

## Psychology 43 Principals of Group Dynamics

**Instructor:** Leonor Johansen, Ph.D.

**Section & Room:** # 4776, Room # GC470

**Class Time:** Mon. 6:45-10:00 p.m.

**Office hour:** Mon. 6:10-6:45 p.m. Room # GC470 or by appt.

**Email:** generalpsych1@aol.com

**\*Required Text:** Corey, G. & Corey, M.S. (2014). *I Never Knew I Had a Choice, 10th Ed.* Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole

**^Optional Text:** Corey, M.S., Corey, G., & Corey, C. (2014). *Groups Process and Practice, 9th Ed.* Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole

**Course Content & Objective:** This course will introduce students to the development of group communication through experiential learning. The class intends to address group dynamics and allows for introspection and self-discovery on the individual's part. The class will provide the opportunity to strengthen your interpersonal counseling effectiveness, create intrapersonal reflection, share your life experiences, and provide support for others in the class.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** 1) To facilitate a therapeutic mental health group. 2) To understand the importance of ethics and responsibility in groups with regard to confidentiality. 3) To develop self-awareness and promote insight. 4) To learn the principals of group dynamics from a theoretical and experiential stance. 5) To learn how to function in a group both as a leader and as a participant. 6) To strengthen group leadership skills. 7) To provide an overview of differing types of groups and their functions. 8) To address training, competence, and legal standards for group counselors. 9) To address problem behaviors, group challenges, cofacilitation factors, diversity components, and therapeutic factors. 10) To address the final stages of group ending and the termination process.

**Course/Group Requirements:** All students are required to abide by group rules and sign a Confidentiality and Ground Rules Agreement to take this course. Besides completing textbook readings you will be evaluated in the following ways: on time attendance (see attendance policy), group participation, journal entries, and a final exam. This is a college level course therefore you will be held to college standards. **All work must be typed and submitted on time.**

**Grades:** I take grades very seriously and you should as well. I am very fair and *do not* change grades or point values. The grade you receive is the grade you earn based on the total point values listed below. Every individual student in the class will receive a *final letter grade for the course*. **No Incomplete Grades will be awarded.** Grades will not be given over the phone or through email as students must wait for grades to post. There are no plus or minus grades. **Your grade for the course A - F will be computed as follows:**

Attendance	= (0 - 15 points)	A = (157 - 175 points)
Participation	= (0 - 30 points)	B = (140 - 156 points)
Journal Entries	= (0 - 90 points)	C = (122 - 139 points)
Final Exam	= (0 - 40 points)	D = (105 - 121 points)

**Attendance Policy & Participation:** Attendance and participation are crucial to your individual learning experience and to the collective group experience. The class will be a combination of lecture and group participation. Participation will be evaluated in following ways: completing in class assignments, asking questions, giving feedback, providing thoughts, insights, and contributing to further discussion in group. This is an interactive class where you have the opportunity to learn from each other. Absences and tardies do jeopardize your grade. **If you are absent 2 days during the semester you will be dropped from the course. Please note "the reason given" (medical illness, life events, accidents, and other issues) for the absence DOES NOT EXCUSE your absence from the attendance policy as you cannot make-up missed class time or group time.** Each tardy or early departure from class equals ½ an absence and 2 tardies/departure equal 1 absence and so forth. Each unexcused absence is a 1 point deduction. In the event that you are absent it is expected that you get missed information including lecture notes from a classmate and continue to follow the syllabus. It is required that you attend class regularly and on time to avoid being dropped, however it is your responsibility to drop yourself from the course should you no longer desire to be included. **If you would like to drop yourself from the course please refer to the WLAC published dates listed for your convenience.**

Last day to Drop classes <b>WITHOUT a W</b>	9/6/13
Last day to Drop classes <b>WITH a W</b>	11/15/13

**Disabled Student Services & Policies:** In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act students requesting accommodation must register with the Office of Disabled Students Programs and Services. Please contact program director Adrienne Foster at (310) 287-4450 for information and assistance. It is the student's responsibility to register with DSS and notify the instructor at least 2 weeks in advance if he/she is planning to take the final exam in DSS. If the student does not give 2 weeks notice the student will be required to take the final with the class as scheduled.

