

Group Processes
Psychology 457/557: CRN 15964
UH 11:00-12:20 146 Straub
Fall 1993

Dr. Robert Mauro
311 Straub
346-4917
Office Hours: TuTh 13:00-14:00 & by appt.

Texts:

- D. Forsyth, (1990). An Introduction to Group Dynamics (2nd Ed.).
Monterey, CA: Brooks/Cole.
- Cialdini, R. (1984). Influence: The New Psychology of Modern Persuasion. New York: Quill.

Reading Packet available at Campus Copy

This course is concerned primarily with the study of individuals interacting in groups of two or more. Many of the topics covered in this course have been studied by anthropologists, cognitive scientists, management theorists, and sociologists as well as by psychologists; hence, we will draw on the literatures of several different disciplines. However, psychological research will be the basis for this course.

Course Requirements

This is a graduate/advanced undergraduate course. You will be expected to be able to read and to write at that level. If you feel uncomfortable with either task, do not take this course. You should also be familiar with the basic statistics and research methods taught in Psychology 302 and 303.

Undergraduates

During the first part of the course we will occasionally spend a class period doing a mini-experiment and discussing the results. The experiment and the associated lecture/discussion and readings will be covered in a quiz given during the next class period. In addition, there will be a midterm and a cumulative final examination consisting of multiple choice questions and short answer/essay questions. The short answer/essay questions will be taken from a larger set of study questions which will be distributed about one week before the midterm and final examinations.

Grading: Each quiz will be worth 10 points. The midterm examination will be worth 25 points and the final will be worth 45 points - for a total of 100 points. Grades will be allocated according to the following scheme:

A 90 points
A- 87 points
B+ 85
B 80 points
B- 77 points
C+ 75
C 70
C- 65
D 55

To obtain a P you must accumulate 65 points.

Graduates

You will be required to write a term paper on a subject in the field of group behavior (broadly defined) and you will be required to take the final examination described above. You must arrange to meet with me to discuss the topic of your term paper prior to 10/14/93. A formal proposal/outline for your paper must be turned in to me by 10/28/93. We will arrange a time after that date to discuss your proposal. The paper itself is due at the final examination.

Grading: The term paper and the final are each worth 50% of the course grade.

9/28	Introduction Forsyth Ch. 1
9/30	Group Formation & Socialization Forsyth Ch. 3, 4 & 5;
10/5	Exercise I: Methods for studying groups Forsyth Ch 2; Laboratory Exercise I
10/7	Group Formation & Socialization Quiz I
10/12	Performance Forsyth Ch. 9
10/14	Exercise II: Communication & Leadership Forsyth Ch. 8, Leavitt
10/19	Decision-making Quiz II; Forsyth Ch. 6, 7, & 10;
10/21	Decision-making Wallach, Kogan, & Bem
10/26	Decision-making
10/28	MIDTERM EXAMINATION
11/2	Exercise III: Problem Solving, Planning, & Creativity Diehl & Stroebe
11/4	<u>Social Conflict</u> Quiz III; Forsyth Ch. 12 & 13, Pruitt, Rubin, Raiffa
11/9	Social Dilemmas Messick & Brewer
11/11	Bargaining, Negotiation, & Coalition Formation
11/16	<u>Social Influence</u> : Sales, Cults, & "Brainwashing" (The Wave), Cialdini, Schein
11/18	Social Influence
11/23	Social Influence
11/25	Thanksgiving - No class
11/30	<u>Collective Behavior</u> : Crowds & Riots Forsyth Ch. 11 & 14
12/2	Collective Behavior
12/6	FINAL EXAMINATION 15:15