

Psychology 43

Group Dynamics

Course Syllabus

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Office hours: By Appointment

Please keep in mind that this syllabus is an approximation of the way the course will proceed & is subject to change.

Course Objective: This course will introduce students to the development of group communication through experiential learning. The class addresses dynamics of individuals in a group setting and also allows for introspection on the individual's part. It will provide you with the opportunity to strengthen your interpersonal counseling effectiveness, create intrapersonal reflection, share your life experiences, and provide support for others in the class.

Required Text: Corey and Corey, "I Never Knew I Had a Choice," 10th Ed.

Classroom Requirements:

Regular attendance is mandated of all students. If you miss more than two class meetings (6 hours total), the instructor will drop you from the class. Please note: every tardy counts as ½ of an absence. Being tardy means arriving after 7:00 PM. Attendance is very important not only to the learning process but also because there is no way to make up for lost group time.

Cell Phones

If you bring your cell-phone to class, be sure to have it in SILENT mode so that it will not disturb others. Do NOT text or take/make calls during class. If you have to answer an emergency phone call, please step out of the classroom. Do not have your phone visible during class time.

Special Instructional Accommodation

Students with disabilities who need any assistance or accommodations should contact the instructor. Students should also contact the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) center located in SSB 320 or call 310.287.4420.

Standard of Student Conduct

It is important to be respectful of everyone in the classroom. If someone is speaking, please use active listening skills and refrain from interrupting them (such as getting up to use the restroom or commenting before they are finished) unless it's an emergency. Please use appropriate judgment when speaking and do not use profanity or words that may be hurtful or offensive to others.

Faculty members are charged with responsibility for building and maintaining a classroom atmosphere conducive to learning. Disruptive, disrespectful, or obstructive behavior will be dealt with in terms specific to this syllabus and in accordance with the LACCD Standard of Student Conduct. Select forms of disciplinary action appropriate to the misconduct may be taken by an instructor when there is evidence that the student's behavior interferes with classroom instruction.

The following types of disciplinary action may be taken by an instructor:

- 1) Warning- A verbal or written notice, given to the student by an instructor. Continuation or repetition of the specified conduct may be cause for further disciplinary action.
- 2) Removal by Instructor - An instructor may remove (suspend) a student from his or her class for the day of the incident and the next class meeting. During this period of removal, the student shall not return to the class from which he or she was removed without the permission of the instructor of the class.

Students may refer to the College Catalog or the online student orientation at www.wlac.edu; click "Counseling, Assessment and Orientation," then scroll down to "Orientation" for complete details regarding the aforementioned policies.

Course Requirements:

You must write a total of 6 papers for this class. These are autobiographical in nature. They will be typed, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font with 1.0" margins all the way around. You will only have your name and the paper # as a title. The first five papers will be 3 pages (or more) each. The final paper is a minimum of 5 pages. These are reflections of your life. The best way to write the papers is to initially let the information free flow, then take some time away from the paper, then come back to it to do the necessary editing. They are not difficult in terms of having enough information; after all, this is your life! However, they can be tough in terms of going over past events that may not have been so pleasant for you. This is part of the growing process and personal growth. This does not have to be shared with the group or other classmates. These papers are confidential as only I will see and grade them. Grades will be based on following directions and grammar/punctuation. Please proofread your work as your grade depends on how well I can read it. Late papers will be accepted however, points will be deducted for every day it is late.

Grading: Papers 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5	50 points each (250 total)	600-540 = A
Final paper	100 points	539-480 = B
Final Exam	50 points	479-420 = C
Participation	50 points	419-360 = D
Homework	150 points (10 points each assignment)	

Calendar:	Week 1 – Sep 1:	HOLIDAY!
	Week 2 – Sep 8:	Introduction to course, discussing guidelines
	Week 3 – Sep 15:	Ch 1
	Week 4 – Sep 22:	Ch 2
	Week 5 – Sep 29:	Ch 3 Paper # 1 due covering chapters 2 & 3
	Week 6 – Oct 6:	Ch 4 Food Journal Assignment due
	Week 7 – Oct 13:	Ch 5 Food Journal Assignment due
	Week 8 – Oct 20:	Ch 6 Paper # 2 due covering chapters 4 & 5
	Week 9 – Oct 27:	Ch 7
	Week 10 – Nov 3:	Ch 8 Paper # 3 due covering chapters 6 & 7
	Week 11 – Nov 10:	Ch 9
	Week 13 – Nov 17:	Ch 10 Paper # 4 due covering chapters 8 & 9
	Week 13 – Nov 24:	Ch 11
	Week 14 – Dec 1:	Ch 12 Paper # 5 due covering chapters 11 & 12
	Week 15 – Dec 8:	Ch 13 Final Paper due!

Final Exam on Monday, Dec 15, 6:45 PM