



Derek Hook is the author of *Six Moments in Lacan* (Routledge, 2017), a co-editor of the three volume commentary series *Reading Lacan's Ecrits* (along with Stijn Vanheule and Calum Neill) (Routledge, 2018) and a co-editor (with Calum Neill) of the Palgrave Lacan Series.

Derek was previously a lecturer at the London School of Economics (in Social Psychology) and at Birkbeck College (in Psychosocial Studies) at University of London before taking up the post of Associate Professor at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. He has published books in the areas of critical psychology and postcolonial theory – the best examples being *A Critical Psychology of the Postcolonial* (Routledge, 2011) and *(Post)apartheid Conditions* (Palgrave, 2014) – and the topics of race and racism, alongside the work of Frantz Fanon, remain abiding concerns in his research career. He recently published a collection of prison letters by the anti-apartheid South African and Pan-Africanist intellectual Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe entitled *Lie on Your Wounds* (Wits University Press, 2018).

The field of Lacanian psychoanalysis - both as mode of clinical practice and as form of social theory - has proved the overarching and unifying theme in his teaching and research for the last 20 years. Derek was a trainee psychoanalyst at the Centre for Freudian Analysis and Research in London between 2006 – 2013, and today acts as a clinical supervisor and occasional psychotherapist, at Duquesne University's Psychology Clinic. In addition to his graduate teaching commitments (courses on Lacan, Fanon, Psychology as a Human Science and Approaches to Psychopathology) Derek has, since 2016, taught an annual summer school course *Lacanian Psychoanalysis: Theory and Practice* at Birkbeck College in London.



A Primer on Lacan for Clinicians

This primer introduces and explores Lacanian psychoanalysis by focusing on series of distinct topic areas in Lacan's work, all of which are related to Lacan's over-arching objective of 'a return to Freud'. The over-riding objective of the short course is to render Lacan's ideas accessible. Accordingly, we will adopt an approach to the theory that is at once pragmatic and applied, and based on grounded clinical examples.

Lacanian theory is of little use to us – such will be our approach – unless it can be effectively utilized as a mode of guiding both clinical conceptualization and practice. We will thus foreground a series of crucial underlying Lacanian concepts particularly from his work in the 1950's and 1960's - notions of the imaginary, the symbolic, the real, desire, the Name-of-the-Father, the L-schema, the Other, *jouissance* and object *petit a*.

The opening session focuses on the topic of the imaginary and the ego. The second session explores Lacan's notions of the symbolic order, the Other, and the aligned notions of full and empty speech. The third session extends this basic foundation by asking the question: 'What is the Lacanian unconscious?', via a reading of Freud's understandings of dream interpretation, and the famous Lacanian maxim that 'the unconscious is structured like a language'. Additional focus areas include Lacan's clinical structures – the diagnostic categories of obsessional neurosis and hysteria, psychosis and perversion. The course closes with a discussion of Lacan's thoughts on 'direction of treatment', that is, with a review of the various ways in which Lacan's theoretical axioms are brought to life in clinical technique.

This workshop will take place in an intimate setting (no more than 25 participants) over the course of 1 day (before the conference). 6 CEUs available.