

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
**Southeastern College Branch Campus**  
**1000 Longfellow Blvd.**  
**Lakeland, FL**  
**January 10 – April 25, 2005**  
**Resident Cohort #3**

**PCPB 637 GROUP COUNSELING**  
**(3 Credits)**

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**Spring 2005**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is a study of the essentials of group counseling processes. General group phenomena and current counseling procedures will be discussed. Students will learn about the nature of interpersonal learning, group dynamics, the stages of group development, group interventions, and the selection factors associated with group participation. The course will also study methods of enabling groups to become more creative and growth-facilitating.

**OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of the course the student should be able to:

1. Utilize the vocabulary necessary to discuss group therapy.
2. Recall the concepts and techniques associated with various group therapy approaches (theories.)
3. Identify the main therapeutic factors that facilitate therapeutic change in group counseling.
4. Recognize the behaviors associated with the stages of group development and be able to identify the stage of group development in which a group exists.
5. Recognize and identify the therapist's basic tasks and role in the group process.
6. Recognize the dynamics underlying the operation of group interaction, including transference and countertransference.
7. Support the choice of one group therapy approach over another for specified treatment disorders.
8. Select appropriate assessment techniques and conduct a pre-group interview with prospective members to determine group participation and compatibility.
9. Identify challenging group members and articulate the ramifications of their interactions and how they affect the group dynamics.
10. Recognize his/her characteristic interaction patterns as they occur within a group

- setting, both as a group leader and a group member.
11. Articulate personal thoughts, feelings, dynamics, and evaluations regarding group processes from the perspective of both a group facilitator and a group member.
  12. Clearly state the ethical and professional guidelines for group leaders –including competence, training, and confidentiality.

### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Corey, Gerald. (2003). Theory & Practice of Group Counseling, 6th Edition. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning (552 pages).

### **METHODOLOGY**

The course will consist of didactic lectures and discussions of the assigned text and supplemental readings, small group participation, and class demonstrations that may involve role-play.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Completion of all assigned reading. Students are expected to have read the assigned readings prior to class discussion. (It is advised not to fall behind on the reading of the text.)
2. Attendance, punctuality, and meaningful participation in class activities. More than one class absence will reduce one's grade.
3. Conduct research on one specific topic pertaining to group counseling. Research must concentrate on professional press/scholarly resources with a minimum of 10 references. Select research topic from the attached list and discuss with professor. Papers should be 12-15 pages, typed double-spaced, and carefully referenced according to APA Style of Writing. Grade will reflect adherence to writing guidelines.
4. Take two written exams covering material in the assigned text and lectures. The exams are likely to include both objective and essay questions.
5. Write a 5- page, double-spaced, personal reflection paper. Reflect and discuss personal feelings and opinions regarding group counseling---benefits and drawbacks, limitations, how you envision using groups (or not using groups), and any other personal interaction with the course or text. This is a good paper to address the role to envision groups filling in local church ministry.  
\*\*Professor reserves the right to modify the course requirements and/or grading procedures.

## **GRADING PROCEDURE**

It is expected that all work will be completed as scheduled. Papers are due at the beginning of class, except in cases of extreme emergency. Late work will be downgraded one letter grade per day. Final grades will be assigned as follows:

Midterm Exam 25%  
Research Paper 25%  
Personal Reflection Paper 15%  
Final Exam 35%

**All coursework is due by April 25, 2005.**

**NOTE: Work received after the session due date specified in the syllabus will result in a change of grade fee (\$15.00) being charged, even when an extension has been granted by the instructor.**

**BIBLIOGRAPHY** (partial – professor will add to list throughout the semester)

Corey, G., Corey, M. S., Callahan, P.J., & Russell, M. J. (1982). Group techniques. Monterey, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing.

Corey, M. S. & Corey, G. (1990). Groups: Process and practice (4th Edition). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing Co.

Dies, R. (1992). Models of group psychotherapy: Sifting through the confusion. International Journal of Group Psychotherapy, 42(1): 1-17.

Drakeford, J. W. (1978). People to people therapy. New York, NY: Harper & Row.

Ehly, S. W. & Dustin, R. (1989). Individual and group counseling in schools. New York, NY: Guilford Press.

Ellis, A. (1977b). Rational emotive therapy in groups. Handbook of Rational-Emotive Therapy. New York, NY: Springer.

Gazda, G. M. (1989). Group counseling: A developmental approach. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.

Glasser, W. (1984). Take effective control of your life. New York, NY: Harper & Row.

Glasser, W. (1965). Reality therapy. New York, NY: Harper & Row.

Grayson, E. S. (1992). The elements of short-term group counseling. Larvel, MD: American Correctional Assoc.

- Griffin, E. A. (1982). Getting together: A guide for good groups. Downers Grove, IL: Inter Varsity Press.
- Kepner, E. (1994). Body process: Working with the body in psychotherapy. San Fransico, CA: Jossey-Bass.
- Latner, J. (1986). The gestalt therapy book. Highland, NY: Center for Gestalt Development.
- Mullan, H. (1978). Group psychotherapy: Theory and practice (2nd Ed). New York, NY: Free Press.
- Perls, F, Hefferline, R. & Goodman, P. (1951). Gestalt therapy: Excitement and growth in the human personality. New York: Dell.
- Rainwater, J. (1979). You're in charge! A guide to becoming your own therapist. Los Angeles, CA: Guild of Tutor's Press.
- Starr, A (1977). Psychodrama: Rehearsal for living. Chicago, IL: Nelson-Hall.
- Yalom, I. D. (1980). Existential psychotherapy. New, NY: Basic Books.

### **SPECIFIC DATE**

Syllabus prepared by Larry Hazelbaker October 2003, revised October 2004.