

2026-2027 Advanced Training Group in ISTDP

Malmö, Sweden and Rome, Italy

With Jonathan Entis, PhD
Assisted by Thomas Hesslow

The following two-year-long course aims to provide an immersive and rich learning experience for clinicians interested in deepening their knowledge of ISTDP and working on their own internal obstacles to effectively implementing treatment. This training group will offer an advanced curriculum on the fundamental aspects of ISTDP methods, including heavy emphasis on effective management of resistance, broad usage of head-on collision modules, determining the direction of pressure, the balance between pressure and challenge, and optimizing the four pillars of the alliance over their counterforces of resistance. In addition, the supervision is heavily person-centered, meaning examination of transference and countertransference dynamics in therapist-patient, and supervisor-supervisee, parallel patterns.

As the training sessions are focused on the person of the therapist, trainees can expect to have their unconscious mobilized during the training blocks. Each trainee will decide how open they want to be, but involvement in the training means an understanding that emphasis will be placed on emotional closeness and openness amongst the group. Given the personal nature of these groups, all members are required to respect strict rules of confidentiality.

The training is organized as four blocks of 3 days of immersive training emphasizing experiential learning. See below for more details about location.

NB: A one-year commitment is necessary, with an optional second year

About the course

Extensive theoretical and practical knowledge is required to apply ISTDP in a skillful way. But even more than that, emotional flexibility. This program includes teaching and guidance with the aim of increasing participants' theoretical knowledge, practical

therapeutic precision, and emotional attunement. The course will cover basic and advanced applications of the central techniques of working with patients across the psychodiagnostic spectra.

The course is heavily focused on helping clinicians develop their emotional capacities to apply pressure and challenge effectively, as well as attune to their clients. This entails examination of the trainee's own triangle of conflict dynamics, as they are activated in their clinical work and supervision.

Course goals

Upon completion of the course, participants are expected to have acquired an advanced theoretical and practical knowledge of resistance work within the framework of ISTDP. In addition, participants will have further developed their own capacity to apply ISTDP with increased emotional flexibility and closeness.

Target audience

The course is for clinically active therapists who have some experience with ISTDP.

Course structure

The first year of the course consists of four 3-day in-person modules that will take place in Malmö, Sweden and Rome, Italy (see schedule below for locations and dates). Each module consists of a 3-day meeting (Thursday-Saturday every three months). Daily meetings begin at 9am and end at 5pm CET, and include a 60 minute lunch break and multiple coffee breaks.

For each block, there will be a mix of teaching and supervision. During supervision, group members will each take a turn presenting a current clinical problem they would like help with, usually with the aid of a video-recorded session of their choosing. Supervisions are 75 minutes: the first 60 minutes will be one-to-one supervision, followed by 15 minutes of group discussion. The supervisions will be experiential as well as technical, and involve exploration of the therapist's own triangle of conflict and how their own resistance affects their work. The last 15 minutes with the group are not a time to critique the supervision but rather to further explore dynamic or technical issues relevant to the supervision.

Teaching will consist of a deep exploration and discussion of the supervision sessions, didactic presentations and audiovisual case presentations demonstrating ISTDP techniques and principles.

Dates for Year 1

February 26-28, 2026 (in-person in Malmö)

May 14-16, 2026 (in-person in Malmö)

September 10-12, 2026 (in-person in Malmö)

December 3-5, 2026 (in person in Rome)

Dates for Year 2 will be decided together as a group.

Cost

The cost for this program is \$5000 USD per year of training. This includes four 3-day in-person modules. Payments are made quarterly, \$1250 due before each in-person module. The first payment of \$1250 is due at the time of registration and can be made directly to Jonathan Entis via paypal (drjonathanentis@gmail.com) by selecting “Friends and Family” or via wire transfer. If making payment via wire transfer, please contact Jonathan for bank details. Any transfer fees need to be paid by the sender.

Teachers

Jonathan Entis, Ph.D., is a licensed psychologist in private practice in Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A. He is on the faculty of Harvard Medical School, where he teaches and supervises. He is an IEDTA-certified supervisor in ISTDP and has presented both nationally and internationally. Jonathan has led and continues to lead multiple international training groups in ISTDP, including ones based in Italy, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland and the States. He is also a co-author with John Rathauser and Mikkel Reher-Langberg on the upcoming book, *Fundamentals of Davanloo’s Intensive Short-Term Dynamic Psychotherapy, Volume I*.

Thomas Hesslow is a clinical psychologist and ISTDP therapist. He’s one of the founders of the Swedish ISTDP Institute. He provides ISTDP therapy, supervision and training, primarily at the Malmö Center for ISTDP. He also teaches at Lund University and SAPU College in Göteborg. Thomas is an IEDTA-certified teacher and offers core training in Sweden and abroad. He is one of the founders and currently the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Contemporary ISTDP*.

Questions

Write to Jonathan Entis (drjonathanentis@gmail.com).

Registration

Send an email to Jonathan where you detail your name, occupation, address and former/current ISTDP trainer(s), along with this form signed and completed. New trainees must also attach additional documents, see below.

Name:

Degree:

License Type:

License State & No.:

Address:

City: State: Zip Code:

Phone Office: Cell:

Email:

Terms and Conditions

This training program in ISTDP is designed for professionals who seek to advance their knowledge and skills in ISTDP, and want to focus on overcoming their own internal obstacles to implementing treatment, including anxiety and resistance. Applicants understand that they are consenting to a emotionally-focused training program, in which there will be ample focus on their own reactions and emotions to their clinical work. Consent can be rescinded at any time, but trainees should only apply if they are interested in working on their own triangle of conflict in a group setting. Applicants must agree that they will keep the confidentiality of all group members, meaning that nothing that group members share in the group is to be repeated outside the group.

Trainees must agree to attend and pay for all sessions for the entirety of the first 12-months, and thereafter may sign up for the second year if they wish.

My commitment to the first 12-months of training will be paid in full based on the fee schedule listed above, and once paid is non-refundable. In agreeing to undertake the training, I acknowledge that I am consenting to a full 12 months of payment.

I understand and agree to these terms and conditions.

Signature:

Date signed:

Send completed forms to drjonathanentis@gmail.com.

Applications, for all new trainees, must include:

- 1) A copy of your curriculum vitae
- 2) A brief description of your experiences as a health care practitioner, including any prior exposure and/or training in ISTDP
- 3) Copy of a core training supervision certificate or equivalent
- 4) Paypal or wire transfer of \$1250. See instructions above.