

**SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS & TECHNOLOGY
SAULT STE MARIE, ON**



COURSE OUTLINE

Course Title: Managing Offender Groups

Code No.: CJS 426

Semester: IV

Program: Correctional Worker

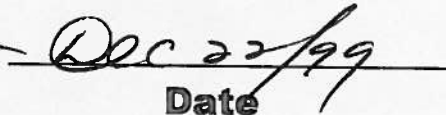
Author: Brian Rawn

Date: Jan. 2000

Previous Outline Date: Jan. 1999

Approved:


Dean


Date

Total Credits: 4

Prerequisite(s):

Length of Course: 3hrs/wk

Total Credit Hours: 45

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For additional information, please contact Brian Rawn, Correctional Worker Program, (705) 759-2554,
Ext. 548**

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- I. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will explore the process, which occurs when people become a group. Students will be introduced to the theory underlying effective group dynamics and the skills required to apply this knowledge, therapeutically, to the effective management of offender groups. An experiential approach to learning about group dynamics encompasses the core of this subject matter.
- II. **LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:**
(Generic Skills Learning Outcomes placement on the course outline will be determined and communicated at a later date. In general, this course addresses generic outcomes in communications, technology, interpersonal skills, and analytical skills.)

Upon successful completion of this course the student will demonstrate the ability to:

- 1) **Group Dynamics**
Potential Elements of the Performance:
 - identify characteristics of a group
 - understand the structure of groups
 - identify effective groups and group skills
 - identify personal present attitude , behaviours and feelings

- 2) **Experiential Learning**
Potential Elements of the Performance:
 - distinguish between helpful and harmful group behaviours
 - understand procedural learning and action theories
 - gain expertise through experiential learning
 - identify and explore feelings, attitudes and behaviours within a group
 - develop observation and role playing skills
 - explain and conduct a skill training exercise
 - understand the ethics of experiential learning

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II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE (Continued)

3) Group Goals, Social Interdependence, and Trust

Potential Elements of the Performance:

identify effective communication techniques that enhances listening and understanding

- understand group goals and social interdependence
- develop goal-related behaviours and effective group goals
- propose methods to improve group communication
- practice giving and receiving information
- explain the difference between competition and co-operation
- identify barriers to communication

4) Communication Within Groups

Potential Elements of Performance

- determine communication structures and networks
- recognise patterns of communications within the group
- identify the effects of competition and co-operation on communication

5) Leadership

Potential elements of the Performance:

- identify and demonstrate leadership issues and styles
- empower other group members through successful leadership
- determine factors that indicate successful leadership
- recognise common causes of failure and suggest how each could be minimalized or eliminated
- utilise the problem solving process to devise solutions for given case studies

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6) Using Power

Potential Elements of Performance:

- compare and describe situations involving conflict, competition and co-operation
- describe how power and conflict are interrelated
- identify the bases of power
- discuss the concept of group mind

7) Decision Making

Potential Elements of Performance:

- demonstrate the decision making model for reaching a group/team consensus
- identify the major characteristics of effective group decisions
- describe different methods of decision making
- observe factors that hinder group decisions

8) Controversy and Creativity

Potential Elements of Performance:

- demonstrate the steps of a structured controversy
- discuss how controversy affects decisions
- identify the phases of creative processes
- demonstrate brainstorming procedures

9) Managing Conflicts of Interests

Potential Elements of Performance:

- compare conflict negative and conflict positive groups
- identify major conflict strategies
- demonstrate the skills of negotiation
- apply constructive procedures to intergroup conflict

III. TOPICS:

1. Group dynamics and relating behaviours to roles
2. Experiential Learning
3. Group Goals, Social Interdependence, and Trust
4. Communication Within Groups
5. Leadership
6. Using Power
7. Decision Making
8. Controversy and Creativity
9. Managing Conflict of Interest

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IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

Johnson, D.W. & Johnson, F.P., (1987) Joining Together: Group Theory and Group Skills, 7th edition. Allyn and Bacon, Inc.

Personal Diary / Journal

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM

Skill Level Assignment #1	5%
Mid-term Exam	20%
Therapeutic Group Activity	20%
Group Theory Presentation	15%
Final Exam	20%
Skill Level Assignment #2	5%
Journal	15%
	100%

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

- **Special Needs**
If you are a student with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with the instructor and/or contact the Special Needs Office, Room E1204, Ext. 493, 717, 491 so that support services can be arranged for you.
- **Retention of Course Outlines**
It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other post-secondary institutions.
- Your instructor reserves the right to modify the course, as he/she deems necessary to

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meet the needs of students.

- Under exceptional circumstances, such as documented illness, and at the discretion of the instructor, students may make arrangements to write missed tests or exams. The Instructor **must** be notified **prior** to the exam.
- Rewrites of tests and exams are not allowed in this course.
- Late assignments **will not be accepted** for marking.
- This course meets the College Standards and Accreditation Council Standards for the Correctional Worker program in the following areas:
 - Professional 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 1.7, 1.9
 - Security 2.7, 2.9
 - Counselling 3.4, 3.5, 3.7, 3.10
 - Supervision 4.2
 - Crisis Prevention 5.1, 5.2
 - Program 6.1
 - Theoretical 7.1, 7.2

VII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT

Students who wish to apply for advanced credit in the course should consult the instructor. Credit for prior learning will be given upon successful completion of the following:

- Life Skills Coach Training Certificate
- Other Certified Training course that meets the course objectives