**Individual Journal Entry Instructions:** "9 Journal Entries" from chapters in Corey, G. & Corey, M.S. (2014). *I Never Knew I Had a Choice*, 10th Ed. Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole are required to be typed and submitted at the beginning of class. They will consist of topics from your chapters and must be self-reflective. Each of the 9 entries should state: 1) Your first & Last Name and 2) The Title of the Chapter and Chapter # at the top left corner with the date each was completed. They must be: typed in New Times Roman, have 1 inch margins all around, be double spaced, spell checked, and edited, and have content reflective of the student's experience regarding the particular chapter's topic. I will be grading these entries individually and looking for quality including: self-reflection/insight, lessons learned, growth process, proper sentence structure, spelling, grammar, editing, submitted on time, and overall college level work. Students should choose 9 out of 14 topics for journal entries. You will be graded on the quality of your work. Therefore it is highly recommended that you do not cram for these as your writing reflects your thought process. Your Journal entries are each 1-2s page minimum in length and are separate topics reflecting chapters throughout the semester. (Each entry is worth 0 -10 points = totaling up to 90 points). You are required to print and submit the hardcopy journal for grading based on the due dates listed.

**Final Exam Policy:** Every student is required to take the final exam in class as scheduled. **If you are absent for ANY REASON INCLUDING MEDICAL REASONS YOU WILL LOSE ALL POINTS FOR THE FINAL EXAM AND THAT WILL AFFECT YOUR OVERALL COURSE GRADE. NO MAKE-UP EXAMS ARE GIVEN FOR ANY REASON, ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**Class Policies for Student Conduct & Behavior (Please also refer to the Confidentiality & Group Rules Agreement as an Addendum to this Policy):** For each student in class to have a safe and educationally stimulating experience there must be guidelines for student conduct. By being registered and maintaining an active status in this class you are consenting to abide by these class policies, all school policies, and any information provided in this syllabus. All students should have respect for others and not violate common sense and decency toward others. This means that all students must not engage in behavior that is otherwise disruptive. Examples of disruptive class behavior include: excessive tardiness or leaving class early, disturbing the class, using cell phones, IPODS; IPADS, READERS, or other electronic devices for voice contact, email, IM or text. Talking to others during class, talking when others are speaking, speaking out of turn, not raising your hand to ask questions or provide input, responding to others using an argumentative style, inappropriate tone or hostile language. Any other inappropriate form of disruptive behavior not mentioned here will not be allowed. Most students are very respectful. However, those who violate class conduct will have consequences enforced related to the school policy. I reserve the right to suspend or exclude/drop students from the class who violate class conduct including those who: are excessively late, argumentative, have their phones ring, are talking, texting, using ipods, ipads, readers, or those who I deem otherwise disruptive. Laptops are allowed provided they are used to take class notes and not used for email, surfing, IM or other non-class related reasons. If I have warned you and you continue disruptive behavior you will be suspended from class and referred to the Vice President for further formal disciplinary procedures and/or escorted out by a Sheriff.

**Reinstatements:** Students who are registered at the beginning of the term as "active" on the class roster who subsequently appear on the class roster as "excluded, withdrawn, or dropped" will remain "inactive" and will not be reinstated, will not receive a letter grade, and will not be given an Incomplete grade. Please refer to the Attendance Policy on page 1 of the syllabus and your Confidentiality and Ground Rules Agreement.

**Academic Honesty:** Academic honesty is crucial to your learning and requires you to submit work that is your original work (i.e. not written by someone else, no major changes to your work completed by a tutor or editor). Forms of Academic Dishonesty include: plagiarism (using ideas from another person and not citing their work), copying or cheating by re-using work from another source or student, allowing someone else to copy your work, bringing in notes or other forms of cheating assistance to an exam. Any other forms of dishonesty not mentioned here which would otherwise jeopardize academic integrity will have consequences enforced related to the school policy.

