

Course Overview

Group work is a social work intervention method with roots in the earliest history of the social work profession. Group work spans multiple levels and domains of social work practice, including interpersonal practice, community organization, and management of human services. Although there are distinct elements in each of these domains, there are also common elements shared. Social work with groups is still practiced in all fields of service and is particularly strong internationally. In this seminar, we will explore the historical roots development, and practice of group work within the social work profession. We will examine the evidence base of its effective use across different practice levels. The seminar will include scholars from the University of Michigan and departments and schools other to share their work to the seminar, either in person or via internet conferencing. The course organized around the *Handbook of social work with groups*, edited by Garvin, Gutierrez, and Galinsky and supplemented by empirical articles on additional topics.

Instructors

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Readings

Book: Garvin, C., Gutierrez, L., Galinsky, M. (2004). *Handbook of Social Work with Groups*. Guilford Press: NY.

This book is available at local text book stores and has been put on reserve in the Shapiro Library.

Additional readings will be posted to our ctools site.

Assignments

Research Paper

The paper should be 15-20 pages (references included) in APA style.

Students will complete one of the following papers:

Option 1: Update one chapter from the *Handbook of Social Work with Groups*. In your updated chapter address the following: the kind of group practice, theory, or research being described, how this chapter represents contemporary research and In what ways it falls short; how could this chapter be strengthened.

OR

Option 2: Develop your own chapter for the *Handbook*. In this paper apply a group perspective to a topic or issue of concern discuss how you are defining the population and issue how this articulates with group methods. Define the roles for the facilitator(s) and group members and how they can work together. How would you structure research in order to work assess the effectiveness of the method? How would you design this research to reflect group theories, process, and values?

This paper will be turned in in three parts:

1. A 2-page memo to us identifying the focus of your paper. (due November 1)
2. The 15 - 18 page paper. (due December 12/11)
3. A 10-minute conference type, presentation of your paper for our final class meeting.(December 4).

Class Discussion facilitation - (30 points)

Each week all students will turn in 1 or 2 discussion questions for class. The questions should be turned to a designated student (The Compiler) on the Tuesday before the class meets. That student will collate these questions and distribute them for our class discussion. A second student (The Updater) update the bibliography for that week with 3-5 articles and turn in a brief annotated bibliography and summary of the new articles. The updated bibliography is due at noon on the day of class. Both students will co-

facilitate our discussion for that week.

The discussion questions and updated bibliography can be sent to the whole class with this email address:

groups2014@ctools.umich.edu

Each student will sign up for two class sessions, one for each role, to help facilitate our discussion of the readings.

Regular attendance and active participation are important (20 points).

Multiple unexcused absences will result in a loss of points.

Class Schedule

Week	Topic	Readings	Speaker
1. 9/4	Background on SW with groups,		
2. 9/11	History and philosophy, Theoretical Approaches	<p>Garvin, et. al Part 1; More Than Sixty Years With Social Group Work</p> <p>Catherine P. Papell, Professor Emerita, Adelphi University School of Social Work</p> <p>http://www.socialwelfarehistory.com/recollections/1053/</p> <p>Social Work: Early History of Group Work – 1935</p> <p>http://www.socialwelfarehistory.com/programs/social-work-early-history-of-group-work-1935/</p>	Charles Garvin
3. 9/18	Research approaches/Evidence Based Practice	<p>Garvin, Part 6</p> <p>Garvin, Tolman & MacGowan (chapter 1, chapter 5)</p> <p>Additional Readings are posted in the resource folder.</p>	Mark MacGowan
4. 9/25	Group Methods: Self help/support groups	<p>Garvin, chapter 8</p> <p>Powell & Kurtz (in press) Self-help/mutual-help groups for people with mental health, addiction, and behavioral health conditions</p> <p>Borkman, T (1976) Experiential Knowledge: A New Concept for the Analysis of Self-Help Groups</p> <p>Reissman, F. (1965). The Helper therapy principle.</p> <p>White, W. (2014). Slaying the Dragon: The History of Addiction Treatment and Recovery in America.</p>	Thomas Powell
5. 10/2	Group Methods: CBT	Garvin, chapter 7	Craig LeCroy
6. 10/9	Group Methods: Psychoeducation	<p>Garvin, Chapter 9</p> <p>Additional readings in a folder on ctools for this week</p>	Mary Ruffolo
7. 10/16	Group Methods: Mutual Aid	Garvin, chapters 6; 21	Alex Gitterman
8. 10/23	Group Methods: Popular Education & PAR	<p>Garvin, Chapters 18 & 19</p> <p>Additional readings in a folder on ctools for this week</p>	Edith Kieffer
9. 10/30	Group Methods:	Garvin, chapter 17	Nagda and

	Dialogue/diversity/intergroup/community	Additional readings in a folder on ctools for this week	Gurin
10. 11/6	Group Methods: Arts/theater/Photovoice	Yoshihama & Tolman, in press Additional readings in a folder on ctools for this wee	Tolman & Yoshihama
11. 11/13	Group Methods: Social Action/Social goals	Garvin, chapters 10, 20, 24 Additional readings in a folder on ctools for this wee	Reed
12. 11/20	Group Methods: Task Groups/meetings/organizational	Garvin, chapters 22 & 23	Chesler
13. 12/4	Putting it all together	Student project presentations and review of class	Entire Class