

SW 461: Social Work Methods: Working with Groups

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Course Objectives:

- Develop understanding of group work as a method of professional social work
- Gain insight into various dimensions of group processes and group work practice
- Develop competencies for working with groups in diverse settings.

Learning Outcome:

- Develop the skill to understand and work with diverse social groups
- Understand the dimensions and processes of working in groups settings
- Applying the skills and techniques of working with groups

COURSE CONTENTS:

Unit I: Understanding Social Groups

- Social Groups: Definitions, characteristics, functions and group structure
- Classification of groups: Cooley, Sumner, Jennings and Tonnies; Types of Social Group Work
- Historical development of group work
- Group work: definition, goals and value; Principles and Models of group work practice

Unit II: Group Process, Group Dynamics and Group Development

- Group Processes and Dynamics: Group Structure, Group behaviour, Communication and interaction pattern, Group cohesion & conflict
- Leadership - Theories of leadership, roles and responsibilities of group leader
- Stages of group work: formation, intervention and termination phases
- Programme planning and use of programme media

Unit III: Application and Practice of Group Work

- Techniques and skills in group work, Group worker: roles and functions
- Group work with different groups- Children, persons with disability, youth, older persons and others, Group work with task groups
- Best practice guidelines of Association for Specialists in Group Work
- Diversity-competent group work: Principles

Textbooks:

Balgopal, P.R. & Vassil, T.V. 1983, *Groups in Social Work: An Ecological Perspective*. New York: Macmillan.

Konopka, G. 1963, *Social Group Work: A Helping Process*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice.

Trecker, H.B. 1972, *Social Group Work: Principles and Practices*. New York: Association Press.

Additional Readings

Alphonse, M., George, P., & Moffatt, K. (2008). Redefining social work standards in the context of globalization: Lessons from India. *International Social Work*, 51(2), 145-158.

Brandler, S., & Roman, C. P. (2015). *Group work: Skills and strategies for effective interventions*. Routledge.

Balgopal, P. R. (Ed.). (2000). *Social work practice with immigrants and refugees*. Columbia University Press. [Selective chapter]

Douglas, T. (2002). *Basic groupwork*. Routledge.

Germain, C. B., & Gitterman, A. (1996). *The life model of social work practice: Advances in theory & practice*. Columbia University Press.

Kline, W. B. (2003). *Interactive group counseling and therapy*. Prentice Hall. [Selective Chapter]

Middleman, R. R., & Goldberg Wood, G. (1990). From social group work to social work with groups. *Social work with groups*, 13(3), 3-20.

Northen, H., & Kurland, R. (2001). *Social work with groups*. Columbia University Press.

Phillips, H. U. (1973). *Essentials of social group work skill*. University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Work.

Reid, K. E. (1997). *Social work practice with groups: A clinical perspective*. Brooks/Cole Publishing Company, 511 Forest Lodge Rd., Pacific Grove, CA 93950-5098.

Siddiqui, H.Y. (2008). *Group Work: Theories and Practices*. Jaipur, India: Rawat Publications

Somers, M. L. (1980). *Group Processes in Social Work: A Theoretical Synthesis*.

Toseland, R. W., & Rivas, R. F. (2012). *An introduction to group work practice*. Allyn & Bacon,.

Wilson, G., & Ryland, G. (1949). *Social group work practice*.

Alissi, A. S. (1980). *Perspectives on social group work practice*. New York: Macmillan

- Brown, L. (1993). Group work and the environment: A systems approach. *Social work with groups*, 16(1-2), 83-95.
- Corey, M. S., & Corey, G. (2002). *Groups: Process and practice*. Pacific Grove, CA.: Brooks.
- Douglas, T. (1979). *Group processes in social work: a theoretical synthesis*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Ephross, P. H., & Greif, G. L. (Eds.). (2005). *Group work with populations at risk* (pp. 357-377). Oxford University Press.
- Gladding, S. T. (2003). *Group work: A counseling specialty*. Prentice Hall.
- Gladding, S. T. (2005). *Counseling theories: Essential concepts and applications*. Prentice Hall.
- Greif, G., & Knight, C. (Eds.). (2016). *Group Work with Populations At-Risk*. Oxford University Press.
- Hartford, M. E. (1969). *Social Work with Groups*, Helen Northen. New York: Columbia University Press.
- Henry, S. (1981). *Group skills in social work*. Itasca, IL: FE Peacock.
- Imbrogno, S. (2014). *Small Group Dynamics*. *Social Work With Groups: Expanding Horizons*, 137.
- Maguire, L. (2002). *Clinical social work: Beyond generalist practice with individuals, groups, and families*. Brooks/Cole Publishing Company.
- McDermott, F. (2020). *Inside group work: A guide to reflective practice*. Routledge.
- Wenocur, S. (2014). *Social work with groups: Expanding horizons*. Routledge.