**Instructions for Email:** Include your full name in the email and indicate in the subject line that you are in the Fall 2013 Psych 43 class. If you are requesting correspondence from me please send me your email by 5 p.m. Sunday (prior to the day of class). I am happy to respond to school related emails or those involving this course, your education, professional development or other appropriate areas. Netiquette is web-based appropriate etiquette for email and online communication. I will not respond to emails that violate netiquette (i.e. 1 line emails not about the course or educational purposes, emails with no clear purpose, no clear salutation, blasts, forwards, friend networking, photo albums, or other content

lacking educational or professional purpose). Grades are not given through email per page 1 of the syllabus. **Attachments must be in .doc or .docx files.**

**Please Note:** Below is the schedule of Weekly Topics - “Group Topic” refers to topics listed in your required text, *I Never Knew I Had a Choice, 10th Ed.* However, be aware that I will “Lecture” from your other optional text as well, *Groups Process and Practice, 9th Ed.* We will attempt to follow the structure listed below as time permits. If we do not cover all areas due to time constraints please take it upon yourself to cover those particular chapter topics on your own.

Week	Dates	Lecture Topics & Homework	
1)	8/26	Chapter 1	Syllabus review, Sign Confidentiality & Ground Rules Agreement, acknowledgment of class policies, *Group Topic: Invitation to Personal Learning and Growth ^ <b>HOMEWORK: READ CH. 3 ETHICAL &amp; LEGAL ISSUES</b>
2)	9/02		<b>NO CLASS – LABOR DAY</b>
3)	9/09	Chapter 2	*Group Topic: Reviewing your childhood and Adolescence ^ <b>HOMEWORK: READ CH. 1 INTRO TO GROUP WORK</b> <b>DUE: JOURNAL 1</b>
4)	9/16	Chapter 3	*Group Topic: Adulthood and Autonomy ^ <b>HOMEWORK: READ CH. 2 THE GROUP COUNSELOR</b> <b>DUE: JOURNAL 2</b>
5)	9/23	Chapter 4	*Group Topic: Your Body and Wellness ^ <b>HOMEWORK: READ CH. 4 TECHNIQUES &amp; THEORIES</b>
6)	9/30	Chapter 5	*Group Topic: Managing Stress ^ <b>HOMEWORK: READ CH. 5 FORMING A GROUP</b> <b>DUE: JOURNAL 3</b>
7)	10/07	Chapter 6 Chapter 7	*Group Topic: Love *Group Topic: Relationships ^ <b>HOMEWORK: READ CH. 6 INITIAL STAGES OF A GROUP</b> <b>DUE: JOURNAL 4</b>
8)	10/14	Chapter 8	*Group Topic: Becoming the Woman or Man you want to be ^ <b>HOMEWORK: READ CH. 7 TRANSITION STAGE</b> <b>DUE: JOURNAL 5</b>
9)	10/21	Chapter 9	*Group Topic: Sexuality ^ <b>HOMEWORK: READ CH. 8 WORKING STAGE</b> <b>DUE: JOURNAL 6</b>
10)	10/28	Chapter 10 Chapter 11	*Group Topic: Work and Recreation *Group Topic: Loneliness and Solitude ^ <b>HOMEWORK: READ CH. 9 FINAL STAGE OF A GROUP</b> <b>DUE: JOURNAL 7</b>
11)	11/04	Chapter 12	*Group Topic: Death and Loss ^ <b>HOMEWORK: READ CH. 10 GROUPS &amp; SCHOOL SETTINGS, WRITE JOURNAL 7</b> <b>DUE: JOURNAL 8</b>
12)	11/11		<b>NO CLASS – VETERAN’S DAY</b>
13)	11/18	Chapter 13	*Group Topic: Meaning and Values ^ <b>HOMEWORK: READ CH. 11 GROUPS &amp; COMMUNITY SETTINGS, WRITE JOURNAL 8</b> <b>DUE: JOURNAL 9</b>
14)	11/25	Chapter 14	*Group Topic: Pathways to Personal Growth ^ <b>HOMEWORK: FINAL EDITING AND LAST REVISIONS TO ALL 9 JOURNAL ENTRIES</b>
15)	12/02		Group Termination: Group Endings & Process
16)	12/09		<b>GC 470 6:45 PM MANDATORY FINAL EXAM NO MAKEUPS FOR ANY REASON</b>



## PSYCHOLOGY 43 CONFIDENTIALITY & GROUND RULES AGREEMENT

Welcome to Psychology 43! This Confidentiality and Ground Rules Agreement is important information to abide by in addition to the Course Syllabus along with the college district policies. This course serves as an introduction to the dynamics of group interactions by emphasizing your first-hand experiences as a basis for study and discussion. You will explore the process of self-expression and self-exposure for the attainment of effective and productive modes of communication. Your instructor may utilize such techniques as role playing, modeling, imitation and identification to assist the group process towards self-knowledge. It is important to note that the success of the group depends upon each and every one of you! Your cooperation, openness, and initiative to learn are needed to make the group process work.

