

Syllabus

Course Prefix/Number/Semester/Year: SOW3322_81539, Fall (08/19 - 12/06) 2024

Course Department: Department of Social Work, Usha Kundu, MD College of Health, UWF

Course Title: Work with Groups

Course Credit Hours: 3

Course Meeting Times and Location: Wednesdays, 1:00-3:45pm, Building 78, Room 103

Learning Management System: Canvas, <https://uwf.instructure.com/>

Instructor Name and Contact Information: Mr. [Eric Schade](#), LCSW, Assistant Clinical Professor, eschade@uwf.edu (monitored daily M-F). Email is the preferred contact method.

Office Location and Hours: Bldg85/Rm157, Office hours are published to the Canvas homepage

Prerequisites or Corequisites: N/A

Texts / Materials

Required texts:

Jacobs, E. E., Schimmel, C. J., Masson, R. L., & Harvill, R. L. (2016). *Group counseling: strategies and skills* (Eighth edition.). Cengage learning.

Other required readings/resources may be made available from the instructor in Canvas, or the UWF Library.

Required textbooks for 1000-4000 level courses are available on Reserve at the Circulation Desk at the UWF Libraries for a 2-hour loan period (book must stay in the Library). Please take advantage of this resource, but keep in mind that copies of textbooks for each course are limited and may be in use by another student, particularly right before an assignment or reading is due, so plan your textbook use accordingly. This service is available for print format textbooks only.

Required Materials:

- Internet Access (broadband is recommended)
- Activated UWF ArgoNet Account
- Ebook with ISBN: 9781071889305 is required for this course.

Minimum Technical Skills and Special Technology Utilized by Students

- Activate a MyUWF student account
- Access the MyUWF portal a minimum of 2-3 times a week
- Access UWF email account (Gmail) 2-3 times a week
- Have basic word-processing knowledge
- Other skills or technologies if applicable

See: UWF Resources – [Important Student Information](#) for technology web links

Technology Support

Canvas Support Hotline (Open 24/7) - 1-844-866-3349

UWF ITS Help Desk - 1-850-474-2075 or email itshelpdesk@uwf.edu

Course Description

Usha Kundu, MD College of Health, Department of Social Work

3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)

One of a series of four courses designed to prepare a student for generalist social work practice. The student will acquire the knowledge base, values and skills necessary for working with groups at the beginning professional level. The focus will be on developing the knowledge base, values and practice skills needed to use the problem solving approach to work with diverse populations within various types of groups. Stages of groups and activities that can enhance the group process will be explored. Permission is required.

Program Goals

This course fits into the overall program as an undergraduate major course in the Department of Social Work.

If you are interested in a major in social work, you should contact the Department of Social Work at **850-474-2381**. If you are undecided about your major, you should contact your academic advisor or Career Services at 850-474-2254.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

- Describe methods of identifying, analyzing and implementing evidence-informed interventions to achieve goals (Competency 8)
- Describe methods of evaluating practice with individuals, families, groups and organizations (Competency 9)
- Use and translate research evidence to inform and improve practice, police and service delivery (Competency 4)
- Choose and implement interventions to achieve practice goals and enhance capacities of clients and constituencies (Competency 9)

Topics

This course will cover the following topics:

- Groups, Types and Stages of Development
- Social Group Work and Social Work Practice
- Group Dynamics: Leadership
- Group Dynamics: Goals and Norms
- Verbal and Nonverbal Communication
- Task Groups
- Working with Diverse Groups
- Self-Help Groups
- Social Work with Families
- Organizations, Communities and Groups
- Educational Groups: Stress Management and Time Management as Examples
- Treatment Groups
- Termination and Evaluation

Grading / Evaluation

Grade Scheme

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Range
A	100% to 94%
A-	<94% to 90%
B+	<90% to 87%
B	<87% to 84%
B-	<84% to 80%
C+	<80% to 77%
C	<77% to 70%
D+	<70% to 67%
D	<67% to 61%
F	<61% to 0%

Grade Distribution

Assignments	Point Values
Attendance / participation (drop one)	100 points
Quizzes (2 at 50 points each)	100 points
Group Observation Paper	100 points
Small Group Presentation	150 points
Small Group Reflection Paper	50 points
Total:	520 points

Assignment descriptions (more detail will be provided)

Course Format and Assignments - The course will be organized into three modules. - In addition to in class meetings, On Canvas, content for each module will be located in the 'Modules' tab. - Assignment guidelines and grading rubrics will be posted in the corresponding module, when they are assigned.
Readings and lectures The week's assigned readings should be completed before class.

