherapy research, trainees are prepared to assume the responsibilities of professional clinical work.

3. Entry Requirements

- **Educational Prerequisite**
Applicants are required to hold an undergraduate degree that demonstrates academic readiness for advanced study in psychoanalytic psychotherapy. In exceptional circumstances, applicants without an undergraduate degree may be considered. Such applicants will be required to submit a 2,000-word essay on a psychoanalytic topic. In addition, they must have completed the Foundations Course or an approved equivalent. The first year of the training will be probationary for these trainees.
- **Foundations in Psychoanalysis:** Applicants are invited to apply with successful completion of the *Foundations in Psychoanalysis* course, or an equivalent background in psychoanalytic psychotherapy. An introductory understanding of key concepts such as the unconscious, drive, sexuality, repetition, repression, and transference must be demonstrated. Verification of prior study will be required to support the application.
- **Personal Psychoanalysis:** Engagement in a minimum of weekly, ongoing personal psychoanalysis with a psychoanalyst of the Lacanian orientation recognised by the Clinical College. Verification of this will be required at the time of application and must be sustained throughout the training.
- **Expression of Interest:** A written outline of your academic and professional background and reasons for undertaking the *Clinical Training Programme*. This should include any details of interpersonal work history including fields of health, education or experience working in the field of mental health.
- **References:** Two personally written character references with a phone number and email address.
- **Police Vetting:** All applicants are required to undergo police vetting.
- **Application Fee:** Applications for the 2026 intake must be received by 12 December, accompanied by a non-refundable application fee of \$200.
- **Suitability interviews:** Your application fee covers two separate interviews with members of the *Training Council*. Interviews will assess suitability, personal maturity and professional readiness to enter the training.
- **Outcome:** You will be notified in writing of the *Training Council's* decision no later than 30 January 2026.

Successful applicants will be provided with the *CLA Code of Ethics* and the *Agreement to Fees and Attendance*. By signing and returning these documents, applicants formally agree to its terms and take up their position as a trainee of the Clinical College.

4. Participation and Assessment Commitments

a. Expected Hours of Participation Per Semester

Year 1	Years 2 & 3
• Seminars– 4 hrs per fortnight • Clinical Workshops– 4 hrs per fortnight • Block Courses– One full day of 7 hrs per semester • Personal Psychoanalysis– minimum of 1 hr p/w • Reading Group – 4 hrs per week • Private Study 20 - hours per week	• Seminars– 3hrs per fortnight • Clinical Workshops– 3 hrs per fortnight • Block Courses– 7 hrs per semester • Personal Psychoanalysis– minimum of 1 hr p/w • Supervision- 1 hr p/w • Reading Group – 2 hrs p/w

• CLA Events including the Annual Conference and specialist seminars • International events online recommended by the CLA and psychotherapy events within Aotearoa *Attendance at international events is optional though encouraged. 35 hours per week	• Private Study & Writing – 15 hrs p/w • Clinical Work 10 hrs p/w • CLA Events including the Annual Conference and specialist seminars • International events online recommended by the CLA and psychotherapy events within Aotearoa *Attendance at international events is optional though encouraged. 36 hours per week
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*Participation at all prescribed activities works on a credits system. Accumulated credits must total 200 credits required for completion of each year, a total of 600 credits is required to graduate.

b. The Role of Personal Psychoanalysis in the Formation of a Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist

The formation of a psychoanalytic psychotherapist begins with an encounter with unconscious knowledge, unique to each individual. Through this process, one may discover the desire to take up the praxis of the psychoanalytic psychotherapist. Such a desire cannot be taught or imposed; it must be experienced, analysed, and ethically assumed. Personal psychoanalysis unsettles what we have constructed about ourselves, our families, and our ways of relating to others across social bonds. It challenges our very knowledge of “ourselves.”

