

JUNGHIAN STUDIES GRADUATE PROGRAM

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Saybrook Graduate School and Research Center of San Francisco, in partnership with the Jung Educational Center of Houston, launched fully accredited masters and doctoral degrees in Jungian Studies in the Fall of 2008. A class of 17 full-time students completed the first year of studies and a second cadre will begin in both San Francisco and Houston in the Fall of 2009. Additionally, students who wish only to deepen their understanding of Jung may undertake a 16-credit Jungian Studies certificate over a 2-year period. The Jungian Studies courses are taught by Jungian analysts through in-person seminars, and other courses can be acquired online.

Jung once observed that we have no colleges for forty-year-olds, that we educate our young for the tasks of the first half of life, but neglect the quite different tasks and terrain of the second half. The rise of regional Jung centers and many local Jung societies has been a grass-roots recognition of and response to Jung's admonition. Additionally, Jung institutes here and abroad seek to identify, train, and certify Jungian analysts, after which there are still only around 3,000 credentialed analysts in the world. Training is an arduous and unpredictable path, typically lasting six to ten years and demanding hundreds of hours of personal analysis. Even more, nearly a half century after Jung's death, there are very few opportunities for serious students to pursue advanced studies in the Jungian corpus and receive academic credit for it.

Today, however, a new partnership between Saybrook Graduate School and Research Center of San Francisco and the Jung Center of Houston, both nonprofit institutions, makes a psychology degree with a concentration in Jungian studies available to a greater number of students.

Concerned with the growing domination of behavioral psychology, such figures as Gordon Allport, Carl Rogers, Abraham Maslow, Rollo May, and others articulated a countervailing, soon to be called “humanistic psychology.” This movement emphasized a more differentiated perspective of the human condition: one that acknowledges organic and social influences, while also respecting the human capacity for creativity and spiritual aspiration. The broad spirit of Jung’s psychology clearly informed and embodied their concern. Saybrook Graduate School, certified by the Western Association for Schools and Colleges accrediting agency, was one response to the new approach, and it has offered graduate work in humanistic psychology since the 1970s. From this beginning Saybrook has developed broad-ranging, integrative degrees in psychology, organizational systems, and human sciences.

Quite separately, the Jung Center of Houston was founded half a century ago, in 1958, and chartered by the State of Texas not only to study and teach Jung and the expressive arts, but to serve the community through outreach programs as well. Today, the Jung Center of Houston, housed in a beautiful building in the heart of the Museum District, (www.houstonmuseumdistrict.org) offers over 100 courses and programs per year, serving approximately 1,500 registrants per semester and fielding an extensive outreach program to homeless and underprivileged children, the elderly, cancer patients, and to mental health professionals.

In January of 2007, I met Lorne Buchman, president of Saybrook Graduate School, when he visited the Jung Center in Houston. We quickly agreed that our two institutions had much in common, dedicated as we were to nonprofit education in humanistic psychology.

As we talked about the possibility of institutional cooperation, perhaps a conference here or there, the idea moved to a bolder plan: offering advanced degrees in Jungian studies. Although many courses at Saybrook had included Jung and analytic perspectives, no specific degree program existed that offered in-depth studies of Jungian psychology. Similarly, while the Jung Center fielded a breadth of course offerings, we lacked the opportunity to offer accredited, advanced studies on a sustained basis. Thus the synergy of our two facilities would be able to compensate for, and complement, the weaknesses and strengths of each other. Saybrook's offerings are primarily online, at-distance learning, whereas the Jung Center offers residential classes limited mostly to the greater Houston population. We recognized that we could blend these models and provide both in-person seminars taught by Jungian analysts and collateral courses to be pursued online.

President Buchman was invited back to our May board meeting, where he spoke about possible collaborations, and our board formed a committee to explore educational resources, costs, and revenue-sharing possibilities. During the fall of 2007 interinstitutional negotiations led to a long-term commitment to offer Jungian studies on site in Houston along with at-distance opportunities for the additional courses required for the master's and doctoral programs in psychology. Seventeen full-time students, ranging from a Harvard M.D. and a graduate Jungian analyst to beginners, just completed their first year of study in Houston. As this program has generated several hundred enquiries from all directions, we are beginning a second, parallel seminar in Jungian Studies in San Francisco in September of 2009 as well.

It has been my experience, and perhaps prejudice as well, that although many people talk about Jung, may even call themselves Jungian therapists, few have studied the primary texts in depth. It is our intent to alter this picture.

Our curriculum focuses on the *Collected Works* of Jung—as well as those subsequent volumes produced by the Philemon Foundation—and is designed to deepen the understanding of psyche's process for clinically trained therapists, for those currently seeking clinical certification who desire a psychodynamic orientation, and for those who wish to facilitate their personal and professional understanding of analytic psychology. The goal of this curriculum is to introduce students to the primary materials, promote understanding of central concepts and their practical applications, and deepen their insight into the processes of both the personal and the cultural psyche. We also explore key challenges to Jung's ideas and maintain a critical as well as a hermeneutical perspective on his theory. As with other influential intellectuals, Jung the person remains a controversial figure, as do many of his theories, but analytical psychology continues to be changed and enriched through open dialogue with critical voices.

Each academic year seven in-person seminars will be offered at the Jung Center of Houston and the Saybrook campus in San Francisco. Scheduled to run from 1 to 5 P.M. on the second Friday of each month, and 9 A.M.—4 P.M. the following Saturday, five seminars feature an in-depth study of various volumes of Jung. A sixth features the work of other Jungians, such as von Franz, Hillman, Giegerich, and Edinger, while a seventh seminar focuses on a Jungian approach to symbolic and cultural materials as manifest in religious, mythological, or political motifs.

Both the master's and doctoral programs allow a number of electives beyond the Jungian seminars. In order to deepen their knowledge, students in the Jungian studies program are invited, but not required, to pursue a Jungian theme in these electives. Additionally, in such required courses as "Ethics" or "History and Systems of Psychology," the student is welcome to choose a Jungian approach to the subject matter as well.

Course topics or readings are not repeated in less than three-year cycles. The actual sequence of topics varies in any given year based on the availability of a particular instructor for a topic. It is expected that every master's student will complete *fourteen* Jungian seminars in Houston, and every doctoral student complete *twenty-one* seminars in Houston, in addition to the other Saybrook requirements, electives, and thesis or dissertation, as consistent with national graduate standards.

Additionally, *if seminar space is available*, individuals can pursue a sixteen-course certificate rather than undertake a degree-granting program. These students will take a minimum of *fourteen* in-person seminars plus two elective credit hours through a capstone project.

It is the hope of our two nonprofit institutions that the great gap between local societies, graduate schools, and analyst training will be partially addressed by the creation of this new program. The enthusiastic response we have received in such a short time furthers that hope.

For those desiring additional information, you are invited to visit www.saybrook.edu and www.junghouston.org for a summary of master's and doctoral

requirements, the philosophy and structure of the weekends, possibilities for scholarship help, and logistical information to and from Houston and San Francisco.

An encounter with Jungian psychology has already enhanced the depth and quality of the journey for individuals from diverse regions, including outside the United States, and a wide variety of personal and professional backgrounds. We intend to serve our educational missions by making this gift Jung provided more available than ever before.

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