Syllabus

Course Information:
PSYC 5345.001 Group Counseling and Therapy. Spring 2017
Wednesday 5:00 - 7:45. Location: BEP 215

Instructor Information:
Kirk Zinck, Ph.D., LMFT
Office: HPR 214
Office Hours: Meetings are by Appointment.
Available meeting times include Tuesday 1:30-4:30.
Alternate meeting times may be available at instructor convenience.
Telephone: 903-566-7154
E-Mail: kzinck@uttyler.edu [e-mail is the best way to contact your instructor]

COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION
An introduction to group dynamics, developmental stages of a group, and theoretical approaches to group counseling. Emphasis is on acquiring pragmatic knowledge and experience, and developing group leadership skills.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
Students will develop theoretical and experiential understandings of group purpose, development, dynamics, theories, methods, skills, and approaches in a multicultural society as demonstrated by the ability to:
1. Describe developmental stages and therapeutic factors associated with group processes. (II.6.a)
2. Describe facilitator roles and styles. (II.6.a,b)
3. Describe and apply ethical principles governing group counseling. (II.6.b,d)
4. Describe theoretical approaches to group counseling. (II.6.a,b,c)
5. Develop a proposal for a counseling group. (II.6.c,d)
6. Facilitate aspects of group process. (II.6.b,d)
7. Evaluate his/her knowledge, skills, and needs for further development. (II.6.b)
8. Participate in analyze, evaluate a 10 hour group counseling experience. (II.6.e)

Note: Items in parenthesis indicate CACREP standards for group counseling coursework met by each outcome.

COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY
6.0 Group Counseling Skills: Students will demonstrate an understanding of both theoretical and experiential aspects of group purpose, development, dynamics, theories, methods and skills, and other group approaches in a multicultural society, including principles of group dynamics, group process components, group leadership or facilitation styles and approaches, and theories and methods of group counseling.
6.1 Assessment: Students in PSYC 5345: Group Processes will submit a written group therapy paper on topics approved by the instructor.

TEACHING STRATEGIES
Learning will occur in the context of dialogue, interactive exercises, participation in a group experience and reading. The instructor will facilitate the collaborative development of an invitational learning context. The quality of each student’s learning experience depends upon his or her motivation to: (a) prepare thoroughly, (b) be inquisitive, (c) think reflexively, (d) interact with other scholars within and outside of the classroom, and (f) participate fully in classroom activities, including the group lab.
Throughout the course, all students will be invited to engage in an ongoing dialogue that is based upon reading and other learning experiences. Students are expected to complete assigned readings before each class. Classroom interaction is designed to provide students with opportunities to develop proficiency in applying fundamental group counseling skills.

**Related Field Experience**: This experiential class requires participation in a counseling group. Group participation aligns with “best practices” of the Association for Specialists in Group Work and it meets CACREP standards.

### EVALUATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EVALUATION</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Reflection Logs</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Facilitated Discussion</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Project 1 Pre-Screening</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Project 2 Group Proposal</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Project 3 Group Counseling Philosophy</strong></td>
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Course Grade (% of possible points): 91-100% = A 81-90% = B 71-80% = C < 71 = F

*Course grade is calculated as a weighted average of the percentage of possible points earned in each activity.*

**Reading Response**

For each book chapter assigned, students must complete a Reading Response. Full credit is awarded for a thoughtful, succinct, and reflective response to the assigned reading. Partial credit is awarded accordingly. No credit is awarded for responses that are submitted late, or submitted with incorrect labeling (see 4. “Submitting Written Work”, in “Course Policies”). Spelling, grammar, and organization of the response are all considered in the instructor’s weekly evaluation of this assignment.

Submit your response by 11:59 PM on the day prior to class. Bring a copy of your response with you to class (for your own use) to be used during in-class discussion and activity related to the assigned reading.

**Reflection Logs**

Reflection logs are a component of the group lab experience that is included in this course. The logs are brief and informal reflections on the student’s experience in group sessions. They are focused on what each student is learning about the group process they do not reflect upon the content of group sessions. The use and requirements of reflection logs will be explained when the group lab experience commences.

