

Dates on this syllabus are firm. We will finalize times at the first class meeting. If you have questions about this syllabus contact the instructor at her email address below:

Spring 2007

PSYCHOLOGY 408 SMALL GROUP PROCESSES
218 Natural Sciences

Dr. Barbara Bunker
362 Park Hall
Home (emergency only): 881-2166

Office Hours: by appointment
Email: bbunker@buffalo.edu
Secretary: Mrs. Lewis 358 Park

Class Meeting Times:

Saturday January 20 9 AM - 5 PM

Saturday January 27th 9 AM - 5 PM

Saturday/Sunday February 24-25 9AM - 5 PM Saturday March 3 10-12 am Exam 1

Saturday/Sunday April 14-15 9 AM - 5 PM Saturday April 15 3-5 Exam 2

Saturday April 28 or Sun 29th 10 AM- 1:00 PM Tentative final meeting

This course is being taught as an *intensive* course. This means that class meetings will be infrequent but when they occur they will be for a whole day or two days. This will allow us to develop a very different set of class activities and experiences. There will be the usual reading, papers, exams but this format allows us to do some projects together, view movies and analyze them, engage in simulations, etc. **Attendance at all class meetings is required.** There are no exceptions. Do **NOT** register for this course if your work or personal commitments will prevent you from attending class. By the end of the semester, you will have spent as much time in class as you would have taking a course for 14 weeks.

TEXT: Forsyth, D. R. (2006) *Group Dynamics* (4th Ed) Brooks/Cole. Ordered at UB Bookstore

READING ASSIGNMENTS, CLASS MEETINGS and EXAMS:

Jan 20st Sat: First class meeting 9-5 218 Natural Sciences

Week 1- 1-14 Ch 1 The Science of Group Dynamics

Week 2: 1-21 Ch 3 The Individual and the Group

Jan 27th h Saturday class meeting 9-5

Week 3: 1-28 Ch 4 Formation

Week 4: 2-4 Ch 5 Cohesion and Development

Week 5: 2-11 Ch 6 Structure

Week 6: 2-18 Ch 12 Leadership

Week 7: 2-25 Ch 2 Studying Groups

Alive Paper Due Wednesday Feb 21th

Feb 24-25 Sat-Sun class meeting 9-5 Class Presentations Groups: A, B, C

March 3 Sat: Exam 1 10-12 am

Week 8: 3-4 Ch 8 Power

Week 9: 3-18 Ch 9 Conflict

Week 10: 3-25 Ch 10 Performance AND Ch 7 Influence

Week 11: 4-1 Ch 11 Decision Making

Week 12: 4-8 Applied Group Dynamics: Ch 15 (524-535) Individual Change in Groups
Ch 13 (448-450) & (470-481) Intergroup Conflict
Ch 5 (159-166) Teams

Thirteen Days Paper due Wed April 4th

April 7-8 Sat-Sun Class Meetings 9-5 Class Presentations Groups: D, E, F

April 15 Sat Exam 2 10-12 am

Weeks 13/14 Prepare Research Report

New Research Report or Applied Research Report due Wednesday May 3th

April 28 Sat or April 29 Sun: 1/2 day. Tentative: Please hold this day for possible final class meeting. If we do meet, I will shorten one or both of the other classes on the two day weekends.

HOW YOU LEARN ABOUT GROUPS IN THIS COURSE

Groups are very complex and very interesting social systems. They are comprised of individuals, but group processes are more than a collection of individuals. The group has a personality of its own, once it is formed. Like people, groups come in many kinds and shapes and temperaments.

In Social Psychology, there is a research literature on groups that began in the 1930s. One goal of this course is to help you know and understand what we know about how groups work. Since groups are a fundamental unit of social existence (the family, the work team), anything you can learn to help you understand and participate in groups is of value. The text, the exams, the recent research assignment will all increase your knowledge base about groups.

Knowledge of group process, however, is rather esoteric if you can't apply it when you are in a group. For that reason, this class requires you to experience group life and think about it. The second level of learning in this course is your group experience.

You will be assigned to a project team. This means you will meet the team in class but conduct much of your work through Blackboard project groups in a chat room. Each team will have assignments. *These assignments are the work of your project team.* A separate sheet of instructions will be issued for these assignments. You need to be sure you can access Blackboard from your computer and also link your UB email address with whatever address you use so that you can receive messages from the instructor by email at your UB email address. You can set up your @buffalo.edu account to forward messages to another account by creating a filter on the *mail filtering page*. <http://mail2.buffalo.edu:84461> Use "set email forward". Call the CIT help desk if you have problems: 645-3542.

GRADING:

There will be two exams. Each covers about half of the reading in the text. Each is worth 25% of your grade. The exams are not cumulative but over the chapters after the previous exam.

GRADING STRUCTURE SUMMARY:

EXAM I	25 %	Individual
EXAM II	25 %	Individual
Alive analysis	10 %	Group paper on application of group concepts to movie
13 Days	10 %	Group paper on application of group concepts to movie
Teaching	15 %	Group in class teaching and presentation
Res. Report	15 %	Individual Short Paper on new research, select topic from several

Students with disabilities who need special arrangements for exams or for study should see me at the beginning of the semester and also make whatever arrangements are needed with the Office of Special Services