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College of Education  Department of Counseling and Higher Education

[Counseling or Higher Education] Program

**Instructor:**

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**COUN 3640 Group Process in Helping Relationships**

Course Syllabus

Spring 2022

**Catalog Description**

Group dynamics laboratory: group functions and leadership styles as related to helping relationships.  
  
Prerequisite(s): [COUN 2610](http://catalog.unt.edu/preview_course_nopop.php?catoid=20&coid=75502) (may be taken concurrently).

**Goal of the Course**

Increase the students understanding of the group counseling process. Study will focus on foundations of group counseling theories, fundamental skills for group counseling, and increasing personal awareness and reflection.

**Core Curricular Experiences Covered [for CACREP; adapt for EDHE]**

Curricular experiences will provide an understanding of the following:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Knowledge and Skills Outcomes | CACREP  Standard | Curriculum/Evaluation |
| 1. Explore the history and development of counseling group theories |  |  |
| 1. Discuss group counseling theories and their appropriate application |  |  |
| 1. Demonstrate a variety of group counseling skills |  |  |
| 1. Discuss the process of group counseling from the perspective of the client and the perspective of the counselor |  |  |
| 1. Explore personal dynamics that may impact the effectiveness of the counselor in a group setting |  |  |

###### **Methods of Instruction**

###### Instruction will be through assigned readings, seminar discussion, lecture, audiovisual presentation, and feedback on papers and presentations.

**Required Texts**

Corey, Marianne S; Corey, Gerald; Corey, Cindy (2018). *Groups Process and Practice* (2nd ed.). Boston, MA. Cengage Learning

**Assessment**

1. **Attendance/Class Participation**  25 points

**C.** Homework Assignment #1 – Leadership Values 10 points

**D.** Homework Assignment #2 – TED Talk Reflections 10 points

**E.** Homework Assignment #3 – Group Observation/Interview 15 points

**F.** Group Development Paper 25 points

**G.** Final Exam 15 points

**Total 100 points**

Final Grade: A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 60-69; F = 59 and below

**ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS**

**(Assignments will also be posted on Canvas)**

**A. Class Participation (25 points)**

Class participation points are determined by attendance, punctuality, engagement of in class discussions, and participation during in-class exercises. This class will be highly experiential therefore active engagement is critical for success in this course. I ask that you come to class prepared by having read and reflected on the reading assignments. The counseling profession is one requiring skills to stay open and engaged with clients and class participation will be designed to help students identify and strengthen these skills. Students absent for 3 or more classes will receive point deductions from their final grade. Students absent for 6 or more classes may be subject to withdrawal status or withdrawal fail status. For extenuating circumstance, please see the instructor.

**B. Group Development Paper (25 points)**

Student will complete a 5 – 7 pager paper developing a group they are interested in providing. Students will identify components of the group and group theories applied as discussed in class. Students will provide examples of curriculum and therapeutic exercises to be used in facilitating the group as well as theories applied in group. Students will also include a plan for how they would promote the group and establish group rules and procedures. More information will be provided in class.

**C. Homework Assignment #1 – Leadership Values (10 points)**

Students will write 1-2 paragraphs (using APA format) addressing 5 of the 7 questions on Leadership Values discussed in Chapter 3 of the textbook. Questions can be found under the Exercises section in Chapter 3, #8 Leadership Values

**D. Homework Assignment #2 – TED Talk Reflections (10 points)**

Students will watch two of the TED talks posted to Canvas and write a minimum of 2 pages reflecting on the topic. Students should consider areas where they agree and disagree with the speaker and how they can apply the principles in the TED talk to facilitating a group and applying interpersonal skills to group dynamics.

**E. Homework Assignment #3 –Group Observation in Media/Interview (15 points)**

Students will observe two psychoeducational or therapeutic groups through television, movie, etc. and write a paper (using APA format) reflecting on the nature of the group and pros and cons of the group. Students should also reflect on observed group dynamics, group leadership skills, and challenges to facilitating group counseling.

In lieu of one group observation, students may interview a therapist whose primary experience is in group counseling. More information will be provided in class.

**G. Final Exam (15 points)**

The final exam will be a comprehensive review of the semester and will primarily consist of material in the PowerPoint discussions, textbooks and information reviewed during class.

**Other Requirements and Special Note of Instruction**

**Expectations**

Students are expected to turn in written assignments no later than the day they are due. Extensions will be granted at the discretion of the instructor PRIOR to the due date of the assignment. No extensions will be granted the day an assignment is due or after the due date. Late assignments will be penalized 5% for *each day* they are late. Assignments turned in more than 1 week past the due date will not be accepted for credit.

Cell phones and pagers must be silenced during class for the respectful learning of all, unless otherwise requested. Students who need to respond to an emergency call may leave the class with minimal disruption.

**Sharing and Confidentiality**

In this course, each student is required to reflect on one’s own developmental journey. This reflection will involve self-examination and sharing of personal information with the class. It is important that students strive to be appropriate in personal sharing. To promote an emotionally safe learning environment, each student will be asked to maintain confidentiality of others’ personal material shared in class; however, confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. Therefore, each student should be mindful of what one chooses to share. Each student is encouraged to take risks and to challenge oneself while maintaining personal boundaries that are important to one’s continued wellbeing and development as a professional in training and a person.

