

Workshop: An Introduction to Protocol Analysis in Phenomenological Psychology

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This 2-hour workshop has two purposes. The first is to offer experienced, expert phenomenologists in multiple disciplines an opportunity to explore-by-doing phenomenological psychological analytic practices together. The second purpose is to collaboratively critique discuss suggestions to improve the workshop for potential future participants who are not at all familiar with phenomenology, in order to evoking interest in and understanding of phenomenology among broader audiences. Workshop participants will receive a workbook that includes a brief history of the phenomenological movement, basic concepts and methods of research, a selected bibliography, sample descriptions of experience for analysis, several examples of phenomenological psychological reflections, and a delineation of the steps of analysis with space in which participants can record their analytic practices.

The topic for the analytic practice will be *the experience of schizophrenic persons living in local communities*. The sample descriptions used in the analysis will be summary narratives assembled from interviews carried out by a Fordham University research team in affiliation with Larry Davidson's program of phenomenological action research at the Yale University Medical School in New Haven, CT. The immediate task of the workshop analysis will be to clarify the essence of the psychology of the schizophrenic person attempting to build a life in the community. Workshop participants may adopt, in their reflections, the more distal practical aim of designing and evaluating community programs to help schizophrenic persons in their attempts to live well outside hospital inpatient settings.

Workshop attendees will first participate in the workshop themselves. After listening to the brief presentation on phenomenology, the participants will be introduced to Amedeo Giorgi's delineation of the steps involved in psychologically analyzing

descriptions of lifeworld experiences. The attendees will then engage in work on each of these steps beginning with one narrative description by a schizophrenic research subject. During this process, workshop participants will record and share their reflections, conclusions, and experiences practicing phenomenological psychological analysis. The attendees will then critically evaluate and make suggestions for improving the workshop, including the workbook, the presentations of phenomenology, the descriptions offered for analysis, and the analytic activities carried out. Adaptive modifications of the workshop to various purposes and venues will be discussed. Finally, time allowing, there will be a discussion comparing this particular application of phenomenological method in psychology, and comparing phenomenological psychology more generally, with the applications of phenomenological methods in the other disciplines represented by the workshop attendees.