Course Title:
Seminar in Group Dynamics

Course Number:
HR 5083-220

Course Description:
This course will focus on theories and practices of group dynamics. It is designed to study groups as living systems through both experiential (laboratory) methods and didactic learning. The course will also help students to develop and improve group facilitation skills by exploration of the stages of group development, member roles, leadership principles, ethical guidelines for group leaders and types of groups. Through self-analysis and observation of other group members, students will also study trust issues, resistance, content/process, conflict management, and gender/cultural differences in communication.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: February 5-10, 2013
Location: Classes held at Building 2784, Room 301, Kapaun Air Station on Vogelweh Air Base.
Hours: Tue-Fri 6:00-9:30 p.m.; Sat-Sun 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: January 7, 2013

Site Director:
Kendra Burnside. Assistant: Janee LeFrere. Phone: DSN 480-6807, Civilian 06371-47-6807; After Hours: 0174-175-4754 or 0151-2414-2807; Fax: 06371-479839; E-mail: apramstein@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Deborah Goodman, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: 4709 Seabrook Court
Oklahoma City, OK 73142
Telephone Number: (405) 751-4278
E-mail Address: Debbygood@Cox.net
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the Follett/AP Bookstore located in the Oklahoma Memorial Union, 900 Asp Ave., Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahomaunion bkstr.com or by telephone at 866-369-9713 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-5960 (outside the U.S.). E-mail orders may be sent to oklahomaunion@bkstr.com. Representatives are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST on Friday. Summer hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CST. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day to 866-223-5607 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-7140 (outside the U.S.). (Text prices are available online.)

Note: The Follett/AP Bookstore is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through the Follett/AP Bookstore.

**Course Objectives:**

Through required reading, lectures, audio-visuals, group discussions, small group activities and team presentations this course will help students to do the following:

1. understand groups and show everyday application of these ideas through observation and participation in group activities;
2. identify the tasks and procedures for forming effective and cohesive groups;
3. explore the concepts of group dynamics including group norms, group making, conflict management, cultural and gender differences, leadership theories, member roles, and group problem solving;
4. practice effective skills needed to lead and facilitate group sessions;
5. understand their personal and group skills, do self-analysis, and participate as a member of a simulated group;
6. teach students to identify how group dynamic models may be applied to a variety of settings; and,
7. develop a greater awareness of their individual role in group dynamics, their leadership skills, their ability to manage conflict, and their behavioral impact on other people in a group situation.

**Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:**

1. Class attendance, participation, and punctuality: For a minimum grade, students are expected to attend all class sessions, arrive on time so that small group activities can begin as soon as class begins, participate as a small group member, and lead their small group in a planned activity. If there is an emergency (e.g., illness, delays getting to class because of accidents, deaths, or hazardous road conditions) the absence can be excused and the student given the opportunity to make up work. If students miss class because of an emergency work related activity, students should contact the instructor and arrange for make-up work.
2. Group Leader: Each student will lead an opening/warm-up exercise (20-30 minutes long) for their small group and facilitate their small group’s discussion for one session. Students may use warm-up activities or ice-breakers from the internet or their previous group experiences, use exercises from the text, or choose an activity provided by the professor. (5 points)
3. Readings and Report: Due the first night of class is an 8-10 page report of the first 10 chapters of the Johnson and Johnson textbook, *Joining Together: Group Theory and Group Skills*. In this report, students are asked to identify some of the most important concepts and theories in the first 10 chapters. For each chapter, elaborate through definitions, explanations and at least two citations in the text of the paper from each chapter. Use the APA style to give the authors’ credit when you quote and paraphrase them (e.g., Johnson & Johnson, 2003, p. 25). If you quote another theorist in the book please cite (Author’s name as cited in Johnson & Johnson, 2003, p.). Write the paper as if it were a term paper (e.g., include an introduction and conclusion) but there is no need to include a reference page (since there is only one resource). The paper will be graded on content (70%), writing skills (e.g., paragraph development, grammar and punctuation) (20%), and using the APA format (10%). (Please note: The professor will return the graded paper to the students by the last day of class.) Two points will be deducted from the paper for each day past due. **Due: the first night of class. (25 points)**
4. In-class Assignments: At various times during class, students will write critiques of their small group experiences. Using self-analysis and observational skills, students will include significant group experiences, their role/s in the group dynamics, significant interactions within the group, and what they have learned about themselves and others. It is also important to apply group dynamics theory and concepts to the group experience and note group member’s involvement, influence, competence, focus on tasks, listening to others, openness, etc. These assignments should be one to two pages long. **(10 Points)**
5. Task Group Panel Presentation: Each student will be assigned to a task group. The group will choose a controversial issue of current importance and present the background information about all sides of the issue in a 30 minute oral presentation. There should be diverse opinions represented in the task group on the chosen topic. (Please be creative in your presentation). This group experience will help the students to practice effective group dynamics (i.e., actively involved, effectively communicating, influencing group behavior, working cooperatively, managing conflict, valuing diversity, listening to others, and focusing on the group’s task). Students will have class time to meet in the small group to prepare the presentation. A full-sentence outline of the presentation is due on the day of the presentation. (15 points)