**Projects**

Three short written projects are required. One interactive group facilitation experience is also required. These learning activities will be explained through handouts & in-class discussion.

**Exams and Quizzes.**

There are no exams or quizzes in this class. Projects, assignments, and other interactive components of the class are designed to approximate the experience of both clients and group counselors. The anticipated outcome of these activities is that students will develop a comprehensive and authentic set of skills and perspectives on group counseling, that contribute to a strong foundation for effective group facilitation.
REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Note: A student at UT-Tyler is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

SUGGESTED READING & REFERENCES

Books

Peer Reviewed Group Counseling Journals
Group Dynamics
International Journal of Group Psychotherapy
Journal for Specialists in Group Work

Recommended Web Sites
Association for Specialists in Group Work. www.asgw.org

COURSE POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

1. Attendance. PLEASE READ THIS ATTENDANCE POLICY THOROUGHLY.
   In PSYC 5345, most learning occurs through in-class experiences. Attendance is Mandatory.

   The following attendance rules apply regardless of what a student earns in the evaluated activities.

   • Students must be fully present (i.e. arrive on-time and remain until class is dismissed) for 12 full class meetings in order to earn an A or a B in this course (14 meetings are scheduled).
   • Students attending fewer than 11 full class meetings will earn a D, F, or I (incomplete) and be advised to repeat the course. University guidelines will be followed for any award of I.
   • At instructor discretion, and when circumstances make a missed class unavoidable, a student may be forgiven one absence by completing an alternative assignment within 10 days of a missed class. The student is responsible for initiating such an assignment and should approach the instructor immediately, with a detailed plan for making up a missed class. Your instructor reserves the right to determine if you will be allowed to make up the missed class; supporting documentation may be requested.

2. Preparation for Class. This is an interactive course in which students “learn by doing”. Therefore it is important to complete assigned readings, journal entries and other preparation prior to each class meeting. Make pertinent notes and be ready to actively participate in discussions of assigned readings and other assigned activities.

3. Fundamental Proficiency. Graduate students are expected to be proficient in use of the library and associated resources, to possess advanced writing and presentation skills, and to demonstrate professionalism in all learning activities. Students are expected to remedy any deficiencies in these areas through independent learning, seeking help at the UTT writing center or from the reference librarian, and pursuing other assistance as necessary.

4. Submitting Written Work.
   A. Attachment Labels. Submit assignments as an e-mail attachment, in Microsoft Word. In all electronic submissions, a student’s name and an abbreviated assignment title must appear in the label of the attachment. Grade will be reduced for improperly labeled submissions.
### PSYC 5345 COURSE OUTLINE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>PREPARATION FOR CLASS: READING, QUIZ, ETC.</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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| 1     | Course Orientation | Foundations of Group Counseling | Introductions/Syllabus Review  
Lecture & Interactive Discussion: Foundations of Group Counseling  
Pre-Screening Project Assigned |
| 2     | Facilitation of Group Counseling | Chapter 1-2 Corey  
All Reading Reflections (RR) are due on by 11:59 PM the day before a class meeting (Sundays). | Interactive Discussion.  
Interactive Viewing – “Group Counseling” video  
Facilitated Discussion Assignment Explained  
Group Lab Activity Explained (including reflection logs).  
Group Experience Informed Consent distributed |
| 3     | Ethics, Best Practices, and Diversity in Group Facilitation | Chapter 3 Corey  
RR Due by 11:59 PM the day before class. | Interactive Discussion  
Learning. Activity: Diversity Competence  
Video Clips – Early Stages of Group Counseling  
Prescreening Project Due by Saturday Sept 24 |
| 4     | Early & Middle Stages in Group Counseling | Chapter 4 Corey  
RR Due by 11:59 PM the day before class. | Interactive Discussion  
Video Clips – Middle Stages of Group Counseling |
| 5     | Later Stages in Group Counseling | Chapter 5 Corey  
RR Due by 11:59 PM the day before class. | Interactive Discussion  
Video Clips - Later Stages of Group Counseling  
Group Lab # 1  
Group Proposal Assignment |
| 6     | Adlerian Group Counseling | Chapter 7 Corey  
RR Due by 11:59 PM the day before class. | Facilitated Discussion 1  
Group Lab # 2 |
| 7     | Psychodrama in Group Counseling | Chapter 8 Corey  
RR Due by 11:59 PM the day before class. | Facilitated Discussion 2  
Group Lab # 3 |
| 8     | Existential Group Counseling | Chapter 9 Corey  
RR Due by 11:59 PM the day before class. | Facilitated Discussion 3  
Group Lab # 4 |
| 9     | Person Centered Group Counseling | Chapter 10 Corey | Facilitated Discussion 4  
Group Lab # 5 |

