

## ***Experiential-Learning with "Master" Family Therapists***

***Instructors: Evan Longin and Stephen Gaddis***

For nine years, we have offered a course in which students learn clinical skills by participating on a team alongside an experienced therapist. Professionals taking this course consistently tell us that the opportunity to see how we work has been a rare and invaluable learning experience. Though we prefer not to accept the position of "master" therapists, we do want to acknowledge the value that seems to be present when we share our skills in collaborative ways with those who have taken our course. What is equally exciting are the ways that our clients tell us how valuable it is for them to have multiple perspectives present when reflecting on the circumstances that bring them to therapy.

It is our experience that traditional training and supervision rarely offer opportunities to work alongside experienced therapists. The value of working with experienced therapists is participating in real practice, including those moments where no one is really certain how to go forward; in having multiple perspectives available for clients who are seeking help; and in discovering there are multiple ways of helping, all of which allows students to begin to imagine and develop their own ways of working.

In this course, you will learn about different traditions of reflecting teams and the skills that accompany those different traditions. Then, you will become part of a group of students who meet with an experienced therapist and one of his or her clients each week. As part of the reflecting team in this class, you will participate as an active member of the therapeutic team. Following each therapy meeting, we will spend time talking about the experience and where it takes you in your thinking about how you want to work as a therapist. As part of this course, we will help you develop a written account of how your experiences in the course are shaping your ideas about how you want to practice in your own work context.

A single course consists of a maximum of 10 students who meet weekly for 12 three-hour sessions on Monday nights from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Two courses are offered each year, one in the fall and one in the spring.

***Free Information Meetings for Prospective Students:*** Please contact Steve or Evan at the Salem Center or by e-mail or Call us at either of our phone numbers. Steve Gaddis at 978-741-2699 or Evan Longin at 978-744-5006.

***Prerequisite:*** Interview with faculty, professional liability insurance, and confidentiality agreement.

***CEUs Available:*** 36 hours per course

***Cost:*** \$850 per course (payment plans possible).

***Dates: (subject to minor changes)***

***Fall 2009:*** Each meeting is from 5:30 to 8:30 pm

September thru December

***Spring 2010:*** Each meeting is from 5:30 to 8:30 pm

February Thru May