

PSY 353 – PHILOSOPHY OF PSYCHOANALYSIS

These notes include material from the following:

- Lectures (spoken content) and Lecture slides*
- Tutorials (spoken content) and Tutorial notes*
- Readings (both required and recommended)*

Lecture 1 – Introduction To Psychoanalysis

- Psychoanalysis is not a science of adaption
- The relationships between saying and doing
- The uncertain privacy of inner experience
- What do words do to bodies?
- Symptoms can be compromise formations
- A symptom expresses both a desire and a moral prohibition of that desire
- Desire – source of guilt
- Our symptoms are our sex life; secondary gain
- Compromise between id and superego
- Unconscious, Preconscious, Conscious
- Id, Ego, Superego
- The two don't map onto each other
- Until 1910 – sex drives and ego drives
- Ego instincts
- Later....narcissism and rejection of the ego instincts
- Shift from interest from the repressed to the repressing forces

- Death Drive

THEME A: THE PAST INTERMINGLES WITH THE PRESENT

- *Avoiding uncomfortable facts and feelings doesn't make them go away – they just come out in other forms*
- *What forms do they take, and why?*

Lecture 3 – Repression

- Unconscious mental states – things operate at the moment, of which we are unaware
- Brain states are non-conscious
- Physical, not mental processes – we cannot be aware of them
- Kihlstrom – things are not conscious simply because we don't attend to them
- This is not what Freud meant
- Secondary repression (after pressure) – in spite of it's intensity, it is still unable to enter consciousness
- Repression – occurs when something causes pleasure and unpleasure
- Drive → knowing relation → state of affairs
- Sex → knowing relation → attraction
- Knowing Relation – 2 components
- 1. Belief – ideational component
- 2. Affective Charge
- Morality gets in the way
- Second Law of Thermodynamics – energy can change its form but not be eradicated

- Charge of affect cannot be repressed – anxiety results
- Suppression is conscious – repression is unconscious
- Freud's 'censor' analogy – the censor identifies potentially conflicting information in the preconscious and sends it back to the unconscious to be repressed
- Problems – what is the censor; who is the actual person; is the censor more of a person than us?
- So if the censor notion is accepted, the divide is between the PCS and UCS
- If morality is the agent, the divide is between the conscious and preconscious
- Anxiety triggers repression; which in turn causes more anxiety
- We suffer not from our desires, but from the attitude we take to our desire
- Attitudes – about what ought to happen
- Secondary repression – conflicting thoughts are denied access to conscious thought
- The ideational component of the drive is repressed, however the affect of desire remains, but is transformed into anxiety
- Affects as proto-morality
- Hysteria – belle indifference towards symptoms
- Fleeting awareness of the repressed promotes substitute formations
- By 1915
- Repression involves the cognitive component of the impulse
- Suppression – involves the active inhibition of feelings, affects and behaviours

- Satre – for us to not know something, we would first have to know it – we would be deceiver and deceived
- Freud's Two Theories of Unconscious Processes
- 1. Systemic
- 2. Epistemic
- Systemic – illogical, not defensive in function (Jung agreed), mobility of cathexes
- Suggests these things can never become conscious due to the nature of the unconscious
- Epistemic – topographical account
- Every perception is initially unconscious
- Ideas can be known unconsciously, but lack the extra boost to form a declarative memory
- Doris prefers epistemic – it is more dynamic