

Training Program in Affect Regulation, Attachment, and Trauma

Level I: Training in Affect Dysregulation, Survival Defenses, and Traumatic Memory

Course Learning Objectives

4 Module Format

Module 1: Introduction to Sensorimotor Psychotherapy

- 1. Describe effects of trauma on autonomic arousal and on the body
- 2. Describe bottom-up vs. top-down experience
- 3. Track somatic indicators of unresolved trauma
- 4. Utilize mindfulness techniques
- 5. Utilize contact statements for increasing mindfulness and attunement
- 6. Describe two types of self-regulation
- 7. Identify the core organizers of experience
- 8. Define 'phase-oriented treatment'
- 9. Describe the stages of the process of a session
- 10. Utilize mindful accessing questions and statements

Module 2: Somatic Resources for Stabilization

- 1. Describe purpose of "resourcing" in trauma treatment
- 2. Demonstrate somatic resources of grounding, centering, containing, and alignment
- 3. Embody experiences of mastery
- 4. Describe the orienting response
- 5. Describe active defenses versus passive
- 6. Discuss how orienting and defensive responses are affected by traumatic experience
- 7. Identify somatic markers of truncated or incomplete defensive responses
- 8. Describe sensorimotor interventions to reorganize defensive responses
- 9. Define trauma-related boundary styles
- 10. Utilize boundary skills in treatment

Module 3: Memory Processing: Sensorimotor Sequencing

- 1. Define voluntary, involuntary, preparatory and micro-movement
- 2. Define state-specific processing
- 3. Describe how dysregulated autonomic arousal affects processing of traumatic memory
- 4. Define 'sensorimotor sequencing'
- 5. Describe how autonomic arousal can be regulated during sequencing
- 6. Discuss the use of "framing" in memory processing
- 7. Identify differences between involuntary and voluntary reorganization of defensive responses
- 8. Describe the role of memory processing in facilitating "acts of triumph"
- 9. Identify trauma-related retractions of consciousness
- 10. Describe Structural Dissociation model

Module 4: Integration and Resolution

- 1. Identify the goals of Phase III trauma treatment
- 2. Describe differences between authentic and habitual emotional expression
- 3. Describe cognitive processing in sensorimotor psychotherapy
- 4. Identify how to use the technique of 'stitching' to work with the organization of experience
- 5. Discuss the role of and potential pitfalls of using touch in psychotherapies for trauma
- 6. Describe the phobia of pleasure and techniques with which to address it
- 7. Identify attachment patterns associated with early traumatic experience
- 8. Describe how attachment patterns affect both self-regulation and body structure

- 9. Identify characteristic cognitive schemas related to the different attachment styles
- 10. Differentiate treatment of developmental issues vs. traumatic responses