

Fall 2024

Borderline Personality Disorder: A Modern Psychoanalytic Understanding and Approach

Instructor: William J. Lorman, JD, PhD, MSN, PMHNP-BC, CARN-AP, NCPsyA

Teaching Assistant: James Basilio, MS, LPC

Location: Live Webinar

Meeting Dates: Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. (EST):

- **September 10, 17, 24**
- **October 1, 8, 22, 29**
- **November 5, 12, 19**
- **December 3, 10**

CE's: 18

Cost: \$450

Course Description:

The borderline syndrome is a disorder of core identity that makes the attainment of modulated affective experience extremely problematic. Just as borderline patients struggle with coping with stressors, so too must therapists struggle with finding ways to be neither too close nor too aloof. This course will explore how the therapists' active and involved use of themselves is carried out in the treatment of these patients. Additionally, in order to best help the patients make sense of their own affective experiences, therapists need to monitor their countertransference, which oscillates between too involved and too aloof. We will discuss such topics as borderline emptiness, loneliness, and chronic suicidality. We will also touch on the whole range of borderline symptomatology, including cutting, burning, eating disorders, and substance abuse. We will also examine such topics as self-disclosure, therapists' dependency issues, and therapists' discoveries of access to new parts of their own experience.

Course Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast the current (DSM 5 TR) description with the psychodynamic understanding of the Borderline Personality.
2. Explore the progression-regression dilemma, the negative therapeutic reaction, transitional object relations and the nature of the holding function as they relate to the functioning of the person with borderline personality disorder.
3. Describe the core pathology of the borderline patient.
4. Understand the complexity of the countertransference reactions when treating the patient with borderline personality

About the Instructor:

Dr. Lorman completed his doctoral studies in applied psychology. He is also certified as a psychoanalyst and currently is on faculty at the Philadelphia School of Psychoanalysis. He is a board-certified psychiatric nurse practitioner and also certified as an advanced practice addictions specialist. He has been adjunct professor at several universities where he has taught neuroscience, psychopathology and psychopharmacology courses. He maintains a private practice where he works with adults and treats a full range of psychiatric disorders. He

utilizes a psychoanalytic-medical model and provides services that include individual and group psychotherapy, psychiatric evaluations and medication management. In addition to his academic and clinical experience, Dr. Lorman has presented seminars on various mental health topics nationally and internationally, has written multiple articles and textbook chapters and is a management and clinical consultant to several major corporations where he provides therapeutic and group facilitation services. He has completed a *Juris Doctor* degree and consults in the areas of medical malpractice, administrative and employment law.