The training programme does not guarantee that a participant will become a psychoanalytic psychotherapist. Rather, it opens the possibility of a meaningful encounter with the desire to become a psychoanalytic psychotherapist - an essential dimension of analytic formation.

c. Participation in Seminars and Workshops

Trainees are required to attend all seminars and clinical workshops. A reading list will be provided prior to the start of the programme to support the critical discussions that form a core part of the training. Active engagement is strongly encouraged, as these discussions not only deepen understanding and cultural competency but also help develop key skills such as peer supervision, attentive listening, and thoughtful contribution.

d. Reading and Study Expectations

Trainees are expected to engage in regular, self-directed reading that reflects their evolving orientation and interests within psychoanalytic psychotherapy. While the programme encourages individualised engagement with the material, it is strongly recommended that trainees allocate ample and consistent time each week to reading and study that supports seminar topics and clinical exploration. In addition, time must be set aside for written assignments, with one written project required for each module.

e. Oral Case Presentations

As part of the clinical workshops, *Psychoanalytic Psychotherapists-in-Training* are expected to present brief, confidential vignettes based on their clinical work. This practice encourages critical reflection, enhances the ability to thoughtfully examine clinical material, and cultivates the skill of communicating key aspects of a case in a way that invites new perspectives.

f. Annual Assessments

Trainees are required to submit a written assignment at the end of each semester as part of their ongoing evaluation. Following taking up the pathway to *Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist-in-Training*, trainees will present brief clinical vignettes for discussion within workshops, demonstrating their developing clinical reflection. Each year, trainees must also complete a *Record and Attestation of Engagement*, which includes documentation of *Continuing Professional Development* activities such as attendance at the *Annual CLA Conference*, self-reflective assessment, at seminars and clinical workshops, participation in supervision, and engagement in personal psychoanalysis.

g. Final Assessment

At the conclusion of the training programme, each *Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist-in-Training* completes a *Final Assessment*, comprising a *Clinical Portfolio* and *Group Presentation*. The portfolio includes a detailed case study of psychoanalytic psychotherapy work with one kiritaki who has been seen in person for a minimum of two years accompanied by supporting documentation such as a clinical log, supervisor reports and *Record and Attestation of Engagement*. The written submission should demonstrate clinical competence, theoretical integration, and ethical application of psychoanalytic psychotherapy principles in practice.

This *Group Presentation* represents the culmination of the trainee's learning and clinical formation, shared within the psychoanalytic psychotherapy community as an opportunity for reflective dialogue and professional exchange. Successful completion of the programme signifies that the *Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist-in-Training* has attained the depth of clinical, supervisory, and theoretical development required to support an application for professional registration or to proceed toward becoming a *Psychoanalyst Member of the CLA*.

5. Pathway from Trainee to Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist-in-Training

Upon completion of the first year, trainees may decide to make an application to become a *Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist-in-Training* and begin clinical practice under the guidance and auspices of the Clinical College. Prior to applying, trainees must establish a relationship with a clinical supervisor approved by the Clinical College. Once the application is submitted to the *Training Council* and both the trainees' psychoanalyst and the supervisor provides their formal endorsement, the trainee may commence clinical practice. The requirements of this passage are:

- **Personal Psychoanalysis:** A continuation of a minimum of weekly personal psychoanalysis sessions.
- **Supervision:** A minimum of weekly individual supervision sessions.
- **Attendance and Participation:** To a satisfactory standard for all seminars and clinical workshops.
- **Attendance at the CLA Annual Conference:** And any other CLA events possible to participate in.
- **International Trainees:** Must attend in-person at the *Annual CLA Conference*.
- **Annual Record and Attestation of Engagement:** *Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist-in-Training Agreement Form* must be completed and signed annually by the trainee,

psychoanalyst, supervisor and educator, attesting to ongoing personal psychoanalysis, clinical supervision, academic attendance at classes and CLA events.

Final Assessment

To be eligible for the *Final Assessment*, *Psychoanalytic Psychotherapists-in-Training* must have completed and received approval for the following requirements:

- Ongoing personal psychoanalysis, with a minimum of 44 sessions per year.
- Engagement in a minimum of 44 individual supervision sessions per year.
- Active participation in *Annual CLA Conferences*, events and relevant CPD events.
- Successful completion of all required training modules, seminars, and clinical workshops.
- Presentation of clinical material (vignettes or partial case studies) within clinical workshops.
- Completion of a minimum of 250 hours of supervised clinical practice, involving at least four kiritaki, two of whom must be seen in person, to meet the interim scope of psychotherapy practice.

