

The New Jersey Institute for Training in Psychoanalysis

#S306 - Case Seminar: Analysis of Character/ Personality

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The terms “character” and “personality” will be defined and described. Illustrations drawn either from one’s present caseload, past experience, or readings will be discussed. Concepts like, character armor, character traits, ego syntonic or ego alien will be discussed with particular emphasis on what to do as a would-be analyst when face to face with individuals who exhibit these traits.

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR:

Susan Peterson Perkins, BFA, MSW, LCSW, PsyA

Susan has a BFA in fine art and a Masters Degree in Social Work from Rutgers University. She has always had an interest and curiosity for psychoanalysis and for the helping professions. In 2014 she received her certificate in psychoanalysis from The New Jersey Institute for Training in Psychoanalysis (NJI). Initially she worked at NJI’s Clinic. After she received her LCSW she began her private practice. Susan has taught Art therapy in NJI’s Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy Program and Analysis of Character/Personality in the Advanced Adult Psychoanalytic Program. Susan continues to benefit from her training at NJI, both professionally and personally. She is an active member of the NJI community.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To examine and analyze the origin and history of character and personality.
2. To describe 3 ways in which character and personality evolve.
3. To analyze the character and personality of five separate clinical cases via their presentation and history.
4. To describe the framework of a case and define a neurotic symptom, a trait, and a defense.
5. To identify 5 ways to approach and address the patient’s ego syntonic symptoms.

Target audience: Suitable for social workers, licensed professional counselors and other mental health professionals

