

HSW 220: GROUP DYNAMICS AND COUNSELING

History

1. Dec 4, 2025 by Sera Bird (sabird)

Viewing: HSW 220 : Group Dynamics and Counseling

Last approved: 2025-12-04T08:03:35Z

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Effective Term

Winter 2026

Rationale and proposal summary

Update based on assessment report. Assessment plans need to be updated for more effective assessment.

Course Cover

Full Course Title

Group Dynamics and Counseling

Transcript Title

Group Dynamics and Counseling

Subject Code

HSW - Human Services Worker

Course Number

220

Cross-Listed With

SOC 220 - Group Dynamics and Counseling

Department

Behavioral Sciences Department (BEHD)

Banner Division

HSS

Division/College

Humanities, Social & Behav Sci (HS)

Org Code

11210

Course Description

In this course, students will be introduced to creating and using small groups to promote change. Group dynamics and developmental theory are studied in depth. Concepts such as norms, conformity, cohesion and patterns of interaction are covered. Students will learn to analyze and address issues such as attacking the leader and other antitherapeutic forces. The following competencies are taught: screening candidates, composing the group, attending to thoughts and feelings, linking, observing group process, using activities and exercises, as well as ethical group practice.

Planned Delivery Format

Face to Face

Has this course been approved for online or online blended?

No

Grading method

Standard Letter, Audit

CIP Code

449999 - Public Administration and Social Service Professions, Other.

Occupational Indicator

Yes

ACS Code

120

Credit hours, contact hours, repeatability

Repeatable for additional credit

No

Course credits

3

Lecture contact hours

45

Total Contact Hours

45

Expected Total Contact Hours

45

Prerequisites and prerequisite skill levels

College-Level Math

No Level Required

College-Level Reading and Writing

College-level Reading and Writing

Approved Level I Prerequisite:

Academic Reading and Writing Levels of 6; HSW 100 or SOC 100, minimum grade "C"

Is concurrent enrollment an option for this prerequisite?

No

Course Assessment Plan

Learning Outcome

Outcome

Recognize interpersonal forces typical of any group, such as norms, conformity, developmental stages, cohesion, and state how these forces can be utilized in personal healing and change.

Assessment #1

Assessment Tool

Group observation presentation

Anticipated Next Assessment Year

2027

Anticipated Next Assessment Term

Winter

Assessment Cycle

Every Three Years

Anticipated assessment population

All students from all sections

How the assessment will be scored

Departmentally-developed rubric

Who does the scoring?

Departmental faculty

Standard of success

75% of students will score 90% or higher.

Assessment #2

Assessment Tool

Outcome-related exam questions

Anticipated Next Assessment Year

2027

Anticipated Next Assessment Term

Winter

Assessment cycle

Every Three Years

Anticipated assessment population

All students from all sections

How the assessment will be scored

Answer key

Who does the scoring?

Departmental faculty

Standard of Success

70% of the students will correctly answer 70% of the outcome-related assessment questions.

Assessment #3

Learning Outcome

Outcome

Identify common patterns and problems (such as rescuing and attacking the leader) in group interaction, and state strategies for managing these procedures.

Assessment #1

Assessment Tool

Outcome-related components of the group project

Anticipated Next Assessment Year

2027

Anticipated Next Assessment Term

Winter

Assessment Cycle

Every Three Years

Anticipated assessment population

All students from all sections

How the assessment will be scored

Departmentally-developed rubric

Who does the scoring?

Departmental faculty

Standard of success

80% of students will score 75% or higher.

Assessment #2

Learning Outcome

Outcome

Demonstrate beginning skill in attending to thoughts and feelings, observing process and linking.

Assessment #1

Assessment Tool

Outcome-related components of the group project

Anticipated Next Assessment Year

2027

Anticipated Next Assessment Term

Winter

Assessment Cycle

Every Three Years

Anticipated assessment population

All students from all sections

How the assessment will be scored

Departmentally-developed rubric

Who does the scoring?

Departmental faculty

Standard of success

80% of students will score 75% or higher.

Assessment #2

Learning Outcome

Outcome

Distinguish between ethical and unethical group practice.

Assessment #1

Assessment Tool

Outcome-related exam questions

Anticipated Next Assessment Year

2027

Anticipated Next Assessment Term

Winter

Assessment Cycle

Every Three Years

Anticipated assessment population

All students from all sections

How the assessment will be scored

Answer key

Who does the scoring?

Departmental faculty

Standard of success

70% of the students will correctly answer 70% of the outcome-related assessment questions.

Assessment #2**Course Objectives**

Objective(s)	
1.	Identify the concepts of conformity, cohesion, norms and control mechanisms.
2.	Describe how interpersonal forces present in small groups can be utilized in promoting change in individual group members.
3.	State the characteristics of group behavior commonly found in each stage of development.
4.	Explain the consequences of the failure of a group to progress through its developmental stages.
5.	Describe and explain the concepts of content, process and latent content.
6.	Describe common problems arising in small group interaction, such as cliques and rescuing.
7.	Describe ways of effectively managing the above common patterns and problems.
8.	Demonstrate beginning skill in increasing client self-awareness.
9.	Demonstrate beginning skill in increasing client awareness and expression of affect.
10.	Demonstrate beginning skill in observing group process and linking group members.
11.	Demonstrate the ability to judge whether a group leader's behavior is ethical or unethical.
12.	Identify strategies for avoiding or managing unethical or ethically ambiguous, group situations.