Submission of a *Clinical Portfolio* Including:

- *Clinical Log*, signed by the supervisor, documenting all clinical hours and supervision.
- *Record and Attestation of Engagement*.
- Written endorsements of readiness for the *Final Assessment* from the trainee's supervisor, personal psychoanalyst, and the *Training Council*.
- A written *Case Study* of working clinically with a kiritaki over at least two years in Aotearoa.

Group Presentation to a panel of peers, members of the *Training Council* and invited colleagues

- The *Case Study* orally presented with a feedback session

8. Programme Outline

Year 1: Foundations: The Subject, Culture, and the Unconscious

Semester 1 Term 1	Semester 1 Term 2	Semester 2 Term 3	Semester 2 Term 4
Module 1: Social and Cultural Analysis: Subjectivities in the History and Context of Aotearoa and the World	Module 2: Theories of Psychopathology: Structures, Phenomena, and Diagnosis	Module 3: Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy with the Young: Development, Clinics, and Whanau	Module 4: The Unconscious in Clinical Praxis: Symptoms, Slips, and Dreams
Block Course: Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Te Ao Maori		Block Course: Beginners Guide of the DSM 5 and the PDM 3	
Clinical Workshops: Will held in alternate fortnights to the seminars. The workshops will be tied to the theoretical content of the seminars.			

Year 2: Year Two – Ethics, Sexuality, and Clinical Structures

Semester 1 Term 1	Semester 1 Term 2	Semester 2 Term 3	Semester 2 Term 4
Module 5: The Drive and Sexuality The Force of Desire and the Question of Identity	Module 6: Transference and Repetition: Desire in the Analytic Encounter	Module 7: Ethics and Praxis: The Desire of the Psychoanalyst	Module 8: Psychoanalytic Writing and Research: From Concept to Case: the Weaving of Theory With The Clinical Work
	Block Course: Writing and Research in Psychoanalysis		Block Course: The Child Clinic
Clinical Workshops: Will held in alternate fortnights to the seminars. The workshops will be tied to the theoretical content of the seminars.			

Year 3: Year Three – Integration, Advanced Praxis, and Research

Semester 1 Term 1	Semester 1 Term 2	Semester 2: Term 3	Semester 2: Term 4
Module 9: Advanced Clinical Praxis: The Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist at Work	Module 10: The Nuts and Bolts of Clinical Praxis Establishing and sustaining a clinic in Aotearoa. Learning to work with professionals from other discourses. Cultural Supervision	Module 11: Advanced Studies in Reading and Writing Psychoanalysis Case Study Research Paper and Presenting Individual Research Work	Module 12: Crafting your Case Study and Compiling the Clinical Portfolio
Case Presentations: Those Applying for Registration and/or Becoming a Psychoanalyst (optional)	Block Course: Reading and Researching Psychoanalysis Seminar	Case Presentations: Those Applying for Registration and/or Becoming a Psychoanalyst (Optional)	Block Course: Case Presentations
Clinical Workshops: Will held in alternate fortnights to the seminars. The workshops will be tied to the theoretical content of the seminars.			

*Clinical workshops will be available beyond the training as part of *Continuing Professional Development*

Year One – Foundations: The Subject, Culture, and the Unconscious

Module 1: Social and Cultural Analysis – Subjectivities in the History and Context of Aotearoa and the World.

This module situates psychoanalytic psychotherapy within wider cultural and historical frameworks. Trainees will explore the development of psychoanalytic psychotherapy globally and locally as a mode of situating the individual in relation to whānau, society and to history. As part of this exploration, trainees will map a genogram to trace intergenerational patterns, relational dynamics, and cultural influences that shape their own subjectivities.

Module 2: Theories of Psychopathology – Structures, Phenomena, and Diagnosis

Trainees are introduced to clinical assessment and diagnostic frameworks. Trainees will critically examine psychiatric systems of classification including the DSM and PDM. Trainees will also study psychoanalytic psychotherapeutic diagnostic structures of neurosis, perversion and psychosis. Particular focus will include the phenomenology of hysteria, obsessionally and psychosis together with contemporary considerations of the symptoms of our context and time.