Discussions, exercises, activities, and presentations in this course may elicit unexpected emotions and memories or uncover previously hidden psychological processes that students may find unsettling. If at any time you feel that you are overwhelmed, please feel free to leave the room, pass from the current activity, and/or talk with the instructor. If you would like counseling to address personal concerns, you may contact UNT’s Counseling & Testing at (940) 565-2741 or seek personal counseling at your own expense.

**SYLLABUS ADDENDUM**

**Succeed at UNT**:

· Show Up  
· Find Support  
· Take Control  
· Be Prepared  
· Get Involved  
· Be Persistent

**Face Coverings and COVID Protocols**

UNT encourages everyone to wear a face covering when indoors, regardless of vaccination status, to protect yourself and others from COVID infection, as recommended by current CDC guidelines. Face covering guidelines could change based on community health conditions. Please inform the instructor if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community. If you are experiencing any [symptoms of COVID](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms%20testing/symptoms.html) ([https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms testing/symptoms.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms%20testing/symptoms.html)) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or [askSHWC@unt.edu](mailto:askSHWC@unt.edu)) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at [COVID@unt.edu](mailto:COVID@unt.edu) for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure.

**Academic Integrity and Academic Dishonesty**

Academic Integrity is defined in the UNT Policy on Student Standards for Academic Integrity. Academic Dishonesty includes cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, and sabotage. Any suspected case of Academic Dishonesty will be handled in accordance with University policy and procedures. Possible academic penalties range from a verbal or written admonition to a grade of “F” in the course. Further sanctions may apply to incidents involving major violations. The policy and procedures are available at: <http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm>.

**Acceptable Student Behavior**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct.  The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.  The Code of Student Conduct can be found at [www.deanofstudents.unt.edu](http://www.deanofstudents.unt.edu)

**Disability Access**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student.  For additional information see the Office of Disability Access website at <https://disability.unt.edu/>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**EagleConnect**

All UNT students should activate and regularly check their EagleConnect (e-mail) account. EagleConnect is used for official communication from the University to students. Many important announcements for the University and College are sent to students via EagleConnect. For information about EagleConnect, including how to activate an account and how to have EagleConnect forwarded to another e-mail address, visit <https://eagleconnect.unt.edu>. This is the main electronic contact for all course-related information and/or material.

**Emergency Notifications and Procedures**

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

**Observation of Religious Holy Days**

If you plan to observe a religious holy day that coincides with a class day, please notify your instructor as soon as possible.

### **Retention of Student Records**

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about students’ records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University’s policy.

**Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, & Assault**

UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. Because of Texas Senate Bill 212, as a UNT employee, I am required by law to report sexual misconduct, relationship violence, stalking, and crimes. I cannot keep those things confidential if you reveal any of those to me. If you need a confidential resource available on campus or in the local community then I can refer you.

UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT’s Dean of Students’ website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: <http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0>.  Esther Oppong is UNT’s Student Advocate and she can be reached through e-mail at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](http://SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students’ office at 940-565-2648.  You are not alone.  We are here to help.

**Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)**

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13 and 14 of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" ([no-reply@iasystem.org](mailto:no-reply@iasystem.org)) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the spot website at [www.spot.unt.edu](http://www.spot.unt.edu) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto:spot@unt.edu).

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

(Course Content and Schedule Subject to Change)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Class Discussion** | **Assignments Due** |
|  |  |  |
| **1/18-1/20** | **Intro, Syllabus, Group Exercise** |  |
| **1/25-1/27** | **Corey & Corey CH 1** |  |
| **2/1-2/3** | **Corey & Corey CH 2** |  |
| **2/8-2/10** | **Corey & Corey CH 3** | **Homework Assignment #1 Due**  **FEB 11** |
| **2/15-2/17** | **Corey & Corey CH 4** |  |
| **2/22-2/24** | **Corey & Corey CH 5 & CH 6** |  |
| **3/1-3/3** | **Corey & Corey CH 6 & Group Exercises** |  |
| **3/8-3/10** | **Corey & Corey CH 7** | **Homework Assignment #2 DUE MAR 11** |
| **3/15-3/17** | **SPRING BREAK NO CLASSES** |  |
| **3/22-3/24** | **Corey & Corey CH 8** |  |
| **3/29-3/31** | **Corey & Corey CH 9** |  |
| **4/5-4/7** | **Corey & Corey CH 10** | **Homework Assignment #3 DUE APR 8** |
| **4/12-4/14** | **Group Breakouts and Discussion** |  |
| **4/19-4/21** | **Corey & Corey CH 11** |  |
| **4/26-4/28** | **Group Exercise and Speaker** |  |
| **5/3-5/5** | **Case Study and Final Review** | **Group Development Paper DUE MAY 6** |
| **5/10-5/12** | **Finals** |  |