

STEVEN KOTLER

Session One: The Actualization of Self-Actualization

- 1. Introduction to Session One
- 2. The modern story of spirituality and peak performance
- 3. Extraordinary growth in ultimate human potential
- 4. An optimal state of consciousness
- 5. Where I'm coming from
- 6. We ourselves are a kind of chaos
- 7. Nietzsche's project
- 8. History takes a turn for the weird
- 9. William James and the invention of psychology
- 10. The unconscious, habit, and attention
- 11. Freud and the 100-year detour

Session Two: Where Spirituality and High Performance Split

- 12. Introduction to Session Two
- 13. Maslow and peak experiences
- 14. Csikszentmihalyi, godfather of flow
- 15. Nothing's too gnarly
- 16. The neurobiology of flow
- 17. What was mysticism becomes biology
- 18. Neurochemistry and cognitive performance

Session Three: Mysticism Decoded

- 19. Introduction to Session Three
- 20. Dreams, memories, hallucinations, and epileptics
- 21. The God gene
- 22. Cosmic consciousness
- 23. Surfing to oneness
- 24. Out-of-body experiences
- 25. Sleep and near-death experiences

Session Four: The Psychedelic Detour

- 26. Introduction to Session Four
- 27. Animals, psychedelics, and intuitive leaps
- 28. Nitrous oxide, LSD, and early experimentation
- 29. From MK Ultra to psychedelic therapy
- 30. Psychedelic states for creativity and mystical experience
- 31. DMT and psilocybin
- 32. Disintegrating the default mode network
- 33. Phenomenology of the ecstatic
- 34. That old selfless timeless effortless richness

Session Five: Hacking the Ecstatic

- 35. Introduction to Session Five
- 36. Altered states, altered traits
- 37. A manifesto for positive psychology
- 38. Baseline positive psychology
- 39. The variety of flow states
- 40. Triggers for flow states
- 41. The challenge/skills balance
- 42. Flow is easy
- 43. Back to the beginning

Session Six: Open Loops and Misunderstandings

- 44. Introduction to Session Six
- 45. Where does the information come from?
- 46. Open questions and spirituality
- 47. Four triggers for ecstasis