Understanding the readings and lectures will be required to complete all coursework.
Attendance / participation - Attendance is required and will be graded weekly. - The lowest weekly attendance grade will be dropped. - Attendance includes being prepared for class, attentive and participating in lecture, and participating in class activities.
Quizzes (2) - A non-cumulative quiz will be given at the end of modules one and two. - Quizzes will cover the readings, lectures, and other classwork. An optional study guide will be provided the week prior. - Quizzes will be administered online, through Canvas, and may include multiple choice, fill in the blank, short answer, and/or true/false. - Students may be allowed 7 days to take each online quiz. Late quizzes are not allowed.
Group observation paper - Attend an approved, in person, open support group meeting of your choice - one in which you are not otherwise involved. - A provided outline will facilitate a reflection paper describing the group. Integrate Module 1 course materials on group fundamentals. - APA 7th edition formatting. Virtual use of the writing lab is encouraged.
Small group presentation – Evidence informed group plan - You will be randomly assigned to a small group. - Work with your group to create a recorded psychoeducation presentation to the class, relevant to a social work population. - Your group will create present in module 3.
Small group reflection paper 10% of course grade. Grading rubric, and assignment details will be provided. - In a short opinion paper reflect on your experience as a group member during the small group assignment. - Integrate concepts related to the stages of group work. - Virtual use of the writing lab is encouraged.

Late Assignments

The timely completion of required tasks is critical. **Module quizzes** are open for one week and cannot be taken outside of this period. The **Small group project and reflection** may be submitted late with a ten percent deduction for each calendar day past the due date. The course ends Friday, December 6th. Assignments may not be turned in after Friday, December 6th.

Academic Calendar

Please check [the official UWF Academic Calendar](#) for important dates, including holidays, withdrawal, and registration dates.

Course Calendar

Please see the last page of this syllabus for a detailed course calendar.

Attendance Policy

Regular and substantive engagement is expected of students in all courses regardless of delivery format.

Only those absences that are defined in the [University class attendance policy](#) will be considered excused absences. Faculty have discretion on how to treat illness-related absences in their courses related to missed assignments, missed exams, make-up exams, requests to take an exam early, policies regarding exams dates that conflict with approved University functions (travel to participate in athletic competitions, academic, and student activities travel (conference attendance, participation in debates or other academic competitions, student government conferences, etc.)).

The Office of Case Management can assist with questions regarding the verification of illness as needed, casemanagement@uwf.edu.

Information for students who receive financial aid: To receive financial aid on the normal distribution timeline, attendance must be confirmed within seven calendar days of the course start date. A student may review confirmed attendance status by using the "Classmate" app in MyUWF. A student who stops attending class for any reason will **not** automatically be withdrawn and will still be responsible for any missed work. A student who stops attending class may be awarded a grade of NF. This grade may affect financial aid eligibility or require repayment of funds awarded.

Student Accessibility Resources

The University of West Florida supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, such as time-limited exams, inaccessible web content, or the use of non-captioned videos and podcasts, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodations, you must register with Student Accessibility Resources. Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined on an individual basis with careful consideration of course design, course learning objectives, individual documentation of disability and the academic barriers experienced by the student. Accommodations may vary from one course to the next course and

from one semester to the next semester. For information regarding the registration process, visit [the SAR website](#), e-mail sar@uwf.edu, or call 850.474.2387.

Additional syllabus statements

[Additional syllabus statement url.](#)

<https://confluence.uwf.edu/display/public/Additional+Syllabus+Statements>

Regularly updated resources and university policy. Includes policy statements, student support resources, and instructional tools and technology.

Course schedule is on the next page.

Tentative Course Schedule

The schedule presented is accurate as of the first day of the semester. If changes occur, you will be notified.

Week/Module	Dates	Chapter/Topics	Assignments
Week 1: Module 1:	8/21	Syllabus Chapter 1: Introduction and Group types	Group observation paper assigned
Week 2:	8/28	Support groups article	
Week 3: Labor Day 9/2	9/4	Chapter 2: Group Stages, Group Process, and Therapeutic Forces	
Week 4: Asynchronous	9/11	No class, attend a support group Chapter 6: Skills for group leaders	
Week 5:	9/18	Ch 17: Specific populations	Group observation paper due
Week 6:	9/25	Quiz week no class	Module 1 Quiz
Week 7: Module 2: Group Stages	10/2	Ch 4: Planning	Group presentations assigned
Week 8:	10/9	Ch 5: Beginning stage	
Week 9: Asynchronous	10/16	No class, working on group projects Chapter 12: Middle stage of group	
Week 10:	10/23	Ch 15: Closing a session or group	
Week 11:	10/30	Quiz week no class	Module 2 Quiz Group presentations due
Week 12: Module 3	11/6	Presentations	
Week 13:	11/13	Presentations	
Week 14:	11/20	Presentations	
Week 15: Thanksgiving 11/28-29	11/27	Course review: Group types, Group stages, Group Process, Therapeutic factors	
Week 16: Course ends Friday 12/6		No class Finals week	Reflection paper due Tuesday evening, 12/3