

Course Number: SS 2720

Course Title: Group Dynamics

Course Description:

Psychology of groups; normal and developmental growth; development of leadership styles, emphasis on assessment of group change.

Prerequisites: None.

Credit hours: 3

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss the guidelines for establishing effective groups.
2. Identify the basic structures of groups and the stages of group development.
3. Identify group goals and their effect on positive interdependence.
4. Describe the patterns of group communication and the variables that influence its effectiveness.
5. Define small group leadership styles.
6. Discuss the nature of power and the constructive and destructive use of power in groups.
7. Explain the effects of group decision making, including controversy and conflict management.
8. Discuss the importance of diversity among team members.
9. Analyze and apply the knowledge of effective group skills to practical situations.

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College of Professional Studies

SS 2720 Group Dynamics Online Syllabus Course Content

Instructor Information

Please see Professor Profile at the Blackboard instructional site.

Course Schedule

Please see Course Schedule in the Course Syllabus area of the Blackboard instructional site.

Online Course Policies

All of the online courses taken by students are required to follow the policies posted online at <http://online.indianatech.edu/tech-policies/policies/>. Please review the posted policies carefully. If you are unable to abide by the policies listed, please contact the Warrior Information Network (WIN) at 888.832.4742 and request to withdraw from this course.

Textbook

Johnson, D., & Johnson, F. (2009). *Joining together: Group theory and group skills* (10th ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon

Grading Events & Grading Criteria

Unless otherwise specified, all assignments must be submitted via Blackboard.

Course Preparation Quiz	1 @ 10	10
Self-Analysis Activities	2 @ 50	100
Discussion Questions and Postings	5 @ 10	50
Module Quizzes	2 @ 100	200
TOTAL Points		360

Self-Analysis Activities

Students will complete self-analysis activities and exercises from the text. After completion of assigned exercises, students will write a brief summary / reaction paper detailing the results of their self-analysis.

Discussion Questions and Postings

Students will post responses to instructor-developed discussion questions and will respond to other class members' postings. . Each week of this class, you will respond to the discussion questions / topics provided. You will also share your reactions to the other students' responses. Each student is expected to participate and share their perspectives on the identified topic. Discussion topics will incorporate material from your textbook, self-analysis assignments, experiential activities (the group practice assignments) and real-life experiences related to group dynamics.

Student discussion and interaction is a key component of adult learning. Students have a wealth a life experiences to share with one another. In order to create a safe educational environment, it is important that we all agree to abide by the following guidelines regarding discussion and postings:

- We participate fully in discussion activities and share our opinions / observations.
- We respect the opinions of others.
- We do not use offensive language.
- We agree to disagree.
- We remember we all come from varied and diverse backgrounds and cultures and therefore will often have differing opinions.

Module Quizzes

Students will complete a ten-question essay quiz at the end of each module. Quiz questions will require students to synthesize textbook material, self-analysis and experiential learning activities and to apply group dynamics concepts, using case study scenarios.

Grading Scale

The following grading scale will be used to assign a grade at the end of the course:

Percentage Achieved	Grade	Percentage Achieved	Grade	Percentage Achieved	Grade
93% or above	A	80% or above	B-	70% or above	C-
90% or above	A-	77% or above	C+	60% or above	D
87% or above	B+	73% or above	C	Below 60%	F
83% or above	B				

Late Assignments

All assignments and required online activities are due according to the deadline listed in the course schedule. Granting deadline extension is the course instructor's autonomy.

Incompletes

If you are unable to complete the requirements for this course due to extenuating circumstances, an Incomplete grade (I) may be granted if you meet the general guidelines stated below.

General Guidelines for submitting a course incomplete request:

- More than 50% of the course session has elapsed.
- The student has encountered an unexpected situation that is beyond his or her control.
- The student is
 - in good academic standing -- up-to-date on all of the course assignments and has at least an overall passing grade,
 - able to complete all of the remaining coursework within a session (5 weeks for a undergraduate course and 6 weeks for a graduate course) that immediately follows the session the student is currently enrolled, and
 - able to provide support documentations to substantiate the need for extra time should a session is not enough to complete the course requirements.

If an Incomplete is granted, the instructor will set a deadline for all work to be completed. **The deadline cannot go past one (1) session.** All incomplete grades are subject to approval by the designated university authority.

Course Related Communication

Online courses are conducted in an accelerated format. Timely communication is very important. When receiving emails from your classmates or instructor, please respond as soon as you can.

Students are REQUIRED to use their Indiana Tech email account for all course related communication. The most direct, and effective, way to email your course instructor, and classmates, is by using the Send Email function from the Blackboard course site. When you use the Send Email function, you automatically receive a carbon copy of the email you sent. In the event when you need to substantiate your claim that you did email your classmates or instructor, you can show that carbon copy to the person(s) who requested it.

Please note that Blackboard only permits you to send email, it does not provide you with the check email function. All of the emails your classmates and instructor sent to you will be delivered to your Indiana Tech email account. You are strongly encouraged to check your Indiana Tech email account regularly, preferably several times a week, to minimize the likelihood of miscommunication.

The University policy requires each online course instructor to respond to a student's email within 24 hours. Unless there is an extraneous situation that prevents the

instructor from following this rule, you can expect to hear from the instructor within 24 hours. If you don't receive a reply within 24 hours, please do not hesitate to follow up with another email or forward the carbon copy of the email you sent to OnlineSupport@IndianaTech.edu with a note "Please help. It's been 24 hours and I have not heard from my instructor" and the University support staff will act on your behalf to contact your course instructor.