

Carlos Morra and Mateo Kreiker: General Psychopathology 15

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Seminar 8. Consciousness: Disorders of Integration and Memory

GENERAL PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

For Residents in Psychiatry

Eight Seminars

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CONSCIOUSNESS: DISORDERS OF INTEGRATION AND MEMORY

Eighth Seminar

DISORDERS OF THE SELF

EGO refers to the SELF which in the course of its development grows aware of itself (PERSONALITY)

SELF **AWARENESS** or SELF REFLECTION at every moment and across time is the highest integrative function of consciousness

Disorders of the self are displayed on 1 of 4 parameters:

1. UNITY
2. IDENTITY
3. BOUNDARIES
4. INTEGRITY

UNITY OF THE SELF

The oneness of the self (ego) at any moment of time.

Disorders of the Unity of the Self:

Simultaneous Presence:	BEING IN TWO BEING DOUBLES
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Disorders:	Schizophrenias
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IDENTITY OF THE SELF

The sameness of the self (ego), i.e., one's identity, through the passage of time.

Disorders of the Identity of The Self:

BEING BORN AGAIN

TRANSFORMATION DELUSIONS

Lycanthropy

Other Sex

Disorders: Schizophrenias

Dissociative Disorders

INTEGRITY OF THE SELF

Experiencing psychic manifestations as they were not one's own, but alien, automatic and/or coming from elsewhere.

Integrity of the Self (Schneider's First Rank Disorders of the Symptoms):

THOUGHT INSERTION
THOUGHT WITHDRAWAL
AUDIBLE THOUGHTS
THOUGHT BROADCASTING
THOUGHT ALIENATION

Disorders: Schizophrenias

BOUNDARIES OF THE SELF

Experiencing one's self as distinct from environment.

Disorders of the Boundaries of the Self:

DEREALIZATION The experience that one's environment being unreal, strange or otherwise changed

DEPERSONALIZATION The experience that one's self is being unreal, detached, strange, changed or unidentifiable

Disorder: Panic Disorder

Phobia

Anxiety

Depersonalization Syndrome (Roth)

DISORDERS OF PSYCHIC INTEGRATION

Integration of experiences from the outer world, one's own body and one's self; and orientation regarding the outer world, one's own body and one's self.

<u>VARIABLES</u>	<u>INTEGRATION</u>	<u>ORIENTATION</u>
ALLOPSYCHIC	Experiences from the outer world	Time Place Person
SOMATOPSYCHIC	Experiences from one's own body	Body
AUTOPSYCHIC	Experiences from one's self	Self

Orientation Disorders:

Disorientation in situation

Double Orientation

Disorders of (Integration):

Allopsychic: Exogenous Psychoses

Somatopsychic: somatization disorders

Autopsychic: Dissociative disorders

Disorders of (Orientation): Neuropsychiatric

Disorders (Dementias)

MEMORY: DEFINITION

General term to denote the conscious revival of past experiences.

Refers to specific reflections of the experience in subjects thoughts which are revived.

The three phases of the "memory" are:

REGISTRATION

Acquisition

Learning

Memorization

(Engram)

RETENTION

RECALL

DISORDERS OF REGISTRATION

Amnesias are memory gaps; they are perceived as disorders of Memorization or Registration.

There is no memorization if consciousness is lost; and depending on the time relationship between the loss of consciousness and lack of memorization one may distinguish among:

ANTEROGRADE AMNESIA
CONGRADE AMNESIA
RETROGRADE AMNESIA

Other amnesias:

SYSTEMATIZED (specific to content) psychogenic

DISORDERS OF RETENTION

Reduction or loss of ability to retain previously learned material:

Focal Cerebral Pathology
Generalized Cerebral Pathology

DISTORTION OF MEMORIES

Distortions or falsifications of memories are referred to as paramnesias. Paramnesias include:

ECMMESIA	Disturbance in time sequencing of past. Seen in: Emotionally loaded states Senility
RETROSPECTIVE FALSIFICATION	Distortion of memories from past. Seen in: Affective Disorders
DELSIONAL MEMORIES	Backdating one's delusions
CONFABULATION	Filling in memory gaps with imagined or supposedly experienced events. Seen in: Organic states
PSEUDOLOGIA FANTASTICA	Pathological lying. Seen in: Psychopathy

DISTORTION OF RECOGNITION

FALSE RECOGNITIONS -	Deja - vu (Aura) Jamais – vu
MISIDENTIFICATIONS -	Positive (strangers as friends) Negative (friends as strangers) In cycloid and schizophrenic psychoses
CAPGRAS SYNDROME -	Person is double of person he claims to be
AMPHITYRON ILLUSION -	Believes that spouses are double
SOSIAS ILLUSION -	Believes that other people are doubles

KORSAKOFF PSYCHOSIS

Amnesia	Disturbance of Memorization Time, Space & Person Filling in of
Allopsychic Disorientation	Memory Gaps
Confabulations	Lack of Spontaneity & Absent Insight
Impairment	

Pathology:	Lesion of mammillary bodies
	dorsomedial thalamic nuclei diencephalon
	region of 3rd & 4th ventricles along the pathway of monoamine
	containing neurons: low CSF-NE cone
	low CSF-MHPG cone

Related to absolute or relative thiamine (B1) deficiency. Associated with abnormality of transketolase, a thiamine regulated enzyme.

Seen in:	Chronic Alcoholism
	Aged

BIOLOGY OF MEMORY

Learning involves a synthesis of mRNA with a highly specific base composition, and the synthesis of certain specific acidic protein fractions, the biochemical substrates of memory (Hyden, 1970).

Drugs which inhibit protein synthesis e.g., puromycin, impair memory storage.