BIRKBECK University of London

Academic Year: 2015/16

Module Code: SCPS173H4ACB

Module Title: Freud and Psychoanalysis: An Introduction

Award: Certificate of Higher Education in Applied Psychology

Level/credits: Level 4, 15 credits

Class venue: Central London

First meeting: Friday 14th October 2016, 10.30am - 1pm

Term dates: 14/10/16 - 9/12/16

Please note that the details above are provisional and subject to change prior to the class start date. Enrolled students will be notified of any changes by e-mail.

Entry Requirements
The course is open to all.

Aim
To review the major concepts and historical development of psychoanalytic thinking as conceived originally by Freud. We will also discuss and evaluate concepts such as unconscious motivation, psychosexual development, the structure of the personality and the various defence mechanisms.

Course Objectives
Introduce students to some of the main concepts and claims of Freudian Psychoanalysis

- Give students an insight into the principles of psychoanalytic practice
- Provide a critical evaluation of the contemporary status and validity of Freudian theory
- Support and develop students' study skills, including note taking and essay writing
- Promote students' confidence in presenting their own ideas and in critical thinking

Learning Outcomes
By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Define and describe the central concepts of Freudian theory
- Describe and evaluate the principles and practice of psychoanalytic therapy
- Evaluate the claims of Freudian psychoanalysis in the light of clinical and empirical evidence
• Understand the influence of psychoanalytic thinking on cultural and social life during the 20th Century
• Plan and write essays effectively
• Present their own ideas with greater confidence
• Think critically about the subjects covered

Teaching and Learning Methods
General lectures on the area being studied - students are encouraged to ask questions and discuss points throughout. There may also be small group exercises with feedback to the large group to provide an opportunity for discussion and clarification of ideas. Other methods may include: videos, experiments, student presentations, discussion of published articles, etc. Students will be given help with study skills.

Methods of Assessment
Participating in coursework and completing assessment will help you to develop your understanding of the subject and develop your skills of analysis.

Students are expected to prepare two pieces of coursework each between 1000 and 1500 words in length which, in most instances, will take the form of written work. Students may choose from a list of topics which will be available during the course. It may be possible with the agreement of the tutor, to submit one longer piece of work (between 2500 and 3000 words). Other forms of coursework include a review of an exhibition or part of an exhibition, a report, a verbal presentation to the group with some visual supporting material and a written report or a case study.

For a 15 credit module students will need to complete 2500-3000 words or equivalent.

The course is part of the Certificate of Higher Education in Applied Psychology. If the course is completed successfully, 15 CATS points will be awarded, which may be transferred to some degree courses.

Content
Historical Background
The social and cultural context of Freud’s life and early work. The first emergence of psychoanalytic concepts.

Major Theoretical Concepts
Motivation; the role of Instincts; libido, eros and thanatos. Developmental theory: the importance of early family relationships, psychosexual development and stages. Structural models of the mind; conscious and unconscious. Coping and defence mechanisms.

Psychopathology and Treatment
Views on anxiety and neurosis; free association, dream analysis, transference and interpretation.

Critique and Evaluation
The psychoanalytic movement: growth and divergence; its scientific status: evidence and verifiability.

Reading
Anthony Bateman, *Introduction to Psychoanalysis*, Routledge 1995
Peter Gay, *A Life for our Time* Papermac 1989
S Frosch, *For and Against Psychoanalysis* Routledge 1997
I Craib, *Psychoanalysis* Polity 2001

Please note: Psychology books are frequently revised and updated. Any recent edition would be suitable to use.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
The My Birkbeck website ([http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/)) is your gateway to accessing all student support services at Birkbeck.

You may find the following links particularly useful:-

- Obtaining your library/ID card: [http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/you/cards](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/you/cards)
- Accessing IT Services: [http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities/computing/username](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities/computing/username)
- Study skills support: [http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities/support/study-skills](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities/support/study-skills)

You can visit the My Birkbeck helpdesk on the ground floor of the main Birkbeck building on Malet Street (entry via Torrington Square). For details of opening hours visit: [http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities/helpdesk/](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities/helpdesk/)

You can also call the helpdesk on 020 7631 6316.

Library and study skills resources
Once you have your ID card, you may use the Birkbeck library and associated resources. You may find the following web links helpful:
• For information on how best to access the resources available for psychology students through Birkbeck College Library, students may wish to work through the tutorial available at http://www.bbk.ac.uk/lib/life/
• For specific guidance for psychologists and psychology students on getting the best out the internet go to: http://www.vtstutorials.co.uk/- and search for ‘Psychology’
• For specific guidance on how to avoid plagiarism in your course work go to https://connect.le.ac.uk/p50066682/ and press the ‘play’ button.

Course Evaluation
During the course students will be asked to complete an evaluation form which gives the opportunity to provide feedback on all aspects of their learning.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT
It is important you are clear which award the module you are enrolled on counts towards. Our website provides an overview of each Certificate award so you can decide which best suits your needs:
http://www.bbk.ac.uk/study/2015/certificates/subject/psychology/

Information is available on core and option modules for each Certificate. Your choice of subsequent modules you take should be informed by this information. Modules can be taken in any order although it is recommended that certain core modules are taken first. Not all core modules have to be taken in the same year. If you need further advice you can contact the department by telephone on 020 3073 8044 or by e-mail: psychologycert@bbk.ac.uk