

Class Meeting **2**

February 8

Theme: **ZAAMM Part I**

Human Systems:

Levels and Aspects of Organization and Development

Affective Aspects in Human Systems from Cells to Societies

CLASS NOTES:

What would we have if we had an understanding of affect?

What is "an Understanding"?

What is "affect"?

What do we (I, you) have when we have "an understanding" of something? Some might answer in terms of having the power to predict and/or otherwise command and control it. For our part, we would rather view it in a "Systems" Perspective.

What is that?

Nominally "begins" with the perception of something as a composite unity (figure/ground) in a given context. This leads to several questions regarding this ability or tendency to make figure/ground distinctions and to seek conceptual and/or material coherence.

What is its constitutive composition (what is it made of?)

What is its structure? its mode of organization? (of which principal parts is it composed? how are its constituent elements related to each other?)

How does the human system in question behave in relation to itself and its surroundings – including others of its own kind? (What does it do? How does it function?) Where does it come from? How did it get to be what it is? When and where did it originate?

How does it behave in relation to itself and its surroundings – including others perceived to be of its own kind (other kinds)? What does it do? How does it function?

What is the scope and pattern of external/internal synchronic/diachronic relations

Take note of "healthy" systems rule: semipermeability of living systems – relative openness/closedness of boundaries; relations to (exchanges of matter/energy and information with – persons, organizations, things other than – external to – itself neurobiological, psychological, sociocultural; mental and behavioral).