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Examples: a) Zinck, K. Final Paper  
b) Zinck, K. Reflection # 1.

B. **APA Format.** The three required papers (Prescreening Paper, Group Proposal, Group Philosophy) must be submitted in **APA Format.** Failure to submit these papers in the required format will result in a point reduction equal to one letter grade for the paper.

C. **Late Submission.** Papers submitted after the established deadline will have 10% of the possible points deducted for each day they are late. No credit will be awarded for written responses that are submitted late.

5. **Cell Phones.** Phones must be **turned off** and **stored away** when class is in session.

7. **Supplemental Reading**

   Students are expected to supplement their acquisition of knowledge by exploring and reading scholarly literature addressing group counseling and related areas, and integrating the resulting information into class discussions. Outside reading should be from peer-reviewed journals. If you are unsure what “peer-reviewed” means, see the UTT Library web site, to find an explanation. Specific readings will be periodically assigned.
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Syllabus. This syllabus is a learning guide that may be modified during the semester. Students will be notified in advance, of any modification. Student suggestions regarding the syllabus and class activities are welcomed.

Writing Center. Located in BUS 202, the UT-Tyler Writing Center provides professional writing tutoring for all students in all disciplines. If you wish to use the Writing Center, you should plan for a minimum of two hour-long tutorials per assignment: the first to provide an initial consultation and drafting plan, and the second to follow up. Be prepared to take an active role in your learning, as you will be asked to discuss your work during your tutorial. While Writing Center tutors are happy to provide constructive criticism and teach effective writing techniques, under no circumstances will they fix, repair, or operate on your paper. Appointments: 903-565-5995. www.uttyler.edu/writingcenter

College of Education and Psychology Vision and Mission Statements.

Vision. The College of Education and Psychology is nationally recognized and respected for its academic programs and opportunities. It is a center of academic excellence, scholarly inquiry, and public service. The College prepares leaders to meet the critical challenges of the 21st Century, to make significant contributions to local and global communities, and to work toward individual and cultural equity.

Mission. The mission of the College of Education and Psychology is to provide a positive environment that fosters the acquisition of knowledge and skills. The mission is individually and collectively realized through a community of scholars that contributes to knowledge through scholarly inquiry; organizes knowledge for application, understanding and communication; and provides leadership and service. Additionally, the College is committed to affirming and promoting global perspectives, cultural diversity, and respect for individual differences as a means of enhancing learning, service, and scholarship.

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program Mission Statement.

The Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) is intended to prepare students to counsel persons experiencing psychological disturbance due to developmental, educational, career, cognitive, emotional, behavioral, cultural, relational, or environmental issues. Students develop competencies in diagnosis and assessment, evidence-based counseling/psychotherapy techniques, group processes, human development, cultural diversity, and career counseling. Students who complete their degrees and meet state certification or licensing requirements may be employed in a variety of mental
health settings.

University Policies

Students Rights and Responsibilities
To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies
Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar. Each semester’s Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.
Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:
- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy
Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Student Accessibility and Resources
In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office and schedule an interview with the
Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria apply to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to cstaples@uttyler.edu

Student Absence due to Religious Observance
Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities
If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement
It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation
Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct
Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

1. “Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:
   - copying from another student’s test paper;
   - using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
   - failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
   - possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
   - using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
   - collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
   - divulging the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
   - divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
• substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
• paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
• falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
• taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
• misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

ii. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.

iii. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by SafeAssign™, available on Blackboard.

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