

**SOWK 235: Social Work with Groups**

*3 credits, 3 hours lecture*

This course focuses on the process and dynamics of group work in social work practice. The theoretical underpinnings of group work are explored with an emphasis on values and practices that differ across cultures and consequently impact group work. A variety of group types, phases of group development, intervention techniques, and leadership qualities are examined. Students will apply concepts of group work in the classroom and will have opportunities to practice with and observe groups.

*Prerequisites and/or co-requisites:* See course calendar

Instructor Name: Alexis Laird  
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**Office Hours**

Monday 9:00 – 10:00  
Friday 12:00 – 1:00

Or by appointment

**Hours of Instruction**

Friday 1:00 PM - 3:50 PM  
Room: S212

**Required Resources**

Corey, M.S, Corey, G. & Corey, C. (2018). *Groups: Process and Practice (10th Ed.)*. Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.

**Course Outcomes**

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

- Develop an understanding of group work and practices from different cultural perspectives
- Identify the different stages of group development and explain the characteristics of each of the respective stages
- Explain the different procedures for forming a group and facilitating groups
- Identify the various types of groups and the purpose and functions of each type of group
- Demonstrate self-awareness within a group context (impact on group and group's effect on them)
- Demonstrate use of beginning leadership skills and techniques applicable to various stages of groups
- Participate effectively in groups in the learning environment

**Evaluation**

Group Proposal Assignment	30%
Midterm	25%
Group Facilitation Critical Analysis Paper	15%
Final Assignment	30%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

*A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.*

**Group Proposal Assignment**

This assignment will require students imagine they are planning a group and must submit a proposal to their (assumed) agency for approval.

All group types/topics must be pre-approved by the instructor.

This proposal will be 10 – 12 pages in length. Further instructions and group assignments will be provided in class.

This assignment will be worth 30% of students' overall grade and will be due on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**Midterm**

This will be a 3 hour, in class exam on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This exam will cover all course material discussed in class.

This exam will be worth 25% of students' overall grade.

**Group Facilitation Critical Analysis Paper**

Throughout the semester, students will each have the opportunity to facilitate a small group. Students will then write a critical analysis of their experience for submission. Further instructions and group assignments to follow in class.

This critical analysis will be 3-4 pages long.

This assignment will be worth 15% of students' overall grades and will be due April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020.

**Final Assignment**

The final assignment will be completed during the final exam period. Students will be provided the assignment on April 14<sup>th</sup> and it will be due on April 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 PM. The final assignment will cover all course material presented after the midterm.

**Date April 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Weight: 30%**

**Grading System**

<b>Descriptor</b>	<b>Alpha Grade</b>	<b>4.0 Scale</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Rubric for Letter Grades</b>
Excellent	A+	4.0	> 92.9	Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.
	A	4.0	85 – 92.9	
	A-	3.7	80 – 84.9	
Good	B+	3.3	77 – 79.9	Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.
	B	3.0	74 – 76.9	
	B-	2.7	70 – 73.9	
Satisfactory <b>Progression</b>	C+	2.3	67 – 69.9	Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.
	C	2.0	64 – 66.9	
	C-	1.7	60 – 63.9	
Poor <b>Minimum Pass</b>	D+	1.3	55 – 59.9	Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format.
	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

**Proposed Schedule of Topics**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Activity</b>
January 10	Review of course outline and introduction: Chapter 1
January 17	Chapter 2
January 24	Chapter 3 and 4
January 31	Chapter 5 and Midterm Review
February 7	Participatory Learning – Mary Amy Treatment Centre
February 14	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
February 21	<b>Reading Week – No Class</b>
February 28	Chapter 6 and 7
March 6	Chapter 8
March 13	Chapter 9
March 20	<b>Group Proposal Assignment Due</b> Chapter 10
March 27	Chapter 11
April 3	<b>Group Facilitation Critical Analysis Paper Due</b> Final Exam Review
April 14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Final Assignment</b>

**Please Note:**

Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

## Performance Requirements

### Student Responsibilities

It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the Keyano College credit calendar.

More specific details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

### Student Attendance

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a students' learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and / or notes that may be due.

### Academic Misconduct

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating)
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications
- The willful distortion of results or data
- Substitution in an examination by another person
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on [ilearn.keyano.ca](http://ilearn.keyano.ca). Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work will not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

## Specialized Supports

The Student Academic Support Services (SASS) department: Accessibility Services, Skill Centre, Wellness Services and Student Life Department work together to support student success at Keyano College.

**Accessibility Services (CC167)** supports student success through group and individualized instruction of learning, study and test taking strategies, and adaptive technologies. Students with documented disabilities, or who suspect a disability, can meet with the Learning Strategists to discuss

accommodation of the learning barriers that they may be experiencing. Students who have accessed accommodations in the past are encouraged to visit our office at their earliest opportunity to discuss the availability of accommodations in their current courses. Individual appointments can be made by calling 780-791-8934.

**Skill Centre (CC119)** provides a learning space where students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects and get new perspectives on learning from our tutorial staff. Students visiting the centre have access to one-to-one or group tutoring, facilitated study groups, and assistance in academic writing. The Skill Centre's Peer Tutor program provides paid employment opportunities for students who have demonstrated academic success and want to share what they have learned. Tutoring is available free to any students registered at Keyano College on a drop in basis, from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Additional evening hours are subject to tutor availability and are posted in the Skill Centre.

**Wellness Services (CC260)** offers a caring, inclusive, and respectful environment where students can access free group and individual support to meet academic and life challenges. Mental Health Coordinators offer a safe and confidential environment to seek help with personal concerns. The Mindfulness Room in CC260 is available as a quiet space for students to relax during regular office hours. Wellness Service welcomes students to participate in any of the group sessions offered throughout the academic year addressing such topics as Mindfulness and Test Anxiety. Individual appointments can be made by calling 780-791-8934.

**Student Life Department (CC210)** is a place for students to go when they don't know who else can answer their questions. The staff will help students navigate barriers to success and if they don't know the answer, they will find it out. Student success is directly affected by how connected a student feels to their college. The student life department is there to help students get connected.

**Please watch your Keyano email for workshop announcements from our Student Academic Support Services team.**