6. Final Examination: An in-class final (open-book exam) will be a summation of your group experiences. Using theories and concepts, you will “make sense” of your own small group experience as well as your experience as a class group member. Due: Last day of class. (15 points)

7. Post - Seminar Assignment: Using the text and a few other resources (academic articles or other books), analyze a positive or negative group experience that you have had in light of what you have learned about group dynamics. (Note: Please do not use the small group experience that you had in this class.) Utilize at least four constructs (i.e., leadership, communication, power, decision making, conflict, stages of group development, member roles, or diversity) to illustrate your understanding. Give suggestions for ways you could have improved the group’s effectiveness, the most important lessons you learned from the experience, and how the culture within which the group exists influenced the members of the group. Due Date: Two weeks after the last day of class. (30 points)

The paper should be written in the style of a term paper (please see the APA Manual) with citations in the paper from your resources. Include a reference page. Please double-space and use the APA format. Your paper will be graded on content, writing skills (e.g., paragraph development, grammar, and punctuation), correct use of the APA style and use of other references besides the text. (8-12 pages).

Please e-mail your paper to my address Debbygood@Cox.net (no FAX please). The only exceptions will be verified military duty.

Grading:
This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. Grading Scale: 90% of 100 = A; 80% of 100 = B; 70% of 100 = C

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<tr>
<th>Criteria for Evaluation</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Group leader of small group exercise</td>
<td>5 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-class assignments</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task group panel presentation</td>
<td>15 points</td>
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<td>Johnson and Johnson critique</td>
<td>25 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>15 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-Seminar Assignment</td>
<td>30 points</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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NOTICE: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy.

Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement;
- assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the “Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity” found at http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity

Accommodation Statement

The College of Continuing Education [Advanced Programs] is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Copyright

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA

Deborah Downing Goodman

Education
- 1993  Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, University of Oklahoma
- 1986  Master of Human Relations, University of Oklahoma

Current Positions
- Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Health and Exercise Science, University of Oklahoma
- Advanced Programs Professor, Department of Human Relations, 1993-present
- Assistant Professor, Department of Human Relations, 1999-2003, University of Oklahoma
- Consultant and Certified Sexuality Educator 1986-Present

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses
- HR 5013  Current Problems in Human Relations
- HR 5093  Introduction to Graduate Studies in Human Relations
- HR 5110  Sex Education for the Human Services Professional
- HR 5163  Seminar in Nonverbal Behavior in Human Relations
- HR 5083  Seminar in Group Dynamics

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest
- Culturally sensitive health promotion and curriculum development
- Native American education
- Sexuality education and family life education
- Participatory community development/empowerment model programming

Representative Publications and Presentations
- Out of the Box, Into the Circle: Participatory Community Development. Publishing Possibilities, 1997

Representative Honors and Awards Received
- Fine Fellowship
- Letseizer Award
- Board of Trustees (Past), Oklahoma City National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism
- Board of Trustees, Institute of American Indian Arts and Culture (IAIA), 2001-Present

Major Professional Affiliations
- AASECT (American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors and Therapists)
- SEICUS