



Course & Session Number	SOWK 307 L10/L11	Classroom	Refer to Course D2L site
Course Name	Practice with Groups		
Day(s) & Time	February 22-25, 2022 (9:00 – 5:00pm)		
Instructor	Patricia Smith, MSW RSW Tara-Leigh Blankenstein, MSW RSW MALM	Office Hours	One hour after class or by appointment
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EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION, RECONCILIATION AND ANTI-RACISM

The Faculty of Social Work (FSW) is committed to anti-racist social work education and practice and to promoting and actualizing equity, diversity, inclusion and reconciliation. We affirm that diversity and differences are enriching and valuable, and that they can strengthen our teaching, learning, research, and community connections. We aim to foster an inclusive, thriving environment for our students, staff, postdoctoral fellows, and community members. We acknowledge the historic and ongoing effects of racism, systemic inequities and compounded disadvantages due to the intersection of social locations, particularly for members of racialized, Indigenous, disability and 2SLGBTQ+ communities, as well as those who have experienced socioeconomic, caregiving, religious, and cultural barriers to their education. We recognize, honour, and integrate diverse perspectives, experiences, and strengths into our work. See the faculty's [Statement on Anti-Black and Anti-Asian Racism](#), the work of the faculty's [Anti-Black Racism Task Force](#), and the university's [Indigenous strategy](#).

SYLLABUS STATEMENT

Students will be introduced to theories and skills for working with groups within a context of practice and assessment frameworks.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introduction to social work with groups including basic group work concepts and skills. An understanding of group processes and methods in typical group, community, organizational and planning situations will be emphasized. This course prepares students to facilitate both task and interventive groups through its use of task groups in the planning of an interventive group.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. To acquire knowledge of the purpose and use of groups in social work practice.
2. To build an understanding of group theory, including the stages of group development, and its application to social work with groups.
3. To gain knowledge of various types of group work practice (i.e., interventive, task groups).
4. To acquire knowledge of, and the ability to identify and assess, various aspects of group functioning and group dynamics.
5. To demonstrate the ability to design and implement a task or interventive oriented group.
6. To obtain knowledge of, and ability to apply, basic skills and use of self in facilitating group development.

LEARNING RESOURCES

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND/OR READINGS

Zastrow, C. (2017). Social work with groups. A comprehensive worktext (9th Edition). Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning.

Additional readings will be posted by instructors on the course D2L site.

Use APA (7th edition) formatting for citations

(https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html)

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS

A D2L site is set up for this course, which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER COURSES

SOWK 307 is one of eight required courses in the BSW Community Based Learning Circles program. It must be completed concurrent with SOWK 306.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Class	Readings
February 22	Ethics, Leadership & Planning	Chapters 1-3
February 23	Stages of group development, Group dynamics & communication	Chapters 1-3
February 24	Group membership, Task, community groups & goal setting	Chapters 4-6
February 25	Intervention groups & Evaluation of Success	Chapters 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14

Important dates for Winter 2022:

- Add/Drop/Swap and Withdraw deadlines: Check the Student Centre
- Block Week: Monday – Friday, January 3 – 7, 2022
- Start of Classes: Monday, January 10, 2022
- Term Break, no classes: Sunday – Saturday, February 20 – 26, 2022
- End of Classes: Tuesday, April 12, 2022
- End of Term: Friday, April 29, 2022
- Alberta Family Day, no classes: Monday, February 21, 2022
- Good Friday, no classes: Friday, April 15, 2022
- Easter Monday, no classes, Monday, April 18, 2022

ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM CONDUCT AND RELATED INFORMATION

GUIDELINES FOR ZOOM SESSIONS IN ONLINE CLASSES

Students are expected to participate actively in all Zoom sessions. If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session) for your best learning experiences. Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected, if they are able, to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.). All students are expected to behave in a professional manner during the session.

MEDIA RECORDING FOR ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

ZOOM RECORDINGS OF ONLINE CLASSES

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS

Assignment	Course Weight	Assignment Details	Due Dates
Self-Assessment of Working Style in Groups	25%	<p>1. Complete the self-assessments posted on the course D2L site. Once you’ve completed your assessment, calculate your score and post a saved copy of your assessment to the course drop box. (10%)</p> <p>2. Participate in the discussion forum. Start a thread in the forum title where you had your highest score. Provide your thoughts about the self-assessment and the outcomes with special attention to the strengths and challenges of your working style when participating or leading groups.</p> <p>Respond with <u>substance</u> to at least four other threads. (check D2L for rubric) (15%)</p>	<p>DUE: Friday, February 11 (11:00pm) for submission of self-assessment</p> <p>Discussion forum opens morning of DUE: February 7 to 18</p> <p>DUE: Sunday, February 20th (11:00 p.m) for completion of discussion forum</p>
Group Exercise Repository- Individual presentations	20%	<p>Each day, following the lunch break 5 students will have 10 minutes EACH to present/share a group exercise with the class. For each day of the presentations, there is a specific area assigned coinciding with the topics for the day.</p> <p>Determine: who is the target population? What type of group? What is the purpose?</p> <p>Provide a copy of the exercise instructions to the class and the Dropbox to build a repository of exercises.</p>	<p>Each day- check D2L schedule</p>

