

Course Description

Psychodiagnostics and Clinical Case Presentation I.

Leading Lecturer: Ágoston Schmelowszky

Aim of the course

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The aim of the course is to get acquainted with the most important concepts and methods (interviews and tests) of adult clinical psychological diagnostics. The process of psychological diagnosis is conceived as a complex procedure where the clinician uses his/her personality-, developmental-, and social-psychological knowledge for the better understanding of personality and pathology. Emphasis is laid on the integration of the current symptomatological-phenomenological diagnostic concepts (DSM, ICD) and the characterological diagnosis (PDM). The most important test methods used in adult psychodiagnostics (WAIS-IV, MMPI, Bender-Gestalt-II, MMSE, Clock, ACE-III, TAT). are presented. In the practical part the interview techniques will be practiced and clinical materials will be discussed.

Learning outcome, competences

knowledge:

- Ethical questions of interviewing.
- Different types of clinical interviews.
- Various techniques of interviewing.
- The role of observation.
- Verbal and non-verbal clues of important psychopathological manifestations.
- Major concepts of psychodynamic case formulation

attitude:

- Ethical and respectful for patients and colleagues.
- Focused during discussions.
- Empathic observer in the interview process.

skills:

- Developing discussion and reflective skills through discussing case materials with colleagues.
- Interviewing skills.
- Skills of observation and integrations of data coming from various sources.
- Skills for building rapport and alliance with client/patient during the interview.
- Developing differential diagnostic skills through interviewing.
- Integrating theory and technique in the interview process.

Content of the course

Topics of the course

- Ethical issues in the diagnostic work.
- Concepts of the clinical psychological diagnostics.
- Interview types and techniques.
- Mental State Examination.
- Major clinical tests in adult diagnostics (WAIS-IV, TAT, MMPI, Bender VMGT, Rorschach)

Learning activities, learning methods

Frontal lecture.

Small group discussion.

Evaluation of outcomes

Learning requirements, mode of evaluation, criteria of evaluation:

requirements

mode of evaluation: 1-5 scale

criteria of evaluation:

Active presence.

Written exam.

Oral presentation.

Written assignments.

Reading list

Compulsory reading list

McWilliams, N. (1999). *Psychoanalytic Case Formulation*. London: The Guilford Press.

McWilliams, N (2011). *Psychoanalytic Diagnosis: Understanding Personality Structure in the Clinical Process*. New York, London, Guilford.

Argelander, H. (1976). *The Initial Interview in Psychotherapy*. New York: Human Sciences Press.

Recommended reading list

Kellerman H, Burry A (2007). *Handbook of Psychodiagnostic Testing: Analysis of Personality in the Psychological Report*. Springer.

Lichtenberger, EO, Kaufman, AS (2013). *Essentials of WAIS-IV Assessment*. John Wiley and Sons.

Nussbaum, AM (2013). *The Pocket Guide to the DSM-5tm Diagnostic Exam*. Washington DC, London, England: American Psychiatric Publishing.

Tuber, S (2014). *Understanding Personality Through Projective Testing*. Jason Aronson.