

Department of Social Work and Sociology
SWK 3306

Social Work with Groups

Summer II 2022



Archer College of Health and Human Services

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Office: Health and Human Services Building, Office 120C

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 1pm-3pm or by appointment

Collaborate: Thursday at 3pm (attendance not required)

Course Information

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to social work practice with groups. In this course, group work is broadly defined to encompass treatment groups as well as task groups. Attention is given to the individual person in the group, the group as a whole, and the environment in which the group exists. Evidence supported practice principles are highlighted as well as group leadership skills. Lastly, group practice (or what may be called mezzo level practice) is presented within the context of the general intervention model used in generalist social work practice.

Course Credits

3 credit hours

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses

SWK 2307

Prerequisite Skills

Accessing Internet websites, working knowledge of the APA's writing style, using ASU Library resources, using Blackboard, and proficiency with Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint are expectations of the course.

Program Outcomes

Student Learning Outcome By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:	Mapping to Program Outcomes
use reflection and selfregulation to manage personal values and maintain professionalism in practice situations	Journals Social Work w/ Groups Project Examinations	Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
apply and communicate understanding of the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences in practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels	Journals Social Work w/ Groups Project Examinations	Competency 2: Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice
apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-inenvironment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks to engage with clients and constituencies	Journals Social Work w/ Groups Project Examinations	Competency 6: Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
develop mutually agreed on intervention goals and objectives based on the critical assessment of strengths, needs, and challenges within clients and constituencies	Journals Social Work w/ Groups Project Examinations	Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

critically choose and implement interventions to achieve practice goals and enhance capacities of clients and constituencies	Journals Social Work w/ Groups Project Examinations	Competency 8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
select and use appropriate methods for evaluation of outcomes	Journals Social Work w/ Groups Project Examinations	Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Course Delivery

Online sections of this course will be delivered via the Blackboard Learning Management System. The course site can be accessed at [ASU's Blackboard Learning Management System](#).

Required Texts and Materials

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. ISBN: 978-1-4338-3216-1

Zastrow, C. H., & Hessenauer, S. L. (2009). *Social work with groups: Comprehensive practice and self-care* (10th ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage ISBN: 9781337567916

NOTE: All assignments submitted in this course are to be written in strict accordance with the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.).

Recommended Texts and Materials

[NASW Code of Ethics](#)

[Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council Webpage \(Consolidated Rulebook for Social Work\)](#)

Technology Requirements

You will need access to Blackboard, Angelo State University's learning platform. Access to examinations will be through Respondus™ Lockdown Browser and will be video recorded via Respondus™ Monitor. Use of another electronic device is prohibited.

If you have any technical problems associated with the test (i.e. webcam problems, lock down browser problems) you should contact the IT Department. The IT Service Department is open

M-F from 8-5 and the number is (325) 942-2911. If you call any time after 5 or on the weekend, most likely you will not be able to get assistance until the following weekday, so please plan accordingly.

To participate in one of ASU's distance education programs, you need this technology:

- A computer capable of running Windows 7 or later, or Mac OSX 10.8 or later
- The latest version of one of these web browsers: internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari
- Microsoft Office Suite or a compatible Open Office Suite
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- High Speed Internet Access
- Ethernet adapter cable required (wireless connections can drop during tests and Collaborate sessions)
- Webcam

Topic Outline

Module 1: Includes chapters 1-4 and provides an introduction to generalist practice at the group level, discusses social work values and ethics, and identifies the key components of group work.

Module 2: Includes chapters 5-7 and discusses the types of groups used in social work practice. Key group dynamics concepts and skills are addressed as well.

Module 3: Includes chapters 8-11 and discusses social work with families. A discussion of the group process, therapeutic relationships, conflict resolution, and identifying and clarifying goals.

Module 4: Includes chapters 12-14 and covers group work with diverse populations, spirituality and religion in social work practice, and ending groups.

Communication

Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday; working hours are defined as Monday through Friday (with the exception of university approved holidays) between 0800 and 1700. Weekend and/or holiday messages may not be returned until the next work day.

Written communication via email: All e-mail will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

Virtual communication: Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, Collaborate, E-Mail, etc.

Grading Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

Assessment	Percent/Points of Total Grade
Journals	20%
Examinations	50%
Social Work with Groups Project	30%
Total	100%

Grading System

Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:

A = 90.00-100 points

B = 80.00-89.99 points

C = 70.00-79.99 points

D = 60.00-69.99 points F = 0-59.99 points

Teaching Strategies

Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (**beyond the materials and lectures presented in the course**) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-review journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and clinical experiences with their peers.

Assignment and Activity Descriptions

Journals (20%)

There will be 5 journal submissions worth 15 percent of your grade. Journal submissions will be graded on the following criteria; Critical thinking, Integration of course content, and Grammar, Spelling, and Punctuation. Journal submissions must be written in APA format and must cite a minimum of two scholarly resources.

Examinations (50%)

There will be four (4) online, closed book, essay exams in this course. Each of these You may have ONE (1) attempt for each exam. **You will not be allowed to use books, notes, ppts, or any other type of assistive materials.** You will take each of these examinations via Blackboard using the Respondus LockDown monitor/browser.

