



Psychoanalytic Center
of the Carolinas

404 – Defenses and Unconscious Fantasy

Instructors: Nancy J. Warren, PhD

Meeting Dates: Tuesdays – March 18, 2025, through May 6, 2025

Time: 7:10PM-8:40PM Eastern

Location: Zoom/Virtual

of Credit hours: APA Category B CE: 12 clock hours / NBCC: 12 clock hours / All others: Letter of Attendance

Target Audience: This course is appropriate for intermediate through advanced matriculated students, as well as experienced clinicians who have permission of the instructor.

Prerequisites: This class is open to matriculated students in the Adult or Adult/Child combined psychoanalytic training tracks. Students will need to have completed nearly all of the classes in the core curriculum. Some exceptions to the requirements may be made by seeking permission from the instructor.

Contact: [Nancy Warren, PhD](#)

Format: This class will combine some lecture and seminar formats; student participation is encouraged. PCC courses include small group discussions which require participants to read and synthesize the materials presented. PCC faculty ensure that gaps in knowledge are addressed.

Description: This course will focus on refining an understanding of the concepts related to defense mechanisms and unconscious fantasy, with an emphasis on practical applications through the discussion of clinical material from readings and as presented by class participants. We will read the work of clinicians representing a variety of modern psychoanalytic schools. Students will be encouraged to consider how they might apply these concepts in their own clinical work.

Course Syllabus: [Defenses and Unconscious Fantasy](#)

Training Program Credit: Students who successfully complete this course can earn credit in the psychoanalysis training programs.

Continuing Education Credit: At the end of the course, participants must complete the evaluation form to receive continuing education credit. The instructor(s) have no relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies to disclose. CME hours are not offered to physician learners for this course.

About the Instructor:

Nancy J. Warren, PhD, LMFT, received her undergraduate degree from Duke University in psychology and her PhD from St. Louis University in 1978. Her first position was at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, in the Psychiatry Department, where she taught and supervised psychiatry residents and psychology interns, in

addition to seeing patients in outpatient practice. She was a member of a Family Crisis Team in the Clinic at UNC. After moving to Houston, Texas, in 1989, she was on the faculty at Baylor College of Medicine, and then transitioned to private practice. She received her psychoanalytic training from the Center for Psychoanalytic Studies Houston, graduating in 2006, and is now on the faculty there. After moving to Charleston, South Carolina, in 2011, she worked at the Medical University of South Carolina in the Psychiatry Department until 2023. She joined the faculty of the PCC in 2011 and maintains a small private practice in Charleston, South Carolina.

Registration and Tuition Deadline is December 30, 2024.

Tuition

PCC Matriculated Students: **\$255**

Graduate Students and Residents: **\$325**

All others: **\$355**

Registration Fee: \$25 per term (Matriculated Students are exempt from registration fee).

Payment plans can be arranged with the Business Manager, [Lisa Long](#).

[Course Cancellation Policy](#)

[Register Here](#)

Course Learning Objectives

Class participants will be able to:

1. Explain what defenses are, how they arise, and how to use them to better understand the analytic process.
2. Discuss the distinctions between denial and repression. Describe how defenses may be used differently with difficult patients.
3. Deepen your understanding of widespread societal denial.
4. Describe early conceptualizations of unconscious fantasy, including of the early thoughts about unconscious fantasies as described by Freud and Klein. and how this is changing in newer psychoanalytic thinking.
5. Discuss your conceptualization of unconscious fantasy.
6. Describe how unconscious fantasy is used as a therapeutic agent in your analytic work.
7. Discuss how unconscious fantasies may be viewed from a perspective of empathy in self-psychology.
8. Describe how unconscious fantasy is conceptualized within the Interpersonal psychoanalysis. Discuss how themes or fantasies related to the patient's birth may be evoked in treatment.

Confidentiality Statement: All case material will be carefully disguised. We ask that participants agree to hold all material presented with the utmost care, following ethical and professional guidelines.

Course Participants agree to review and abide to the following:

[Professional and Ethical Guidelines for the Classroom](#)

Accommodation Statement: To request an accommodation for this program, please contact the Administrator at Kayla@CarolinaPsychoanalytic.org by two weeks before the start date.

Continuing Education Disclosures:

The Psychoanalytic Center of the Carolinas has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 6518. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. The Psychoanalytic Center of the Carolinas is solely responsible for all aspects of the program.

The Psychoanalytic Center of the Carolinas is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Psychoanalytic Center of the Carolinas maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

Social workers will receive a letter of attendance documenting their hours of continuing education. This certificate may not be acceptable verification in all states.

Contact: Kayla@CarolinaPsychoanalytic.org

Kayla Schilke, Training and Education Program Manager

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