PSY 409.01: Group Processes

Spring 2016

Course Days/Times: M, W, & F 2:00 – 2:50 pm  Location: HEN207

Instructor: Jordan Brummett, M.S.  Email Address:

Office Location: Binnion  
Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 3-4 pm and by appointment

Required Textbook:


eCollege Student Technical Support

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- Chat Support: Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Email: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Help: Click on the 'Help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions etc...)

Course Description: This class is designed to introduce the student to the basic aspects of group interaction. The fundamental principles of group membership, identity and interaction will be identified. Topics that will be discussed include leadership, communication skills and patterns, conflict styles and resolutions, viewing diversity as a strength, needs for and uses of power, and team development and training. The student will develop these skills through active participation in numerous group activities and environments.

Course Philosophy: I believe that learning can be educational and fun. This course contains a lot of information and not enough time to go through it all...so, buckle down and get ready!
Course Assignments:

1) **Exams** – There will be three exams worth 10% each. This means 30% of your grade will be determined by exams.

2) **Final Reflection**- You will write a 2 page Times New Roman 12 pt font reflection paper over the semester and your role as a group leader. 10% of your grade.

3) **Online Discussions** – You will need to participate in 10 online discussions throughout the semester. Each of the discussions will be worth 1%, giving discussions an overall 10% of your grade.

4) **Leading Group** – You will be placed into groups of 4 and required to conduct a group session. More information will be given on this in class. This will be worth 40% of your grade.

5) **Research** – You will need to complete at least 6 research studies through SONA research system. Directions will be handed out later in the semester. This assignment is worth 10%.

Grades will be calculated as follows:

- A: 90-100 points
- B: 80-89 points
- C: 70-79 points
- D: 60-69 points
- F: below 59 points

**Communication and Support**

It is best to reach me by my email listed at the top of the page. I check it at least once every day, so if you do not hear back from me within 48 hours, you should resend the email. I will also periodically communicate with the entire class through your leomail address, so be sure to check it often!

**Course Procedures/Policies**

**Academic Honesty Policy:**

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined
as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material. If you are confused on what plagiarism is, please consult the following websites:

http://www.plagiarism.org/
http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html
http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml

Assignment Policy:

All assignments are due by the date listed in the syllabus unless otherwise discussed in class. No late work will be accepted!

Attendance Policy:

Students are allowed up to 4 unexcused absences. If more than 4 occur, the instructor has the ability to drop the student from the course. Excused absences must provide documentation (i.e. doctor’s note).

Exam Policy:

Exams are given in-class and therefore can NOT be made up without an excused letter (i.e. doctor’s note). Arrangements should be made prior to exam date. All missed exams result in a grade of 0.

Dropping the Course:

A student may drop a course by logging into their myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled 'Drop a class' from among the choices found under the myLEO section of the Web page.

University Procedures

Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:
Student Conduct:

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).
## Tentative Schedule

*Subject to change as semester progresses*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>Chapter/Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/18-1/22</td>
<td>Intro to Course; Ch. 1 Group Dynamics</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1/25-1/29</td>
<td>Ch. 2 Experiential Learning</td>
<td>D1</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2/1-2/5</td>
<td>Ch. 3 Group Goals; Ch. 4 Communication with Groups</td>
<td>D2</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2/8-2/12</td>
<td>Ch. 1-4 Review</td>
<td>EXAM 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2/15-2/19</td>
<td>Ch. 5 Leadership; Ch. 6 Using Power</td>
<td>D3</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2/22-2/26</td>
<td>Ch. 6 cont.; Ch. 7 Decision Making</td>
<td>D4</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>2/29-3/4</td>
<td>Ch. 8 Controversy &amp; Creativity; Ch. 9 Managing Conflicts of Interest</td>
<td>D5</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>3/7-3/11</td>
<td>Ch. 5-9 Review</td>
<td>EXAM 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>3/14-3/18</td>
<td><strong>SPRING BREAK (NO CLASS)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>3/21-3/25</td>
<td>Ch. 10 Valuing Diversity; Ch. 11 Cooperative Learning In Classroom</td>
<td>D6</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>3/28-4/1</td>
<td>Ch. 12 Leading Growth &amp; Counseling Groups; Ch. 13 Team Development, Team Training</td>
<td>D7</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>4/4-4/8</td>
<td>Ch. 10-13 Review</td>
<td>EXAM 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>4/11-4/15</td>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>D8</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>4/18-4/22</td>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>D9</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>4/25-4/29</td>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>D10</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>5/2-5/6</td>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>FINAL REFLECTION Project due to Dropbox by 5/6 midnight</td>
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*Dropbox by 5/6 midnight*