# **SS2115: WORKING WITH GROUPS**

## **Effective Term**

Semester B 2023/24

## Part I Course Overview

#### **Course Title**

Working with Groups

## **Subject Code**

SS - Social and Behavioural Sciences

## **Course Number**

2115

#### **Academic Unit**

Social and Behavioural Sciences (SS)

## College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

## **Course Duration**

One Semester

## **Credit Units**

3

#### Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

## **Medium of Instruction**

Other Languages

## Other Languages for Medium of Instruction

English, supplemented by Chinese (Cantonese) in live demonstration, skills rehearsal, and role-play

#### **Medium of Assessment**

English

## **Prerequisites**

Nil

#### Precursors

SS2105 Introduction to Social Work

#### **Equivalent Courses**

SS3114 Working with Groups

## **Exclusive Courses**

Nil

# **Part II Course Details**

#### **Abstract**

This course aims to enable students to meet partially the requirements set by the Social Work Registration Board regarding social work practice theories and methods. This course aims to examine the nature and development of the methods of practice in the area of social work with groups; acquire an overview of the social work processes in working with target systems at the mezzo level; and develop the cognitive competence for designing and implementing social work interventions appropriate to the target system in the local context.

## **Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)**

	CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Describe theories and methods of social work with groups;	40		X	
2	Analyse the needs and problems of client- and group-situations from four levels personal, inter-personal, organizational, and societal levels;	20	x	х	
3	Planning and implementing a generalist social group work intervention.	40	Х	X	

#### A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

#### A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

## A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

## Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

TLAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
Lecture	Concepts, theories, and methods of social work with groups are explained.  - Learning Package and Study Questions: Students will be given a specially designed learning package with study questions for preparation before the lecture.  - Video Demonstration: Showing videos about real life cases and scenarios.	1, 2, 3	3 hours/week

2	Presentation and Role Play	- Leading Group Presentation: Students will be arranged into small group and present assigned topics. Students have to study the topics and present relevant strategies in group setting Role play: The students form into small groups to role play to demonstrate the learnt group skills.	1, 2, 3	3 hours (4 Tutorials)
3	Consultation	- Consultation: Students are required to make appointment to discuss in detail their plan on presentation and role play. Students are also encouraged to discuss issues and problems with their teachers.	1, 2, 3	1 hour/week for the last 6 weeks

## Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.		Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	Presentation and Role Play	1, 2, 3	30	
2	Term Paper	1, 2, 3	30	

## Continuous Assessment (%)

60

## Examination (%)

40

## **Examination Duration (Hours)**

3

## **Assessment Rubrics (AR)**

## **Assessment Task**

1. Presentation and Role Play

## Criterion

- 1.1 ABILITY to examine and present a specific topic in group work which demonstrate their understanding of group theories, methods.
- 1.2 ABILITY to demonstrate the appropriate use of group skills in role play.

## Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

## Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

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Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

#### **Assessment Task**

2. Term Paper

## Criterion

- 2.1 ABILITY to APPLY concepts, theories, methods, and knowledge with ACCURACY in analysing social work intervention with groups.
- 2.2 Organization of paper
- 2.3 Writing skills and proper reference

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

HIgh

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal level

#### **Assessment Task**

3. Examination

## Criterion

3.1 ABILITY to DESCRIBE with ACCURACY concepts, theories, methods, and knowledge of social work with groups; 3.2 ABILITY to APPLY concepts, theories, methods, and knowledge with ACCURACY in analysing social work intervention with groups.

#### Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Correctly answer over 75% of the questions. High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Correctly answer 60-74% of the questions. Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Correctly answer 45-59% of the questions. Moderate

## Marginal (D)

Correctly answer 40-44% of the questions. Basic

## Failure (F)

Correctly answer less than 40% of the questions.

# **Part III Other Information**

## **Keyword Syllabus**

Nature of group and its use. Types of groups. Understanding how a group works: structure and process. Group dynamics, power, authority, leadership, individual experience, member status, worker-member relationship, and models of group development. Planning and forming a group, setting group goals, assessment of individual members, group processes, and group environment, facilitating individual, group, and environmental change. Program means. Group termination and evaluation. Theoretical models underlying different approaches in working with groups. Problems and issues in working with groups.

## **Reading List**

## **Compulsory Readings**

	Title
1	Toseland, R. W., & Rivas, R. F. (2021). An introduction to group work practice, an Global Edition. (9th ed.). Pearson Education

## **Additional Readings**

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	Title
1	Johnson, D. W., & Johnson, F. P. (2017). Joining together: group theory and group skills (Twelfth edition.). Pearson
2	Corey, M. S., Corey, G., & Corey, C. (2018). Groups: process and practice (Tenth edition.). Cengage Learning.
3	Garvin, C. D., Gutie#rrez, L. M., & Galinsky, M. J. (Eds.). (2017). Handbook of social work with groups (Second edition.). The Guilford Press.
4	Crawford, K., Price, M., & Price, B. (2015). Groupwork practice for social workers. SAGE Publications.
5	Steinberg, D. M. (2014). The mutual-aid model for working with groups (3rd Ed.). Abingdon. Oxon: Routledge (res HV45.S783)
6	Shulman, L. (2012). The skills of helping individuals, families, groups and communities. (7th Ed.). Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole Cengage learning. (res HV11.S493 2012). A very important book on the Interactional Model of group work practice.
7	Balgopal, P., & Rassil, T. (1983). Groups in social work: An ecological perspective. N.Y.: Macmillan. (res HV45.B25). A textbook with good practical guides on how to do as a social worker with lists of practice principles.
8	Alissi, A. S. (Ed.). (1980). Perspectives on social group work practice: A book of readings. New York: The Free Press. (res HV45.P46). A book of classic articles covering all major group work models before 1980.
9	Brown, L. N. (1991). Groups for growth and change. N.Y.: Longman. (res HV45.B745).
10	Gitterman, A. & Shulman, L. (Eds.). (2005). Mutual aid groups, vulnerable populations, and the life cycle. N.Y.: Columbia University Press. (res HV45.M879). A collection of examples of mutual aid groups of different clientele. [E-book]
11	Henry, S. (1992). Group skills in social work: A four dimensional approach (2nd Ed). Pacific Grove, C.A.: Brooks/Cole Publishing Company. (res HV45.H45). Using four dimensions—Stages of group development, contract forms, worker role and location, and program media to demonstrate groups skills.
12	Johnson, D. W., & Johnson, F. P. (2009). Joining together: Group theory and group skills (10th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon. (res HM716.J64 - 6th ed.). A very good basic text on group theory and group skills that you should read and consult frequently in the initial stage of your professional life and/or your career.

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