Social Work with Groups Project (30%)

Your course project involves a power point with audio voiceover or a video in which you select a type of group (i.e. task, educational, focus, treatment, self-help etc.) and a model of group development (Garland, Jones, & Kolodny, Tuckman, etc.). You will process the group through the stages (intake, selection of members, assessment and planning, group development and intervention, and evaluation and termination) and discuss diversity, EBP's that have been successful with the type of group selected and specific group exercises and activities that will be used, discuss group dynamics and the difference between group goals and personal goals, as well as address how you would go about facilitating the group. Your power point/ video should include the contents of the outline below with video examples of the activities/exercises selected for use. You must also use at least 5 peer reviewed journal articles IN ADDITION to your course text. The project must be submitted in APA format.

Outline

- I. Introduction
- II. Types of Groups
 - a. Discuss the different types of groups used in social work
 - b. Identify and thoroughly discuss the type of group you will be using for the project.
- III. Models of Group Development
 - a. Discuss the different types of group development
 - b. Identify and discuss the type of group development you feel is most effective and how you believe it will apply to your group.

IV. Stages of Groups

- a. Take your group through intake, selection of members, assessment and planning, group development and intervention, and evaluation and termination.
- b. Discuss diversity issues, evidence-based practices that have been successful with the type of group you are discussing, group dynamics, and the difference between personal goals and group goals, and verbal /nonverbal communication.
- c. Select and discuss 3 evidence-based activities and/or exercises that will be used in the group (i.e. ice breakers, building group cohesion, group tasks to achieve goals, etc. your text if full of different activities/exercises).

V. Facilitating a Group

- a. Discuss how you would facilitate the identified group
- b. Discuss whether you feel group work is a good option for some of our clients and whether or not you are interested in conducting groups in the future.

VI. Conclusion

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's information as though it were your own. If you use the words or ideas of another person; or if you use material from any source-- whether a book, journal, magazine, newspaper, business publication, broadcast, speech, electronic media, or any other source--you must acknowledge that source. Plagiarism on the project will result in the student not receiving credit for her/his term paper.

Assignment Submission

All assignments MUST be submitted through the Assignments link in the Blackboard site. This is for grading, documenting, and archiving purposes. Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email me at andrew.rivera@angelo.edu and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. Please contact the IT Service Center at (325) 942-2911 or go to your Technology Support tab to report the issue. This lets your faculty know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems with the online submission feature in Blackboard. Once the problem is resolved, submit your assignment through the appropriate link. This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work.

Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy

The course is set up on weekly modules. The week begins on Monday and ends on Sunday. Assignment due dates are shown on the calendar/schedule or posted within Blackboard. Failure to submit your assignments on the assigned date will result in no credit awarded for the assignment. No papers or postings will be accepted after the due date indicated in the syllabus unless the late assignment is due to a university approved absence defined in the university catalog.

Make-up work will be considered on a case by case basis and will only be allowed for university approved absences.

General Policies Related to This Course

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)¹
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)²

Student Responsibility and Attendance

This class is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to be on-line at a certain time. There are readings which you will have to complete to be able to adequately complete assignments. In order to complete this course successfully, you do have to participate in all course activities (i.e. discussion boards, course projects, reflective logs, etc.). Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by due dates and times. The hope is that students will make substantive contributions which reflect integration of assigned materials as well as any outside readings as appropriate. Scholarly contribution is an expectation.

Note: There will be weekly collaborate sessions held in this course for you to ask questions and interact in real time with the course instructor and your classmates. These collaborate sessions will be recorded and posted in the course modules for students who need or desire a pure asynchronous experience.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Health and Human Services adheres to the university's [Statement of Academic Integrity](#).³

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as

provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#)⁴ The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs 325-942-
2047 dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 [Grading Procedures](#)⁵ for more information.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's [Academic Integrity policy](#)⁶ in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the [ASU Writing Center](#).⁷

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day⁸ for more information.

Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

Syllabus Changes

The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email, course announcements and/or via a discussion board announcement. It is the student's responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.

Title IX at Angelo State University

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D.

You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form

Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

Email: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (3259422171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State's policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Course Schedule

Week/Date	Topic/Assignments/Assessments DUE
Week 1 July 11-17	Module 1: Read Chapters 1-4 Journal 1 due 7/17 at 23:59
Week 2 July 18-24	Module 2: Read Chapters 5-7 Journal 2 due 7/24 23:59 Exam 1 Closes 7/24 23:59 (Covers Ch. 1-4)
Week 3 July 24-31	Module 3: Read Chapters 8-11 Journal 3 due 7/31 23:59 Exam 2 Closes 7/31 23:59 (Covers Ch. 5-7)
Week 4 Aug. 1-7	Module 4: Read Chapters 12-14 Journal 4 due 8/7 23:59 Exam 3 Closes 8/7 23:59 (Covers Ch. 8-11)
Week 5 Aug. 8-12	Module 4: Review Chapters 12-14 Social Work with Groups Project due 8/8 23:59 Journal 5 due 8/12 11:59pm Exam 4 closes 8/12 11:59pm (Covers Ch. 12-14)

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Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences.

Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.

The Student Learning Outcome's that are considered "essential" include:

1. Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories).
2. Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course.

End of Syllabus

¹ <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/>

² <https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/>

³ <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>

⁴ <https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/>

⁵ <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures>

⁶ <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>

⁷ https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php

⁸ <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of>