

**Combat Trauma: Individual and Group Treatment
International Institute for Trauma Studies
State Pedagogical University
Vinnytsia, Ukraine
Spring Semester / 2024
15 credit hours
February - May, 2024
Faculty
Russ Carr, M.D., Gaea Logan, LPC-S, CGP, Gil Spielberg, PhD.**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on a contemporary psychoanalytic approach to trauma called intersubjective-systems theory. Dr. Robert Stolorow and Dr. George Atwood developed its key concepts in America over the span of fifty years of work together, from the 1970s to today. They call it a phenomenological-contextualist perspective, meaning that it is based in a psychoanalytic understanding of lived experience, including the context of our emotional lives. In 2011, Dr. Russell Carr synthesized the key aspects of this approach to a short-term treatment model which he used to treat American soldiers in Iraq during the occupation. This course will cover the key concepts of contemporary psychoanalytic therapy and intersubjectivity therapy that Dr. Carr incorporated into the treatment of combat-related PTSD. It will illustrate them through clinical vignettes, powerpoint, group discussion, role plays, demonstration groups, and supervision. The course schedule will alternate between didactic and experiential learning sessions, and will have applications to both individual and group treatment.

Purpose of Course

To provide expert clinical training in individual and group treatment of combat-related PTSD from an intersubjective-systems theory perspective for Ukrainian graduate students and military psychologists.

Learning Objectives

1. To review core elements of intersubjective theory that are relevant to treating trauma
2. To describe the phenomenological aspects of trauma and how to use them in therapy

3. To describe the phases of a short-term intersubjective therapy for combat-related PTSD and apply them to a case
4. To describe what makes moments in therapy for combat trauma difficult for the therapist and the patient, and describe ways to handle such moments from an intersubjective perspective
5. To describe how the knowledge we hold impacts our work with patients
6. To apply an intersubjective approach to combat trauma in a group setting

Class #1: February 5, 2024

Intro/Didactic

An Intersubjective Understanding of Combat-Related PTSD, Part 1

Class #2: February 12, 2024

Didactic and Experiential

An Intersubjective Understanding of Combat Related PTSD, Part 2

Class #3: February 19, 2024

Didactic

Phase 1: Initial Consultation and Consent to Treatment

Class #4: February 26, 2024

Experiential- Neurobiology Overview: Calm Creates Calm (Gaea)

Case from Paper Role Play, Part 1

Class #5: March 4, 2024

Didactic

Phase 2: Addressing Shame as the Therapy Begins

Class #6: March 11, 2024

Experiential

Case from Paper Role Play, Part 2

Class #7: March 18, 2024

Didactic

Phase 3: Sessions about the Phenomenology of Trauma

Class #8: March 25, 2024

Experiential

Case from Paper Role Play, Part 3

Class #9: April 1, 2024

Didactic

Phase 4: Seeking an Intersubjective Key With the Patient

Class #10: April 8, 2024

Experiential

Case from Paper Role Play, Part 4

Class #11: April 15, 2024

Didactic

Phase 5: Providing a Relational Home

Class #12: April 22, 2024

Experiential

Case from Paper Role Play, Part 5

Class #13: April 29, 2024

Didactic

Phase 6: Terminating and Both Moving On

Class #14: May 6, 2024

Experiential

Patient, Therapist, Observer Break-out

Class #15: May 13, 2024

Course Wrap-up

Applications in a Group Setting