

City University of Hong Kong

**Information on a Course
offered by Department of Applied Social Sciences
with effect from Semester Summer 2014**

Part I

Course Title:	Social Work Theories and Practice II: Working with Groups
Course Code:	SS5210
Course Duration:	One Semester
No. of Credit Units:	3
Level:	P5
Medium of Instruction:	English, supplemented by Cantonese/Putonghua in live demonstration, skills rehearsal, and role-play exercises as situation requires.
Medium of Assessment:	English
Prerequisites:	Nil
Precursors:	Nil
Equivalent Courses:	Nil
Exclusive Courses:	Nil

Part II

Course Aims

This course aims to enable students to meet partially the requirements set by the Social Work Registration Board regarding social work theories and practice. It will help the student be more prepared for the social work profession through acquiring and applying social work values, ethics, principles, as well as theoretical frameworks, knowledge and skills of practice within the context of group settings. It is designed to help social work students of diverse interests and abilities to become critical thinkers in order to integrate the knowledge, skills and values learned in this course within the specific cultures of their clients.

This course aims to

- 1.1 examine the nature and development of theories and methods of practice in the area of

social work with groups;

1.2 acquire an overview of the social work processes in working with target systems at the mezzo level; and

1.3 develop cognitive and ethical competencies for implementing social work interventions appropriate to the target system in the local context.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

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

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1.	Describe theories and methods of social work practice with groups;	30%
2.	Analyze the needs and problems of client- and group-situations from four levels -- personal, inter-personal, organizational, and societal levels;	15%
3.	Analyze twenty-two aspects of group work practice;	30%
4.	Design a group proposal and an evaluation plan appropriate to the target system for use in the practicum in the local context with reference to the framework for ethical competence in social work; and	10%
5.	Apply skills in social work practice within the local cultural context of group settings.	15%

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

CILO No.	TLA1	TLA2	TLA3	TLA4	Hours / course (if applicable)
CILO 1	√	√	√		30%
CILO 2	√	√	√	√	10%
CILO 3	√	√	√	√	40%
CILO 4	√	√			10%
CILO 5	√		√	√	10%

TLA1: Learning Package and Study Questions: Students will be given a specially designed learning package with study questions for preparation before each class.

TLA2: Mini Lecture and Video Demonstration (24 hours): Concepts, theories, and methods of social work with groups are explained. Video Demonstration about real life cases and scenarios will be shown.

TLA3: Tutorial Discussion and Role Play (15 hours): Real cases will be used for students to apply what they learn through lectures and reading materials in analyzing group-situations. Dual emphasis will be accomplished through analyzing the needs and problems from four levels and in twenty-two aspects of group work practice as well as using skills appropriately through role play and discussion.

TLA4: E-learning (10 hours): Students are required to join the discussion in the Blackboard on how to intervene in a given group-situation which will develop every week.

Assessment Tasks/Activities

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

CILO No.	Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities	Weighting (if applicable)	Remarks
CILOs 1-3	AT1: Closed Book Examination	40%	
CILOs 1, 2, 3, 5	AT2: Tutorial Discussion and Role Play	30%	
CILO 4	AT3: Individual Proposal	30%	

This course uses an active learning format with reliance on self-learning, mini lecture with video-demonstration, tutorials on case analysis and the appropriate use of skills through small group discussion.

AT1: Examination (40%)

The three-hour closed book examination is designed to gauge the student's grasp on concepts, theories and knowledge introduced in the reading materials, as well as the ability to apply them to solve problems in various group-situations.

AT2: Tutorial Discussion and Role Play (30%)

Students will be assessed on their application of theories and methods of social work with groups in the group-situations, application of relevant skills in the role plays, and subsequent discussion in the Tutorial sessions.

AT3: Individual Proposal (30%)

Each student will work on a 3000-word proposal designed to test the student's ability in applying best-available practice knowledge to analyze and plan for intervention of a client-group-situation.

Grading of Student Achievement:

Refer to Grading of Courses in the Academic Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Degrees.

Letter Grade	Grading criteria in relation to CILOs
A+ A A-	Demonstrates evidence of excellent grasp of knowledge on theories and methods of social work with groups; Shows excellent ability to apply knowledge in analyzing the needs and problems of client- and group-situations as well as twenty-two aspects of group work practice accurately; Shows novel ways to analyze from a range of different viewpoints; Presents an outstanding group proposal which shows an extensive and appropriate use of theories and methods pertinent to the target group-situation with full reference to the framework for ethical competence in social work in the local cultural context; and Demonstrates evidence of appropriate use of group work skills.
B+ B B-	Demonstrates evidence of reasonable understanding of knowledge on theories and methods of social work with groups; Shows good ability to apply knowledge in analyzing the needs and problems of client- and

