

EDCAS TUESDAY MORNING 2023-2024 CALENDAR

All are welcome!

Please be sure to register in advance.

Date: October 3rd, 2023

Time: 10:00-11:30am

Location: ZOOM

Title: Queer Embodiments, Mourning, & Materialization

Presenter: Jessica Joseph, Ph.D.



Dr. Joseph will discuss core themes from the paper "Binding & Queer Embodiments: Rethinking the Moral Imperative of Body Positivity," co-written with Jessica Chavez, PhD. In this paper, they grapple with how best to support patients whose bodies are between and outside of binary, cisgender renderings. Dr. Joseph will explore the possibilities (and limitations) of mainstream/dominant feminist psychotherapies, when applied to the desire to redistribute or shrink chest tissue (i.e., binding), and propose a psychoanalytically-informed framework of mourning and materialization.

Bio: Jessica Joseph, Ph.D. (they |she pronouns) is a clinical psychologist, practicing in New York and Pennsylvania. They completed their PhD and graduate certificate in Gender and Sexuality Studies at The New School for Social Research, where she currently serves as a clinical associate. Jess is also a part-time faculty at The New School's Bachelor's Program for Adults & Transfer Students. Their teaching and consultation focuses on the psychology of gender and sexuality at the margins as well as how intersectional feminist, disability, critical race, fat liberation, and queer theories might better inform (and correct) the field of psychology.

Date: December 5th, 2023

Time: 10:00-11:30am

Location: ZOOM

Title: Neurodiversity and Psychotherapy: Understanding Cognitive and Sensorimotor Differences Can Clarify Clinical Puzzles with Adults

Presenter: Stephen Seligman, DMH



Psychotherapy cases sometimes present unexpected puzzles that can be cleared up when neurodynamic factors are taken into account. For example, typically effective interventions fall flat, the severity of symptoms and depth of disorganization is not well-explained by the developmental history, or there are wide variations along different competencies and developmental lines. Considering the variety of constitutional factors that affect the overall feeling of being in the world can be very helpful. These include sensorimotor difficulties, variations in attention and processing speed, auditory and visual processing, and much more in addition to the commonly discussed attentional and autistic spectrum disorders. All of these can affect personal experiences of the body, emotions, interpersonal and intrapsychic relationships, phantasies and the overall sense of self. Specific assessment and intervention approaches will be presented, along with extended case examples. Interdisciplinary and inclusive collaboration will be stressed, including such professions as neuropsychologists, educational specialists, occupational and physical therapists, speech and language specialists, as well as psychotherapists. Specific techniques for evaluation, treatment planning and intervention will be presented and illustrated with extensive clinical presentations.

Bio: Stephen Seligman, DMH, is a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of California, San Francisco, where he worked for nearly four decades in the ongoing development of the original model of infant-parent psychotherapy proposed by Selma Fraiberg, and at the New York University Program on Psychoanalysis and Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy. He has been joint Editor-in-Chief of *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, Associate Editor of *Studies in Gender and Sexuality*, and a founding Editor of the *Journal of Infant, Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy*. He is also a Training and Supervising Analyst at the San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis and the Psychoanalytic Institute of Northern California, and on the faculty of these institutes. He has published nearly 100 papers, chapters and other publications, including *Relationships in Development: Attachment, Intersubjectivity and Developmental Psychoanalysis* (Routledge, 2018). *Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health: Core Concepts and Clinical Practice* (2014), which he co-edited, is the standard American Psychiatric Press handbook on the subject.

Date: March 5th, 2024

Time: 10:00-11:30am

Location: ZOOM

Presenters: Zane Dodd, Ph.D. & Elissa Woodruff, Ph.D.

Title: A Psychoanalytic Understanding of Eating Disorders in Athletes: Defensive and Facilitative Potentials

Presenters: Zane Dodd, Ph.D.; and Elissa “Liz” Woodruff, Ph.D.



While athletes are at increased risk for developing disordered eating, there is little consensus on the most effective treatment. Drs. Dodd and Woodruff propose that

psychoanalysis has the potential to revolutionize treatment for athletes with eating disorders. This presentation will use the theories of Winnicott (1971) and Bion (1977) to frame their arguments, proposing that psychic overwhelm resulting from impingement as well as failures in containment may drive an individual to concretize their emotional and relational experiences through the body via EDs and sport. In some cases, sports and athletic involvement can perpetuate and maintain EDs, however, Dodd and Woodruff propose that sport participation may also provide a unique path to ED recovery for athletes. Involvement in sports may serve as a bridge to facilitate the process of emotion regulation, psychic symbolization, and self-reflection that is necessary for ED recovery. Through the facilitative function of a containing, therapeutic relationship, one may feel safe enough to practice curiosity and creatively explore the metaphor and meaning behind one's concrete relationship to food and sport, paving the way to recovery for athletes.

