# 2-Day Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) Intensive Training Course

Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) is an empirically validated approach for working with mental health, chemical dependency, and complex co-morbidity. Designed to empower clients to establish mindfulness, distress tolerance, emotional regulation, and interpersonal effectiveness, DBT assists clinicians in treating clients with emotional problems, suicidal, self-harm, and self-sabotaging urges and behaviors, and challenging interpersonal styles.

This course counts towards the educational requirement when applying for Certification in Dialectical Behavior Therapy through Evergreen Certification Institute (EVGCI)

Attend this 2-day intensive training course and receive a detailed understanding and foundation of the skills of Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) as applied to clients with mental health and chemical dependency issues. Going beyond symptom management, these skills are designed to improve functioning to build satisfying lives.

This course explores DBT's theoretical basis, specific DBT interventions, and how to teach skills in individual and group settings. Familiarity with these skills and techniques along with experiential exercises will enhance your clinical skills and professional development.

Guided by the latest research and policy in evidence-based practices, this course teaches the clinical process and content of DBT from theory to practice. Going beyond prescriptive applications, this course shows you how to use essentials such as validation, dialectical strategies, communication styles, and the best ways of changing behaviors in order to effectively balance acceptance and change with your clients. Complete with education on user-friendly diary cards and chain analysis protocols, you will leave this seminar with increased DBT competency as well as many new tools including client worksheets to bring to your clinical practice.

### **Course Highlights**

- · Use DBT flexibly, creatively and effectively for a variety of clients
- Build a foundation of DBT competency
- Integrate DBT skills into individual and group therapy
- Use case examples as a guide for effective application of skills in clinical situations
- Learn DBT "inside-out" from theory to application
- Practice diary cards and chain analysis protocols

# **Objectives**

- 1. Explain the underlying theory of Dialectics and Dialectic Behavior Therapy.
- 2. Integrate DBT skills for individual and group therapy treatment into practice.
- 3. Teach DBT skills in the areas of Mindfulness, Distress Tolerance, Emotional Regulation and Interpersonal Effectiveness to clients.
- 4. Utilize specific DBT skills for the treatment of a range of mental health symptoms, chemical dependency and complex co-morbidities.
- 5. Describe DBT tools and resources used to effectively change behavior.
- 6. Articulate a variety of strategies for teaching DBT skills to clients.
- 7. Demonstrate the use of crisis survival strategies to enhance distress tolerance.
- 8. Discriminate the DBT model from cognitive-behavioral, client-centered, and other treatment modalities.
- 9. Practice a multi-layered approach to validation of clients' thoughts and feelings.
- 10. Apply DBT diary cards and chain (change) analysis techniques to address specific clinical issues in practice.
- 11. Summarize how to effectively operate consultative groups and treatment teams.
- 12. Assess and manage self-injurious and suicidal behaviors with clear protocols and safety plans.
- 13. Discuss the limitations and risks of DBT and areas of ongoing or future research regarding DBT effectiveness.



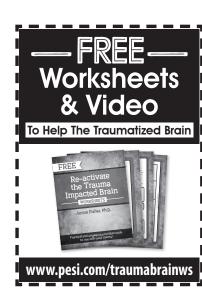
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Intensive Training Course

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COLUMBUS, OH Monday & Tuesday February 24 & 25, 2020 CINCINNATI, OH Thursday & Friday February 27 & 28, 2020 2-Day
Dialectical Behavior
Therapy (DBT)

Intensive Training Course

- Use DBT flexibly, creatively and effectively
- Make this complex model work for a variety of clients
- Integrate DBT skills into individual and group therapy
- Take home many client resources and worksheets
- Practice diary cards and chain analysis protocols

This course counts towards the the educational requirement when applying for Certification in Dialectical Behavior Therapy through Evergreen Certification Institute (EVGCI). Visit evgci.com

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#### **Outline**

#### **History & Philosophy of DBT**

Dialectics explained Core philosophies in practice Skills training techniques Limitations of the research and potential

#### Mindfulness Skills

Grounded in the present while being connected to past & future Using core skills to achieve "Wise Mind" Learn classic and innovative mindfulness skills

Mindfulness exercises

#### **Distress Tolerance Skills**

Building frustration tolerance Utilizing crisis survival strategies and

Learn classic and innovative Distress Tolerance skills

Distress Tolerance exercises

# **Emotional Regulation Skills**

Understanding emotions and reducing vulnerability

Incorporating self-care, opposite action and building positive experience

Learn classic and innovative emotional regulation skills

**Emotional regulation exercises** 

### **Interpersonal Effectiveness** Skills

Balance in relationships

Objective, relationship and self-respect

Learn classic and innovative interpersonal effectiveness skills

Interpersonal effectiveness exercises

#### **DBT** in Practice

Understanding how therapy works: The Contextual Model

Evidence-based practice Maximizing therapeutic factors, DBT-style Essential elements and functions of DBT revisited

### **Structure Therapy**

Structure as a therapeutic factor Structuring the therapy environment Identifying treatment targets: suicidality, self-iniurious behavior (SIB), therapy-interfering behavior (TIB), and other targets

#### **Validation**

Levels of validation Validation as an informal exposure technique

#### **Best Methods of Changing Behaviors**

Self-monitoring with the diary card Behavioral contingencies **DBT-style** cognitive interventions Behavior Chain (Change) Analysis

### **Communication Styles: Reciprocal and Irreverent Consultation Group**

Increase your motivation Develop effective responses Qualities of effective treatment teams

### **Next Steps: Develop Your Proficiency in DBT**

#### **Course Schedule**

**Both Days** 

7:30

Registration/Morning Coffee & Tea

8:00 Program begins **11:50-1:00** Lunch (on your own) Program ends

There will be two 15-min breaks (mid-morning & mid-afternoon) Actual lunch and break start times are at the discretion of the speaker. A more detailed schedule is available upon request.

#### **Questions?**

Visit our FAQ page at www.pesi.com/faq or contact us at www.pesi.com/info

# Speaker

Megan Johnson Dunston, MS, LCMHC, is a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor and adjunct faculty member at the University of Vermont. From 2006 until 2017 Megan was a clinician in the Crossroads program treatment team, providing partial hospital, intensive outpatient and outpatient services to adults using the Dialectical Behavior Therapy modality. In this capacity she also served as the clinical site supervisor for master's level interns. In 2017 Megan co-founded Meridian DBT & Psychotherapy, PLC, a private practice that provides research-based outpatient psychotherapy services, including DBT coping skills groups, individual therapy, and consultation and supervision services. In addition to clinical work, Megan has led workshops for staff at Matrix Health Systems, the Howard Center, and the Northeastern Family Institute focusing on aspects of DBT (dialectics, contingency management, self-harm behavior, etc). Other areas of clinical interest pertain to conflict resolution, body image, self-efficacy beliefs, grief, parenting/pregnancy issues, intimate partner abuse and aging.

Speaker Disclosure

Financial: Megan Johnson Dunston is an adjunct faculty member at the University of Vermont. She receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc.

Non-financial: Megan Johnson Dunston has no relevant non-financial relationship to disclose.

Megan Johnson Dunston, MS, LCMHC, is not affiliated or associated with Marsha M. Linehan, PhD, ABPP, or her organizations

#### Target Audience:

Counselors • Psychologists • Psychotherapists Social Workers • Marriage & Family Therapists Addiction Counselors • Case Managers • Psychiatrists • Occupational Therapists Occupational Therapy Assistants • Mental Health Professionals • Nurses

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