This five-session seminar/workshop for 2nd Year Candidates will focus on psychoanalytic writing: case presentations/conference presentations/journal writing/and writing with a psychoanalytic lens for blogs and other social media. We will consider the pros and cons of writing as psychoanalysts – including the ethical issues, such as patient confidentiality.

What writing factors contribute to strong oral presentations, such as a case or a conference paper? How are psychoanalytic ideas and case material transformed into articles for professional journals? What about using our professional knowledge to write for the lay public? What are the differences and similarities among these psychoanalytic writing opportunities?

In addition to readings, this seminar/workshop will include some in-class writing exercises as well as between-class short writing assignments.

Note: With regard to readings (below) – and depending on the number of Candidates in the seminar/workshop – not all readings are mandatory for all, except for Ogden, Class 1, Kantrowitz, Class 3, and Blog, Class 5. Other readings for classes 2, 3, and 4 will be divided among participants, and readers will be asked to summarize and add their thoughts.
Readings:

Class 1:

Class 2:


Class 3:


Class 4:

Class 5:
*Ogden (Class 1) and Kantrowitz (Class 3) are mandatory.

**Class 1: Introduction**

In class exercise: Free writing

**Assignment for Class 2:** Turn Free-writing into short piece.

**Class 2: General Issues in Psychoanalytic and other Writing**
Review of short pieces from free-writing exercise, Class 1

Style, Diction, Voice (Orlean), Tone, Active vs Passive
Process
  - Getting Started (Goodman)
  - Staying Motivated (Sontag)
  - What to leave out (McPhee)

**Assignment for Class 2:** Choose a patient and write a short description to present to class

**Class 3: Oral Presentations of Case Material and Oral Presentations**
Demands of psychoanalytic training.
Review of Candidates’ patient description

Ethical issues in presenting Case Material (Kantrowitz)

**Assignment for Class 4:**
  1. Choose a clinical vignette from your practice and write a short piece about it.
  2. Identify a journal article that appeals to you.

**Class 4: Psychoanalytic Journal Writing**
Review of Candidates’ vignettes from assignment above. Discuss journal articles.

Journal Writing: From Start to Finish
  - Openings (Examples)

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1 Ogden to be read by everyone for Class 1. Kantrowitz for Class 3.
Middles
Endings (Examples)

Format? Style? Process?

Full article examples from Literature (TBD by instructor)

Assignment for Class 5: Go to the following link:
Choose a blog post that appeals to you. Consider turning your writings into a short blog piece or a lay presentation.

Class 5: Psychoanalytic Writing for Lay Public. Going Forward.

Review blogs that Candidates have chosen: What makes them good?
Why are PSa blogs relevant?
What might Candidates choose to write about in a blog?

Review workshop/seminar evaluation.