

The Art of the Interview

The clinical interview is a critical component in any intake process for therapy, counseling or coaching. Additionally, the interview should be a standard component of any evaluation process. A comprehensive interview can provide a wealth of information necessary to best evaluate, understand and/or work with a client/patient. Surprisingly, this valuable component does not appear to be adequately taught in many graduate programs. The variability of the quality and depth of interviews that this presenter has reviewed is both unfortunate and easily correctable.

This seminar will provide you the framework necessary to conduct a comprehensive clinical interview. You will learn the important areas to cover during this seminar. You will be able to historically track the major areas of psychological functioning throughout the interviewee's life. You will be able to understand the unique strengths and weaknesses of the interviewee. You will be able to make an appropriate diagnosis. You will be able to use all of the information gathered to help create a treatment/counseling/coaching plan with the interviewee.

Target Audience

Psychologists Social Workers Counselors
Therapists Psychiatrists Nurses
Course level: Intermediate

Learning Objectives

At the end of this seminar, participants will be able to:

1. Conduct a comprehensive clinical interview.
2. Describe the major areas of psychological functioning throughout the interviewee's life.
3. Identify the unique strengths and weaknesses of the interviewee.
4. Make an appropriate diagnosis.
5. Create a treatment/counseling/coaching plan with the interviewee.

Seminar Schedule

The webinar outline is attached. See the Live Webinar page for the start and end times.

Outline

Begin 10 AM ET
Importance of the interview
Taking a history
Historical progression
Cognitive
Emotional
Interpersonal
Self-functioning
Break 11:30-11:45 AM ET
Behavior regulation
Substance use
Thinking
Biological
Environmental
Convergence
Identifying strengths and weaknesses
Coping mechanisms
Creating recommendations
End 1:15 PM ET

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Continuing Education Credit

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The Presenter

Marc T. Abrams received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from United States International University (now known as Alliant International University) in San Diego, California in January of 1990. He went on to complete a predoctoral internship and postdoctoral fellowship in Clinical Psychology from the Center for Preventive Psychiatry in White Plains New York working with children and families. He received his license to practice Psychology in the State of New York in May of 1991. Dr. Abrams began his private practice in New York after receiving his license. He has evaluated and treated thousands of children, teens and adults. He has taught at both collegiate and graduate levels and has supervised and consulted with other licensed mental health professionals. Dr. Abrams was fortunate to have been trained by some of the luminaries in psychology, including one psychologist who was considered part of the group of the founders of modern clinical psychology (Walter Cass, Ph.D.). Dr. Abrams was privileged to have been exposed to the knowledge and wisdom that came along with the many decades of experience that these individuals shared in their teaching and supervision. He believes very strongly that wisdom and knowledge is a gift given that dies unless it has been added to with one's own experiences and passed down to the next generation. As Dr. Abrams envisions winding down his career as a practicing psychologist, he is now shifting his focus to passing down the collective wisdom and knowledge accumulated over decades of practice.

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This seminar has been reviewed and approved by Keith Hannan, Ph.D., Laura Davie, LICSW, Tina Jenkins, Psy.D., and Loreen Yearick, MSN, RN. This approval expires on March 1, 2028.

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