Bio: Zane Dodd, Ph.D. is a psychodynamically oriented psychologist in a private group practice that he co-founded, the Chrysalis Center, in Southlake, Texas. He works extensively with individuals who have experienced trauma, particularly developmental attachment trauma. He also completed a specialization in sport and performance psychology during his doctoral studies and continues to work with athletes of all levels and other individuals striving for high performance. He enjoys supervising, teaching, and giving talks on both areas of focus and their intersectionality. One such area of intersectionality that he continues to seek to explore is the development of the relationship between body and self for athletes who have experienced trauma.

Elissa "Liz" Woodruff, Ph.D. is a psychodynamically oriented psychologist with a private practice in Mississippi, and she is also licensed in California and Texas. She specializes primarily in treating eating disorders both through individual and family therapy. Dr. Woodruff has extensive training working with folks in the LGBTQ+ community as well, particularly in the context of eating disorders. She provides supervision, consultation, and trainings, and she is passionate about understanding and treating eating disorders through a social justice lens. She is the past president of Eating Disorder Recovery Support, Inc, a California based nonprofit and the founder and current president of the Mississippi Association for Eating Disorder Professionals, a volunteer outreach organization.

Date: Tuesday, May 7th, 2024. An EDCAS Service & Psychoanalytic Society joint meeting
Time: 10:00-11:30am EST
Location: Zoom
REGISTER BELOW TO RECEIVE ZOOM LINK

Creating Space for Difference: Talking and listening while maintaining a community of care

Presenters: Tarek El-Ariss, Ph.D. & Susannah Heschel, Ph.D.

Moderator: Jack Drescher, MD

This special meeting is a joint effort between the EDCAS service and the Psychoanalytic Society set up to discuss some of the challenges we face in fostering civil discourse around highly polarizing and emotionally triggering events that have unfolded since October 7th in the Middle East. As psychoanalysts we are trained to hold conflict and opposing points of view and yet we are not immune from the pull toward black and white thinking or above ethical quandaries about speech we deem to be harmful. How as a field, do we balance a commitment to care, which demands we consider the impact of demeaning, dehumanizing or “violent” speech on the subjects thereof, with a commitment also to speech free from censorship? In navigating these tensions between principles of care and inclusion with ideals of free expression, what can we learn from professionals outside our field? And what insights can we, as experts in interpersonal relationships, bring to these questions?

Professors El-Ariss and Heschel, Chairs of Middle Eastern Studies and Jewish Studies, respectively, will share with us how and why they decided to work together and co-teach at Dartmouth long before October 7. While themselves personally deeply affected by the events of October 7 and the ensuing war in Gaza, these Dartmouth professors achieved public acclaim for their unusual ability to work together to create an atmosphere of respectful dialogue on topics saturated with pain, horror, and fear and have graciously accepted our invitation, through the introduction by Jack Drescher, to come to share their experiences, challenges, and recommendations. El-Ariss and Heschel will discuss what they have done since then, the challenges they faced, what they found helpful, and their suggestions for fostering civil discourse around highly polarizing issues that are imbued with strong affect. The emphasis of this talk will be on what we can learn from the speakers about creating space for dialogue and difference and less about the specific content.



Bios: [Tarek El-Ariss](#) is the James Wright Professor and the Chair of Middle Eastern Studies at Dartmouth College. Born in Beirut during the Civil War (1975-1990) and trained in philosophy and comparative literature, his work deals with questions of modernity and subjectivity in Arabic literature and culture. In 2021, he received a Guggenheim Fellowship to complete his forthcoming book, [Water on Fire: A Memoir of War](#), which stages a dialogue between psychoanalysis and the war experience in the Middle East.

[Susannah Heschel](#) is the Eli M. Black Distinguished Professor and chair of the Jewish Studies Program at Dartmouth College. She is the author of *Abraham Geiger and the Jewish Jesus*, *The Aryan Jesus: Christian Theologians and the Bible in Nazi Germany*, and *Jüdischer Islam: Islam und jüdisch-deutsche Selbstbestimmung*, and a forthcoming book, written with Sarah Imhoff, *Jewish Studies and the Woman Question*, as well as numerous articles. She is a Guggenheim Fellow and has received five honorary doctorates from universities in the United States, Canada, Germany, and Switzerland, and fellowships from the National Humanities Center, the Ford Foundation, the Maimonides Institute, and the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin.

Moderator:

[Jack Drescher](#) is Faculty, and a Training and Supervising Analyst at the William Alanson White Institute; Adjunct Professor and Clinical Consultant at the NYU Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis; a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Columbia University and winner of the 2022 Sigourney Award.

We invite you to click the links to their bios, their interviews on NPR and CNN, and their mention on 60 Minutes.

[CNN Interview](#)

[NPR Interview](#)

[60 Minutes](#)