Course Outline

SOCIAL WORK DIPLOMA PROGRAM

SOWK 235
SOCIAL WORK WITH GROUPS

Winter, 2016

3 CREDITS
3 HOURS PER WEEK

INSTRUCTOR: Stephanie Brake MSW, RSW
INSTRUCTOR: Stephanie Brake MSW, RSW

PHONE NUMBER: 780-791-4993

E-MAIL: Stephanie.brake@keyano.ca

OFFICE NUMBER: S113B

HOURS OF INSTRUCTION:
Tuesday 9:00 - 11:50 AM

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday – Friday 2:00 – 2:50 PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

SOWK 235 - Social Work with Groups
This course focuses on the process and dynamics of group work in social work practice. The theoretical underpinnings of group work are explored with an emphasis on values and practices that differ across cultures and consequently impact group work. A variety of group types, phases of group development, intervention techniques, and leadership qualities are examined. Students will apply concepts of group work in the classroom with opportunities to practice and observe groups.

PRE-REQUISITE(S):

There are no pre-requisites for this course.
LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
The goal of this course is to provide a student with a basic understanding of the elements and process of group work from a theoretical and practical perspective. Through classroom role-plays and exercises students will examine their roles as group members and engage in facilitating group sessions. Students will develop an awareness of their impact on a group, cultural implications, and begin to develop appropriate intervention strategies.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:
- Develop an understanding of group work and practices from different cultural perspectives
- Identify the different stages of group development and explain the characteristics of each of the respective stages
- Explain the different procedures for forming a group and facilitating groups
- Identify the various types of groups and the purposes and functions of each type of group
- Demonstrate self-awareness within a group context (impact on group and group's effect on them)
- Demonstrate use of beginning leadership skills and techniques applicable to various stages of group
- Participate effectively in groups in the learning environment

REQUIRED RESOURCES:


COURSE FORMAT
Each class will run for three hours on Mondays from 9:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. The course will be taught through lectures, discussions, experiential learning and student presentations.

COURSE CULTURE:
Class discussion is important and encouraged. Discussions may explore issues that elicit a variety of opinions and personal positions. Students should see each discussion and assignment as an opportunity to develop and hone their analytical and professional communication skills. To that end, an environment of collegiality and respect will be maintained in all class interactions. This means that, within the classroom, students and the course instructor will:
- a.) Listen with an open mind to all that is discussed;
- b.) Refrain from interrupting or talking when someone else is speaking;
- c.) Carefully assess the comments and points of view of others;
- d.) Ask for clarification, when needed;
- e.) Respectfully challenge content (not persons) in ways that lead to greater understanding for all;

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f.) Refrain from body language and voice tones that are dismissive (e.g., rolling of the eyes);  
g.) Support one another by arriving on time, refraining from parallel talk, and avoiding  
entering or leaving the classroom outside of prescribed breaks.

COURSE EVALUATION:  
The students will be evaluated as follows:  
  a.) 4 part group project (March 15-April 12) 35%  
  b.) Mid-Term Exam (covering Ch 1 & 2 MC Text  
      and Ch 1, 2, 3, 4) 30%  
  c.) Final Exam (covering Ch 5-9) 35%  
     Total: 100%

COURSE CONTENT:  

| WEEK 1 - Jan 5 | Outline and text book review  
                 | Chapter 1 The Practice of Multicultural Group Work |
| WEEK 2 - Jan 12 | Chapter 1 Groups Process and Practices, Chapter 2 The Practice of  
                  | Multicultural Group Work                          |
| WEEK 3 - Jan 19 | Chapter 2 Groups Process and Practices                  |
| WEEK 4 - Jan 26 | Chapter 3 Groups Process and Practices                  |
| WEEK 5 - Feb 2  | Chapter 4 Groups Process and Practices                  |
| WEEK 6 - Feb 9  | Midterm - 35% first half of class followed by continued discussion and  
                  | work on group presentations/activities               |
| WEEK 7 - Feb 16 | Chapter 5 Groups Process and Practices                  |
| WEEK 8 - Feb 23 | READING WEEK- NO CLASS!                                 |
| WEEK 9 - Mar 1  | **NO CLASS – Meetings with Site Visit Team for Accreditation and  
                  | Aboriginal Awareness Day Events**                  |
| WEEK 10 - Mar 8 | Chapter 6 Groups Process and Practices                  |
| WEEK 11 - Mar 15 | Chapters 7 & 8 Groups Process and Practices            |
| WEEK 12 - Mar 22 | Chapter 9 Groups Process and Practices; Chapter 13 The Practice of  
                   | Multicultural Group Work                            |
| WEEK 13 - Mar 29 | Group Projects 100% attendance required 35%            |
| WEEK 14 - Apr 5 | Group Projects 100% attendance required 35%            |
| Week 15 - April 12 | Last Class – Final Exam Review                           |
**GRADING SYSTEM:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Alpha Grade</th>
<th>4.0 Scale</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Rubric for Letter Grades</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>&gt; 92.9</td>
<td>Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>85 – 92.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>80 – 84.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>77 – 79.9</td>
<td>Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>74 – 76.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>70 – 73.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>67 – 69.9</td>
<td>Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>64 – 66.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>60 – 63.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Progression</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>55 – 59.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>50 – 54.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>&lt; 50</td>
<td>Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.</td>
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</tbody>
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Students intending to transfer to other institutions require a ‘C-’ as a minimum grade.
Transfer information on each course is available at the Alberta Council on Admission and Transfers.

Students who do not complete all the required work should not expect to pass the course.

*Students should consult:*
http://www.keyano.ca/current_students/examinations/index.htm
Academic Misconduct (see the Credit Calendar):
Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:
- Plagiarism or the submission of another person’s work as one’s own
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations
- Unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications
- The willful distortion of results or data
- Substitution in an examination by another person

Penalties for academic offences may range from a verbal reprimand to dismissal from the College, and in certain circumstances may involve legal action. (Please refer to the Credit Calendar).

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

It is the College’s goal that learning experiences be as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on a disability, please let your instructor know immediately so options can be discussed. Please call 780-791-8934 or drop in at CC – 167 (across from the Library).

Student Rights and Responsibilities:

Students should consult the Keyano College Credit Calendar
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Stephanie Brake, Instructor

Reviewed and approved by:

Vincella Thompson, Dean

Date