

2025 Seminar

Writing and Psychoanalysis: An Annual Retreat

with Nikki Karalekas & Harold Braswell

Meeting 1

April 2, 2025 | 7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Meeting 2

April 16, 2025 | 7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Meeting 3

May 4, 2025 | 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- Fee: \$276.00
- Credit Hours: 9.5
- The Sunday will be in person only; the Wednesday classes will be hybrid.
- Beginner

Registration

Stlpi.org/writing



Course Description

This course will explore the relationship between writing and psychoanalysis through a group workshop process. We will begin by holding two courses exploring the connection between psychoanalysis and writing: How do psychoanalysts work with difficulties that can arise during the creative process? How do we support our patients' creativity and our own? How might we give peers psychoanalytically-minded feedback on their writing? We will then spend a day together reading and providing feedback on each others' writing. Prior writing experience is not required.

Course Objectives:

1. Explore the how psychoanalysis might positively benefit the practice of writing.
2. Consider how writing might inform, and be informed by, one's clinical work.
3. Develop a psychodynamic understanding of the workshop process.
4. Consider the connections between writing, free association, and revision
5. Describe preliminary ideas for writing projects
6. Explain how "writer's block" might be understood, and treated, from a psychoanalytic perspective.
7. Develop a psychoanalytic writing practice, as manifested in a piece of writing to be workshopped in class.
8. Provide constructive and psychoanalytically minded feedback to peers.
9. Develop a way to incorporate feedback into the student's writing project.

References:

Ackerman, Sarah. "I May Allow Myself to do This": Conflict in Freud's Writing of *The Interpretation of Dreams*; *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* 67, no. 5 (2019):767-788.

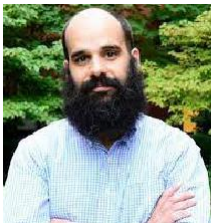
Naiburg, Suzi. *Write On! A Clinical Writing Workshop for Psychoanalysts and Psychotherapists*; *Psychoanalysis, Self and Context* 16, no. 2 (2021): 190-201.

Ogden, Thomas H. *Analytic writing as a form of fiction.* *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* 69, no. 1 (2021): 221-223.



Biography:

Nikki Karalekas is a third year psychoanalytic candidate at the St Louis Psychoanalytic Institute. She is a licensed clinical social worker and holds a PhD in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and her work has been published in *Feminist Formations*. She is currently working on a writing project about harm reduction and psychoanalysis.



Harold Braswell is a third year psychoanalytic candidate at the St. Louis Psychoanalytic Institute. He is an associate professor of Health Care Ethics at St. Louis University. He has published broadly in a variety of academic and popular venues. He is currently working on a series of novels involving themes related to therapy, sexuality, and Judaism.

PSYCHOLOGISTS:

St. Louis Psychoanalytic Institute is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. St. Louis Psychoanalytic Institute maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

COUNSELORS: *The St. Louis Psychoanalytic Institute has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 5953. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. The St. Louis Psychoanalytic Institute is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs.*

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