GROUP COUNSELING--HRE 315
Doane College Grand Island
Syllabus

Instructor: Susan Milner, PLMHP
Credits: 3
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Course Description:
A study of the basic issues and key concepts involved in group counseling and the application of these concepts to a variety of therapeutic groups.
Prerequisite: CMS 112 and PSY 234

Required Textbook:

Publisher: Brooks Cole

Instructional Methods:
Leadership and facilitator responsibilities will be shared and counseling techniques will be practiced. In addition to lecture and discussion, videos and skills practice will be incorporated in class.

Learning Goals:
Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:
1. Understand theories which apply to group counseling.
2. Identify concepts and techniques from the various therapeutic models effective in therapeutic group activities.
3. Describe and demonstrate the role of facilitating and co-facilitating a group, including the use of strategies to increase clients’ ability for problem solving.
4. Understand personal facilitation style for group work.
5. Apply identified techniques used in the group counseling process.
6. Examine ethical and professional issues in group leadership.

Description of learning strategies used to accomplish the objectives:
A variety of learning activities, including participation in a group process, will be utilized during this course.

Methods for assessment of student performance:
a. Attendance is expected and absences will be penalized at least 5 points (from course grade).
b. Grades will be calculated based upon the percentage of points earned out of the total possible points (100). The grading scale will be:
   A=90-100  B=80-89  C=70-79  D=60-69
c. Late papers/assignments will be penalized at least 5 points (from course grade)
d. Academic Integrity Policy:
The Doane College Academic Integrity Policy will be adhered to in this class. All projects and tests will represent your own work. Any use of others’ ideas and words without proper citation of sources is plagiarism and will result in penalties to be determined by the instructor and/or the dean of undergraduate studies.
Assignments:--Total points for the 8 weeks: 100 points

Lead Group Experience 20
Reflection Papers/Worksheets 25
Attendance 35
Co-facilitate Group 20

Each student will lead (facilitate) a group experience and co-facilitate a group experience. Leading the group will require the leader to prepare a specific topic for discussion and to use the guidelines provided by the instructor. Co-facilitating the group will require the individual to support the leader as well as interject to keep the group functioning. Scoring guidelines will include: ability to guide the group interaction, the type of questioning utilized, the topic provided, etc. A reflection paper for both leading the group and co-facilitating the group will be due the following week. This will need to be:
Typed
Double-spaced
Minimum of two pages in length reflecting on:
  a. leading or co-leading the group
  b. how you decided on the topic
  c. interaction with the other group members while in group
  d. application of the group process.
*Students are expected to observe ethical principles at all times in group session and in class.

Attendance-
Participation in group activities is crucial to the learning process for group counseling. Attendance is a vital part of your learning experience. Therefore, the following will be used to finalize grades:
Absent from one class Makeup work from class due the following week
Absent from two classes Loss of 5 pts. from total grade average for the 8 weeks
Absent from three classes Will result in failure of the class

Schedule of lessons:

Week 1 Class Expectations, Group Practices, Group Roles, Ethics Ch. 1, 2, & 3
Week 2 Ch. 4 & 5, Groups 1 & 2
Week 3 Ch. 6 & 7, Groups 1 & 2
Week 4 Ch. 8 & 9, Groups 1 & 2
Week 5 Ch. 10 & 11, Groups 1 & 2
Week 6 Ch. 12 & 13, Groups 1 & 2
Week 7 Ch. 14 & 15, Groups 1 & 2
Week 8 Ch. 16, Evaluations