General Education Area(s)**Area 1: Writing**

No

Area 2: 2nd Writing or Communication/Speech

No

Area 3: Mathematics

No

Area 4: Natural Science

No

Area 5: Social and Behavioral Science

No

Area 6: Arts and Humanities

No

MTA General Education

No

Review

Is conditional approval requested?

No

Is this course currently conditionally approved, and you are now submitting it for full approval?

No

Key: 6836

Washtenaw Community College Comprehensive Report

HSW 220 Group Dynamics and Counseling Effective Term: Fall 2020

Course Cover

Division: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: Human Services Worker

Course Number: 220

Org Number: 11210

Full Course Title: Group Dynamics and Counseling

Transcript Title: Group Dynamics and Counseling

Is Consultation with other department(s) required: No

Publish in the Following: College Catalog , Time Schedule , Web Page

Reason for Submission: Three Year Review / Assessment Report

Change Information:

Consultation with all departments affected by this course is required.

Outcomes/Assessment

Rationale: Update syllabus as result of assessment report

Proposed Start Semester: Fall 2020

Course Description: In this course, students are introduced to using small groups to promote change. Group dynamics and developmental theory are studied in depth. Concepts such as norms, conformity, cohesion and patterns of interaction are covered. Problems such as scapegoating and triangulation are analyzed. The following competencies are taught: screening candidates, composing the group, attending to thoughts and feelings, linking, observing group process, using activities and exercises, and ethical group practice.

Course Credit Hours

Variable hours: No

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45

Lab: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

Clinical: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

Total Contact Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45

Repeatable for Credit: NO

Grading Methods: Letter Grades

Audit

Are lectures, labs, or clinicals offered as separate sections?: NO (same sections)

College-Level Reading and Writing

College-level Reading & Writing

College-Level Math

Requisites

Prerequisite

HSW 100 minimum grade "C"

or

Prerequisite

SOC 100 minimum grade "C"

General Education**Request Course Transfer**

Proposed For:

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Recognize interpersonal forces typical of any group, such as norms, conformity, developmental stages, cohesion, and state how these forces can be utilized in personal healing and change.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Group observation presentation

Assessment Date: Winter 2023

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: all students

Number students to be assessed: all sections

How the assessment will be scored: departmentally-developed rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score 90% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data: departmental faculty

Assessment 2

Assessment Tool: Multiple choice exam

Assessment Date: Winter 2023

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections

Number students to be assessed: All students

How the assessment will be scored: Answer key

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will correctly answer 70% of the outcome-related assessment questions.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

2. Identify common patterns and problems (such as rescuing and scapegoating) in group interaction, and state strategies for managing these procedures.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Group observation presentation

Assessment Date: Winter 2023

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: all students

Number students to be assessed: all sections

How the assessment will be scored: departmentally-developed rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score 90% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data: departmental faculty

Assessment 2

Assessment Tool: Multiple choice exam

Assessment Date: Winter 2023

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections

Number students to be assessed: All students

How the assessment will be scored: Answer key

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will correctly answer 70% of the outcome-related assessment questions.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

3. Demonstrate beginning skill in attending to thoughts and feelings, observing process and linking.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Group observation presentation

Assessment Date: Winter 2023

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: all students

Number students to be assessed: all sections

How the assessment will be scored: departmentally-developed rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score 90% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data: departmental faculty

Assessment 2

Assessment Tool: Multiple choice exam

Assessment Date: Winter 2023

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections

Number students to be assessed: All students

How the assessment will be scored: Answer key

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will correctly answer 70% of the outcome-related assessment questions.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

4. Distinguish between ethical and unethical group practice.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Group observation presentation

Assessment Date: Winter 2023

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: all students

Number students to be assessed: all sections

How the assessment will be scored: departmentally-developed rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score 90% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data: departmental faculty

Assessment 2

Assessment Tool: Multiple choice exam

Assessment Date: Winter 2023

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections

Number students to be assessed: All students

How the assessment will be scored: Answer key

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will correctly answer 70% of the outcome-related assessment questions.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

Course Objectives

1. Identify the concepts of conformity, cohesion, norms and control mechanisms.
2. Describe how interpersonal forces present in small groups can be utilized in promoting change in individual group members.
3. State the characteristics of group behavior commonly found in each stage of development.
4. Explain the consequences of the failure of a group to progress through its developmental stages.
5. Describe and explain the concepts of content, process and latent content.
6. Describe common problems arising in small group interaction, such as cliques and scapegoating.
7. Describe ways of effectively managing the above common patterns and problems.
8. Demonstrate beginning skill in increasing client self-awareness.
9. Demonstrate beginning skill in increasing client awareness and expression of affect.
10. Demonstrate beginning skill in observing group process and linking group members.
11. Demonstrate the ability to judge whether a group leader's behavior is ethical or unethical.

12. Identify strategies for avoiding or managing unethical or ethically ambiguous, group situations.

New Resources for Course

Course Textbooks/Resources

Textbooks
Manuals
Periodicals
Software

Equipment/Facilities

<u>Reviewer</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Date</u>
Faculty Preparer: <i>Will Teague</i>	<i>Faculty Preparer</i>	<i>Dec 04, 2019</i>
Department Chair/Area Director: <i>Starr Burke</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Dec 05, 2019</i>
Dean: <i>Scott Britten</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Dec 05, 2019</i>
Curriculum Committee Chair: <i>Lisa Veasey</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Jul 21, 2020</i>
Assessment Committee Chair: <i>Shawn Deron</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Jul 22, 2020</i>
Vice President for Instruction: <i>Kimberly Hurns</i>	<i>Approve</i>	<i>Jul 28, 2020</i>