

Prefix and Course Number: SWK3450

METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE OF DENVER
Office of Academic Affairs

REGULAR COURSE SYLLABUS

School of : Letters, Arts and Sciences

Department: Social Work

CIP Code: 44.0701

Semester(s) Offered: Fall

Prefix & Course Number: SWK3450

Crosslisted With*: None

Course Title: Mutual Aid Groups in Social Work

Check All That Apply: Required for Major: ___ Required for Minor: ___ Specified Elective: ___ Required

for Concentration: X Elective: X Service Course: ___

Credit Hours: 4 (4+0)

Contact Hours: Lecture 60 Lab _____ Internship _____ Practicum _____

Schedule Type(s): L Grading Mode(s): L

Repeat* (Variable topics): _____

*(Pertinent only if the course can be repeated; enter maximum number of hours that can be earned by taking this course.)

Restrictions (Variable Topics Course): _____

Prerequisite(s): SWK1010 or permission of the instructor

Corequisite(s): None

Prerequisite(s) or Corequisite(s): ___

Banner Enforced:

Prerequisite(s): ___

Corequisite(s): ___

Prerequisite(s) or Corequisite(s): ___

Catalog Course Description:

Mutual aid groups aimed at empowerment of clients are often part of generalist social work practice to practice to

APPROVED:

Department Chair/Institute Director

Date

Dean

Date

Associate VP, Academic Affairs

Date

*If crosslisted, attach completed Course Crosslisting Agreement Form

Prefix and Course Number: SWK3450

promote growth and change with individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations. Students will gain knowledge about types of groups, group leadership skills, and experience group process.

Required Reading and Other Materials will be equivalent to (Title, Author, Publisher, Copyright Date):

Introduction to Group Work Practice., by Ronald F. Toseland and Robert F. Rivas, New York: Allyn & Bacon/Longman Publishers, (2005 or current edition).

Specific (Measurable) Student Behavioral Learning Objectives:

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

1. Apply the values and ethics of social work practice as it relates to providing mutual aid groups in social work generalist practice.
2. Compare and contrast the structure and purpose of various types of mutual aid groups used in social work practice- task and treatment groups.
3. Compare and contrast the beginning, working and ending phases of task and treatment groups.
4. Practice groups leadership and participation skills for social work task and treatment groups through class exercises.
5. Apply group practice on behalf of oppressed populations as a means of empowerment for individuals, families, groups, communities and organizations.
6. Demonstrate sensitivity to culture and diversity as it relates to the selection of group intervention as an appropriate social work strategy and issues of group membership and leadership.

Detailed Outline of Course Content (Major Topics and Subtopics) or Outline of Field Experience/Internship (experience, responsibilities and supervision):

- I. Social Work Group Practice
 - A. N.A.S.W Code of Ethics
 - B. Relationship to Generalist Social Work Practice
 - C. Historical Perspective in Social Work Group Practice
 - D. Oppressed Populations-Issues of Social and Economic Injustice
 - E. Empowerment Practice in Social Work
 - F. Differentiation Practice in Social Work
- II. Mutual Aid Groups in Social Work Practice
 - A. Types of Mutual Aid Groups-Task and Treatment
 - B. Purpose of Mutual Aid Groups
 - C. Reciprocal Interactions of Individuals and Systems in their Environment
 - D. Understanding Groups Dynamics
 - E. Leadership, Power and Partnerships with Client System(s)
- III. Social Work Group Practice Method
 - A. The Preliminary Phase of Group Work
 1. Planning the Task of Treatment
 2. Establishing Group Focus and Selecting Participants
 3. Recognizing the impact of Social and Economic Injustice
 4. Integrating Social Work Empowerment Practice Goals and Strategies
 - B. The Beginning Phase of Group Work
 1. Defining Mutual Expectations and Obligations
 2. Contracting General Goals

Prefix and Course Number: SWK3450

- 3. Group Leadership
- C. The Working Phase of Group Work
 - 1. Individual Members Provide Mutual Aid
 - 2. Group Members Provide Mutual Aid
 - 3. Group Leadership
- D. The Ending and Transitional Phase of Group Work
 - 1. Stages of Termination
 - 2. Transitional Issues
 - 3. Group Leadership
- IV. Stage One: Orientation and Inclusion
 - A. Characteristics of the Group
 - B. Preparing for the first Meeting
 - C. Developing Relationships
 - D. Creating Hope and Motivation
 - E. The Working Agreement
 - F. The Structure Worker
 - G. The Social Worker's Role
- V. Stage Two: Dissatisfaction and Power Conflict
 - A. Characteristics of Task and Treatment Groups
 - B. Understanding the Group
 - C. Strengthening Relationships
 - D. Promoting Positive Motivation and Reducing Resistance
 - E. Clarifying Purpose
 - F. Stabilizing Membership
 - G. Resolving Conflict
 - H. The Social Worker's Role
- VI. Stage Three: Mutuality and Work
 - A. Characteristics of Task and Treatment
 - B. Maintaining and Strengthening the Group
 - C. Working Toward Goal Achievement
 - D. Resolving Crisis' Role Functioning
 - F. The Social Worker's Role
- VII. Stage Four: Separation, Termination and Transition
 - A. Characteristics of Task and Treatment Groups
 - B. Termination Work
 - C. If the Worker Leaves
 - D. Reactions of Members
 - E. Evaluation Methods
 - F. The Social Worker's Role
- VIII. Application in Generalist Social Work Practice
 - A. A Caregiver Support Group
 - B. A Community Coalition
 - C. Using Client Strengths-Ethnic Group Applications
 - 1. African-American Client System(s)
 - 2. Hispanic Client System(s)

Prefix and Course Number: SWK3450

3. Asian Client System(s)
4. Native-American Client System(s)
5. Anglo Client System(s)
6. Multi-Ethnic Client System(s)

D. Using Client Strengths-Diversity Applications

1. Aging Client System(s)
2. Developmentally Disabled Client System(s)
3. Women/Children Client System(s)
4. Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender Client System(s)

Evaluation of Student Performance: Weekly Group Logs, Mid-term Examination, Final Project and Participation in Discussions and Activities. If students have a social work major area of concentration, minor or certificate area of emphasis, the term paper must reflect that area of practice.