

Psychoanalysis in Academia

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Abstract

Norway's first professor of psychology, Prof. Harald Schjelderup, entering his professorship in 1928, was also a psychoanalyst, trained in Vienna. Establishing the *depth psychological method* as a specific scientific method, Schjelderup's main academic project was the integration of psychoanalysis with general psychological science. Ever since, psychoanalytic theory of personality, psychopathology and treatment have been part of the curriculum for psychology students at the Department of Psychology, University of Oslo. Many candidates in psychoanalytic training in Norway are recruited from this department, and the Norwegian Psychoanalytic Society thus maintains a close relationship with the university. I argue that psychoanalysis must defend a double-edged epistemological position: 1. Psychoanalysis needs to be in dialogue with other scientific disciplines, like developmental psychology, memory research, neuroscience, philosophy and 2. Psychoanalysis represents a depth psychological research method that is able to capture data that are not accessible by other methods (e.g., reactions to trauma).

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