

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

PSYC 405

GROUP DYNAMICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The study of human personality in relationship to other persons, singularly and in groups. The application of the principles of group dynamics to business, industry, public and private life will be examined in theory and demonstrated with exercises.

RATIONALE

Each student is involved in groups. He or she is involved in many groups from the beginning to the end of life. In order to become better participants in groups as members and/or as leaders, an understanding of group dynamics, group process, and group facilitation is imperative. Most careers involve participating in groups or working as teams. Understanding group dynamics and the accompanying skills will improve the student's effectiveness and marketability.

I. PREREQUISITES

None

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES

Click the following link to view the required resources for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to LU students.)
- D. DVD player

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Summarize and implement the major concepts in Psychology.
- B. Implement the language, and major theories of psychology to account for psychological phenomena.
- C. Explain different research methods used by psychologists.
- D. Solve problems related to behavior and mental processes using creative and critical thinking skills.

- E. Recognize, develop, defend, and criticize arguments and other persuasive appeals using reasoning skills.
- F. Analyze and solve problems effectively.
- G. Recognize ethically complex situations and apply them to psychological principles.
- H. Evaluate the need for ethical behavior in all aspects of the science and practice of professional and personal areas.
- I. Classify ways psychological principles can be used to explain social issues and inform public policy.
- J. Apply psychological concepts, theories, and research findings as these relate to everyday life.
- K. Demonstrate communication skills effectively in written, oral, and technological formats.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and presentations
- B. Discussion Board forums (4)
 Each student will participate in 4 Discussion Board forums throughout this course. There will be different topics for each forum within the assigned module. Each student will compose a 300-word thread in answer to the topic, then a 100-word reply to 2 classmates' threads.
- C. Concept Paper
 Individual students will write a 2 page paper focused on one of the concepts in the textbook. Students will use a minimum of two peer reviewed journal articles and the textbook.
- D. Group Research Paper
 Each student will be assigned to a group which will choose a topic from the list of approved group dynamic topics and compose a research paper. The group leader will divide the subject into subtopics. The subtopics will be assigned equally to each group member. Each group member will research and write their individually assigned section of the group research paper. These individually written sections are to be completed and posted to the Group Discussion Board by the Module 6 deadline.
- E. Exams (2)
 The midterm examination will cover chapters 1 – 6 and will be taken in Module 4. The final examination will cover chapters 7 – 11, 13 and 17 and will be taken during Module 8.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**A. Points**

Discussion Board Forums (4 at 75 pts ea)	300
Concept Paper	100
Group Research Paper	
Outline	50
References	50
Final Paper	200
Exams (2 at 150 pts ea)	300
Total	1000

B. Scale

A = 900–1000 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Late Assignment Submissions

Assignments are due on the due date. Late work will be accepted on a case by case basis; however, late papers and assignments are subject to a daily grading penalty. Students are responsible for their computers; failure (at the last minute) does not constitute an excuse for late work. Always back up your work.

D. Honor Code

We, the students, faculty, and staff of Liberty University, have a responsibility to uphold the moral and ethical standards of this institution.

E. Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct includes: academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and falsification. See The Liberty Way for specific definitions, penalties, and processes for reporting.

F. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact LU Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations.

COURSE SCHEDULE

PSYC 405

Textbooks: Forsyth, D. R. *Group Dynamics*, (2010).

WEEK/ MODULE	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Forsyth: chs. 1 & 2 2 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Discussion Board Forum 1	0 75
2	Forsyth: chs. 3 & 4 2 presentations	Concept Paper Group Research Paper - Topic	100 0
3	Forsyth: ch. 5 2 presentations	Discussion Board Forum 2 Group Research Paper - Outline	75 50
4	Forsyth: ch 6	Midterm Exam	150
5	Forsyth: chs 7 & 8 4 presentations	Discussion Board Forum 3 Group Research Paper - References	75 50
6	Forsyth: chs 9 & 17 3 presentations	Discussion Board Forum 4	75
7	Forsyth: chs 10 & 13 2 presentations	Group Research Paper - Final Draft	200
8	Forsyth: ch. 11 1 presentation	Final Exam	150
TOTAL			1000

NOTE: Each course week (except week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.