	group-situations as well as twenty-two aspects of group work practice; Shows some originality and logical argument in analysis; Presents a properly prepared group proposal which shows an appropriate use of theories and methods pertinent to the target group-situation with strong reference to the framework for ethical competence in social work in the local cultural context; and Demonstrates evidence of appropriate use of group work skills.
C+ C C-	Demonstrates basic understanding of knowledge on theories and methods of social work with groups; Shows limited ability to apply knowledge in analyzing the needs and problems of client- and group-situations as well as twenty-two aspects of group work practice; Shows some evidence of critical thought in analysis; Presents a group proposal which shows a minimum acceptable use of theories and methods pertinent to the target group-situation with some reference to the framework for ethical competence in social work in the local cultural context; and Demonstrates some evidence of appropriate use of group work skills.
D	Demonstrates limited understanding of knowledge on theories and methods; Shows inadequate ability to apply knowledge in analyzing the needs and problems of client- and group-situations as well as twenty-two aspects of group work practice; Shows little ability to critique arguments in analysis; Presents a group proposal which shows minimum use of some concepts, principles facts, theories, and methods relevant to the target group-situation with little reference to the framework for ethical competence in social work in the local cultural context; and Demonstrates limited evidence of appropriate use of group work skills.
F	Demonstrates little evidence of understanding of knowledge on theories and methods; Shows poor ability to apply knowledge in analyzing the needs and problems of client- and group-situations as well as twenty-two aspects of group work practice; Shows limited ability to present arguments in a logical manner in analysis; Presents a group proposal which shows little or no use of concepts, principles facts, theories, and methods relevant to the target group-situation with no reference to the framework for ethical competence in social work in the local cultural context; and Demonstrates no evidence of appropriate use of group work skills.

Part III

1. Keyword Syllabus

1.1 Theories and methods

Theoretical models underlying different approaches in working with groups, models of group development, alternative paradigms in group development models

1.2 Needs and problems of client- and group-situations

Needs analysis at four levels -- personal, inter-personal, organizational, and societal levels, problems and issues in working with groups: power, authority, individual- worker-member-group relationships, the framework for ethical competence in social work

1.3 Analyze aspects of group work practice

Analysis: client, motivation, suitability (types of groups), formation, needs, external structure, worker, leadership, agency, goal, program, dynamics, intervention, development, outcome, termination

1.4 Skills in social work practice in group settings

Skills for facilitating individual, group, and environmental changes

2. **Recommended Reading**

Essential Texts

International Federation of Social Workers (2012). *Statement of ethical principles*. Retrieved April 16, 2013 from <http://social-workers.info/>

Social Workers Registration Board (2010). *Guidelines on code of practice for registered social workers*. Retrieved April 16, 2013 from http://www.swrb.org.hk/engasp/draft_cop_c.asp

Toseland, R. W., & Rivas, R. F. (2012). *An introduction to group work practice*. (7th ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Supplementary Texts

1. 吳夢珍主編 (1992)。《小組工作》。香港: 香港社會工作人員協會。
 2. 楊家正, 陳高凌, 廖盧慧貞合編 (1998)。《小組工作實踐: 個案匯篇》。香港: 香港社會工作人員協會。
 3. 郭黎玉晶, 廖盧慧貞, 霍瑞堯, 周愛華, 劉達志 (2001)。《小組工作自學教材》。香港: 香港城市大學社會科學學部。
 4. 何潔雲編 (2001)。《小組工作程序計劃簿》。香港: 理工大學應用社會科學系。
 5. 林孟平著 (1993)。《小組輔導與心理治療》。香港: 商務印書館。
 6. 甘炳光編 (2009)。《小組遊戲帶領技巧—從概念到實踐》。香港: 香港城市大學出版社。
1. Brown, L.N. (1991). *Groups for growth and change*. N.Y.: Longman.
 2. Henry, S. (1992). *Group skills in social work: A four dimensional approach*. (2nd ed.) Pacific Grove, C.A.: Brooks/Cole Publishing Company.
 3. Johnson, D.W. & Johnson, F.P. (2013). *Joining together: Group theory and group*

skills. (11th ed.) Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

4. Reid, K. E. (1997). *Social work practice with groups: A clinical perspective*. (2nd ed.). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.
5. Shulman, L. (2012). *The skills of helping individuals, families, groups and communities*. (7th ed.). Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole Cengage learning.
6. Steinberg, D. M. (2004). *The mutual-aid approach to working with groups: Helping people help each other*. (2nd ed.). London: Jason-Aronson.
7. Sundel, M. Glasser, P., Sarri, R. & Vinter, R. (1985). *Individual change through small groups*. (2nd ed.). N.Y.: The Free Press.
8. Vinik. A. & Levin, M. (Eds.). (1991). *Social action in group work*. N.Y.: The Haworth Press.

Online Resources

1. 李德仁 (2004). 「遊戲的理論與實踐：室內遊戲的設計與進行」。光碟。小組工作教材系列之一。香港：城市大學應用社會科學系。
2. 李德仁 (2004). 「應用以歷程為導向的小組工作手法幫助兒童及青少年」。光碟。小組工作教材系列之二。香港：城市大學應用社會科學系。
3. Gitterman, A. & Shulman, L. (Eds.). (2005). *Mutual aid groups, vulnerable populations, and the life cycle*. N.Y.: Columbia University Press. [E-book]
4. Greif, G. L., & Ephross, P. H. (2005). *Group work with populations at risk*. (2nd ed.). New York: Oxford University Press. [E-book]
5. Lee, T.Y. Practice Teaching, Learning & Research <http://www7.cityu.edu.hk/sspltr/>
6. O'Hagan, K. (Ed.) (2007). *Competence in social work practice: A practical guide for students and professionals*. (2nd Ed.). London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers. [E-book]