The Psychology Department Faculty wants this course to be a positive learning experience. Toward this aim, the following guidelines have been established and approved by the Dean of Students as legally and professionally binding criteria for the determination of credit for Psychology 43.

1. You are required to show courtesy to your fellow group members by upholding the attendance requirements and tardy policies of the class. Students are to miss no more than 6 hours of class regardless of reason for absence (**see the syllabus: a maximum of 2 absences**) or be dropped. A tardy counts as  $\frac{1}{2}$  of an absence. Participants do not feel as comfortable when attendance is not taken seriously, so please take your attendance seriously because your instructor and group will.
2. You are **required to observe confidentiality** as an appropriate behavior required by professional ethics. You as a group member are required and expected not to speak of or about individual members of the group outside of the group. {Your instructor will observe confidentiality to the class and group members with some *legal exceptions*: danger to self, danger to others (tarsoff), a reasonable suspicion of child abuse, or a reasonable suspicion elder abuse}. We will further discuss this in class. Should a group member have issues in need of attention the member may ask the instructor for referrals to mental health or other desired services or seek services on their own. This *is a class* intended to teach students the principals of group dynamics but **does not take the place** of counseling, professional therapy, rehabilitation, medical care, or other services.
3. You are **required to actively participate** in groups. Active participation may include sharing relevant thoughts through comments and discussions; sharing insights and pertinent alternatives to an issue, as well as **active** listening.
4. Your **behavior must be appropriate** to the objectives, policies and limits of the Psychology 43 setting. Disruptive inappropriate behavior such as: excessive tardiness, whispering, giggling, sleeping, reading, cursing, yelling, using loud, hostile, or rude tone, *being argumentative, texting, answering phones, allowing phones to ring, using electronics ipods, ipads, discrimination among legally protected persons/groups, violent or nonviolent intimidations and threats in class* **are not** considered appropriate behavior and will not be tolerated.

5. **Should your instructor have concerns** regarding the appropriateness of your behavior in the group or in the class, your instructor will initiate the following steps in an attempt to address and solve the problem.

Step 1: Your instructor will address the issue at the time it occurs in an attempt to problem solve or diffuse the situation and warn the student(s) that their behavior is inappropriate and or disruptive. The instructor may also choose to consult with you individually and privately to express specific concerns depending on the situation or problem at the discretion of the instructor.

Step 2: If no sufficient change in behavior occurs, the instructor will call a meeting between you, the chairperson of the Psychology Department, and the instructor.

Step 3: If the issue continues to remain unsolved, the instructor may legally drop you from Psychology 43 and you may be sent to the college disciplinarian.

6. Your instructor will advise you if there are any additional standards regarding this class.

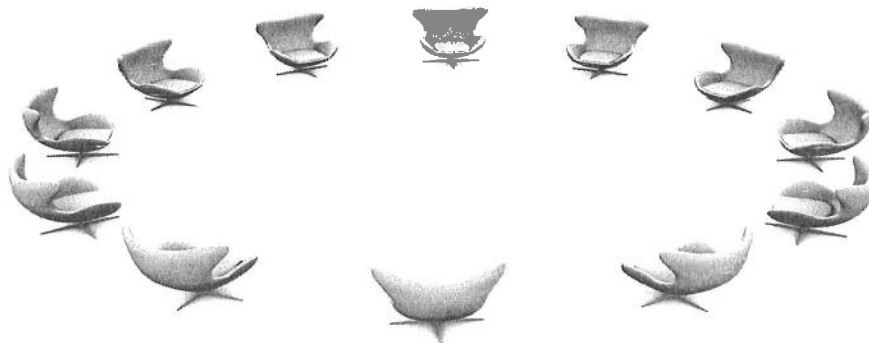
AGAIN-----WELCOME!!

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**I have read, understand, and agree to the above stated Confidentiality & Ground Rules Agreement for Psychology 43.**

STUDENT'S PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete and return to your instructor.**



INSTRUCTOR'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