Module 3: Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy with Young People and their Whānau

This module introduces psychoanalytic psychotherapeutic approaches to thinking about and working with children, adolescents, and families. Further research will look to human development. Attention will be given to specific clinical presentations of childhood and adolescents, families and whānau within the context of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Module 4: The Unconscious in Clinical Praxis. Symptoms, Slips, and Dreams

The unconscious is approached through its formations, expressions, and clinical manifestations. Trainees will develop the capacity to identify and work with unconscious phenomena such as parapraxes, dreams, wit, and humour, understanding them revealing specific aspects of desire and conflict. Trainees will encounter Lacan's Graph of Desire.

Year Two – Ethics, Sexuality, and Clinical Structures

Module 5: The Drive and Sexuality – The Force of Desire and the Question of Identity

This module introduces psychoanalytic psychotherapeutic theories of the drive and sexuality, emphasising Freud's original formulations and a reworking of these concepts by Lacan and contemporary psychoanalysts. Trainees will explore the many ways in which sexuality and identity are constructed, recognising the persistence of desire beyond normative social structures.

Module 6: Transference and Repetition – Desire in the Analytic Encounter

This module explores the psychoanalytic psychotherapeutic concepts of transference and repetition, focusing on their role in the analytic situation as engines of the treatment. The implications of recognising and handling transference and countertransference will be examined in light of psychoanalytic psychotherapy texts. Consideration will be given to the encounter with the ethics clinical and practice supervision.

Module 7: Ethics and Praxis – The Desire of the Psychoanalyst

This module develops an understanding of the ethical foundations within the practice of psychoanalytic psychotherapy. Trainees will study the psychoanalytic psychotherapist's position in relation to those with whom they work. Further this module will address practitioners' responsibilities

to uphold the *CLA Code of Ethics*. The work is based on understanding the analytic act, not as a moral code but, and ethics of desire.

Module 8: Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Writing and Research – From Concept to Case: The Weaving of Theory with the Clinical Work

Develops research and writing skills in psychoanalytic psychotherapy, emphasizing the how to write about case material, theoretical development, generating work of a professional standard that suitable for conferences and publication. The act of writing is explored as a means of conceptual elaboration in psychoanalytic psychotherapy.

Year Three – Integration, Advanced Praxis, and Research

Module 9: Advanced Clinical Praxis – The Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist at Work

The final year emphasizes the integration of theory and praxis. There is a deep focus on advanced clinical work under clinical supervision. Desire for supervision will be considered. Trainees will hone their ability to work analytically, to listen, formulate, and interpret within the clinic under transference. Cases from the *Psychoanalytic Psychotherapists-in-Training* will make a significant component of the module. *Psychoanalytic Psychotherapists-in-Training* will be encouraged to present their cases. Others will offer feedback. Tutors will respond reflectively on hearing the psychoanalyst in trainings clinical thinking. There may well be a return to earlier texts to deepen understanding in the praxis of psychoanalytic psychotherapy.

Module 10: The Nuts and Bolts of Clinical Praxis.

Establishing and sustaining a clinic in Aotearoa. Learning to work with professionals from other discourses. The necessity of cultural supervision and knowing when to seek it. This module will draw deeply on the experiences of clinicians across the psychotherapeutic field who have successfully run a clinical praxis. Further, we will work on working with external agencies, ACC sensitive claims service, working online and the ethics of this, further engagement with cultural supervision and the importance of this, the desire of the psychoanalyst.

Module 11: Advanced Studies in Reading and Writing Psychoanalysis

Case study research paper and presenting individual research work. Trainees complete a substantial written piece (case study or research essay) demonstrating their ability to integrate theory, clinical praxis, and psychoanalytic psychotherapeutic reflection. This represents the culmination of their training and a contribution to the field of psychoanalytic psychotherapy.

Module 12: Crafting your Case Study and Compiling the Clinical Portfolio

Working together on *Final Assessment Case Study* and preparing the *Clinical Portfolio*. In this module, the trainees will work together to workshop their *Case Study* and to share research ideas, supported in this by the tutor.

9. Tuition and Fees

Application Fee: Applications must be accompanied by a non-refundable application fee of \$200.

Clinical Training in Psychoanalysis Programme Fees:

- The fee for the programme is \$3750 per year. A 10% deposit is due two weeks prior to the semester start date to secure enrolment. If you require a payment plan, please contact secretary@lacan.org.nz to discuss available options.