Participation self-assessment	20%	At the final class, students are to complete the participation self-assessment containing statements contributing to positive group dynamics (form is on D2L). <i>Note: the instructor reserves the right to scale this grade up or down dependent upon observed behaviours throughout the week.</i>	DUE: End of class Friday, February 25
Reflective Paper on Group membership	35%	Reflective paper giving critical thought to self in relation to group work in a variety of areas. Check D2L for assignment specifications and grading rubric.	Digital drop-box DUE: March 11 by 11:00p.m

ADDITIONAL ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to be fully present and engaged in each class activities and discussions. These are part of the participation grade, as outlined in the assessment components section above.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are electronically submitted through their respective Dropbox in D2L or as otherwise noted. Assignments must be submitted in Word. Assignments should have a file name as follows: "Full name and assignment number" (e.g., Jane Smith Assignment 2). Assignments are due by 11:00 pm on their due date. Please note that it is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure that the proper version is submitted.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late assignments will be accepted for 7 days after the due date. A 25% penalty shall be applied to all late assignments. Assignments submitted more than 7 days after the due date will receive a grade of 0.

EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING

All assignments will be assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Sources used in research papers must be properly documented and referenced in APA 7th edition format. If you need writing support, please connect with the Student Success Centre, at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

It is expected that all work submitted in assignments is the student's own work, written expressly by the student for this particular course. Students are reminded that academic misconduct, including plagiarism, has serious consequences, as set out in the University Calendar:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

GRADING

The undergraduate and graduate grading systems are included below – delete the one that does not apply to your course.

A student's final grade for the course is the sum of the separate assignments. It is not necessary to pass each assignment separately in order to pass the course. The University of Calgary [Undergraduate Grading System](#) and Faculty of Social Work Percentage Conversion will be used. This grading system overrides the grading system in D2L.

Note: To obtain a designated letter grade, one must reach the full percentage value for the lower limit of that grade.

A cumulative GPA of 2.30 or above is required on all courses taken towards the BSW degree. Students are allowed a maximum of two "D" or two "D+" grades in the equivalent of two half courses throughout their program.

Grade	Grade Point	Description	Percentage Range
A+	4.0	Outstanding	95 - 100
A	4.0	Excellent – superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter	95 – 100
A-	3.7		90 – 94
B+	3.3		85 – 89
B	3.0	Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete	80 – 84
B-	2.7		75 – 79
C+	2.3		70 – 74
C	2.0	Satisfactory – basic understanding of subject matter	65 – 69
C-	1.7		60 – 64
D+	1.3		55 – 59
D	1.0	Minimal Pass – marginal performance	50 – 54
F	0.0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements	Below 50

The University of Calgary [Graduate Grading System](#) and Faculty of Social Work Percentage Conversion will be used.

COURSE EVALUATION

Student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University and Faculty of Social Work course evaluation forms. Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with the instructor.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTED READINGS

Suggested readings for the course be provided to students in D2L in order to manage the length of this course outline.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

As members of the University community, students and staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Students and staff are also expected to demonstrate professional behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. Consistent with the aims of the Social Work Program and the University of Calgary, all students and staff are expected to respect, appreciate, and encourage expression of diverse world views and perspectives; to offer their fellow community members unconditional respect and constructive feedback; and to contribute to building learning communities that promote individual and collective professional and personal growth. While critical thought and debate is valued in response to concepts and opinions shared in class, feedback must always be focused on the ideas or opinions shared and not on the person who has stated them.

Students and staff are expected to model behaviour in class that is consistent with our professional values and ethics, as outlined in the Canadian Association for Social Workers, Code of Ethics (2005) and the Alberta College of Social Work Standards of Practice (2019). Both can be found online at:
<https://acsw.ab.ca/site/practice-resources?nav=sidebar>

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures. Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS). SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available <https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf>

RESEARCH ETHICS

“If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they should speak with the course instructor and consult the CFREB Ethics Website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/cfreb>) before beginning the assignment.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by professor(s) (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students who use materials protected by copyright are expected to comply with the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students’ assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE POLICY

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary’s sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response

procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/sexual-and-gender-based-violence-policy>

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information