Ongoing Programme Costs:

- Personal psychoanalysis and supervision: These fees will be discussed individually and agreed between the trainee with their chosen supervisor and psychoanalyst.
- Course texts and books: There is a free reference library available for those practicing in person in Auckland. Where possible, pdfs of reading material will be sent to trainees ahead of class, however it is encouraged for trainees to purchase core curriculum books. The Clinical College holds a Karnac Books 10% discount code.

Membership:

Membership with the CLA is a requirement for all participants enrolled in *Clinical Training in Psychoanalysis Programme*. Membership fees vary depending on individual circumstances and your stage of participation in the Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist-in-Training pathway.

Membership fees support the ongoing operation of the CLA and the Clinical College, including hosting community and professional events, running our training clinic, and supporting the CLA's development as a centre for psychoanalytic education and practice. Fees are billed annually in August.

- \$100 for unwaged non-clinical members
- \$200 for waged, non-clinical members
- \$375 for clinical members (Psychoanalysts and Psychoanalytic Psychotherapists-in-Training)

10. To Apply

To apply for entry into the 3-year *Clinical Training in Psychoanalysis Programme*, please submit your application to secretary@lacan.org.nz

Please note that applications are due by the 12 December, accompanied by a non-refundable application fee of \$200.

11. Code of Ethics

Preamble

The purpose of this code is to establish standards of ethical practice and professional conduct applicable to practicing clinicians registered with the CLA (psychoanalysts and *Psychoanalytic Psychotherapists-in-Training*).

Article 1

CLA clinicians respect the essential humanity and dignity of all those seeking treatment and refrain from exploitation and discrimination in any way. This requires that the clinician does not impose their own ideals of wellbeing.

Article 2

CLA clinicians are expected to engage fully in providing professional treatment. This includes being reasonably available for contact, practicing only within the limits of expertise and of physical and mental health, and giving appropriate notice, where possible, of any changes in the clinician's situation that will have a bearing on the treatment. In the event of a clinician's incapacity, alternative treatment is to be sought where appropriate.

Article 3

CLA clinicians are responsible for communicating the terms on which treatment is being offered. This includes the nature of a psychoanalytic treatment, fees and arrangements concerning missed appointments, holidays, and any other business relevant to the treatment.

Article 4

CLA clinicians respect and uphold the rights of those seeking treatment, as protected by The Health and Disability Commissioner Act 1994.

Article 5

Where a person is incapable of giving informed consent to treatment, consent will be sought from the appropriate authority. Procedures and safeguarding measures, including those specific to working with minors, are outlined in the CLA's Consent to Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy and Risk Management Assessment Protocols documents.

Article 6

CLA clinicians are obliged to respect the right to confidentiality and to safeguard all information associated with the treatment. All records, whether in written or any other form, must be protected with the strictest of confidence in accordance with The Privacy Act 2020.

When other professionals are involved in a treatment, the CLA clinician must obtain consent to share information. Only information necessary for treatment should be shared.

If a case is discussed or written about for the purposes of professional development, details should be disguised so that the person is unidentifiable and their privacy is protected.

The ethical requirement to protect confidentiality continues after the termination of treatment unless there are overriding legal considerations.

Confidentiality ought to be the guiding principle when disclosures of kiritaki information are required, within the limits imposed by the law and by a proper concern for the safety of the kiritaki and other persons.

Article 7

CLA clinicians have an obligation to continue professional development throughout their professional lives and to seek consultation regarding issues of special complexity as they arise.

Article 8

CLA clinicians must not make misleading or inappropriate representations of their qualifications, level of competence and expertise, or degree of association with any professional body.

Only those included on the CLA Register of Practicing Psychoanalysts are recognized as psychoanalysts by the CLA. Likewise, only trainees formally approved to commence clinical work are recognized by the CLA as a registered Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist-in-Training. Persons may not otherwise imply that they are recognized as clinicians by the CLA.

CLA clinicians are expected to be familiar with current legislation affecting their work.

If a CLA clinician becomes aware of the professional misconduct of a colleague, steps must be taken to address the situation. This may include speaking to the colleague concerned and reporting it to the CLA Ethics Committee, doing so without malice and with no breaches of confidentiality other than necessary of the proper investigatory procedure.

Article 9

CLA clinicians holding practicing certificates with other professional bodies, in addition to the CLA, are required to uphold the ethical codes of those other professional bodies in their psychoanalytic practice.

Document Version: August 2022