

Argosy University
COURSE SYLLABUS

PC6505

Group Counseling

Summer 2007

Faculty Information:

Faculty Name: Christine Pappas, Psy.D

Campus: Argosy University San Francisco Bay Area

Contact Information and Office Hours:

Christine Pappas, Psy.D

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Please feel free to contact the instructor either by phone or email. Availability includes before class, during lunch break, after class, or by appointment.

Faculty Bio for Christine Pappas:

I earned both my Master's and Psy.D in clinical psychology at Argosy University, Bay Area. My clinical experience draws primarily from working with emotionally challenged children, adolescents, young adults, and families. Facilities I have worked in include residential settings, in-patient and outpatient settings, as well as public schools and juvenile hall. Currently, I am working in an outpatient recovery clinic providing services to adults suffering from various eating addiction disorders (i.e. anorexia, bulimia, drug, and alcohol), as well as mood disorders while supporting their families when necessary.

Course Description:

This three hour course systematically examines the therapeutic and dynamic factors of group psychotherapy. The first 30 minutes of each class is didactic and concentrates on reading assignments and issues from previous sessions (a fifteen minute break follows). The second 90 minutes of each class is experiential and consists of student participation in a mock psychotherapy group. The final 45 minutes of each class is evaluative and reserved for post-group discussion.

Mode of Instruction:

This course will be taught using reading assignment lectures, mock psychotherapy groups, post-group discussions, group process papers, and maintaining a personal journal.

Course Pre-requisites: First year of coursework in the MA Counseling Psychology

Required Textbooks:

Brabender, V., Fallon, A., and Smolar, A (2004). *Essentials of group therapy*. Hoboken, New Jersey: John Wiley and Sons. ISBN 0-471-24439-2

Technology: Internet Access; Microsoft WORD; Adobe Acrobat (full version)

Course length:

Contact Hours:

Credit Value: 3.0

Course Objectives:

As a result of this course, students will demonstrate the following:

The main objectives of the course are:

1. Develop and explore basic theoretical knowledge and concepts related group therapy..
2. Gain practical clinical experience in group counseling by participating on a weekly basis mock group psychotherapy, as well as discussions, processing, and critiquing the group dynamic.
3. Gain insight into the group dynamic by keeping a weekly journal and three process papers (each paper two pages in length).
4. Ability to manage anxiety when conducting group therapy.
5. Develop basic counseling skills when facilitating a group dynamic. Develop the ability to reflect, validate, and empathize with multiple perspectives.
6. Implement appropriate group interventions when working with children and adolescents.
7. Ability to apply group theory and practice to children, adolescents, and the aging.
8. Ability to demonstrate sensitivity to diversity.

Course Requirements and Assignments (TBD):

1. Participation in the class discussions
2. Class attendance
3. Participation in mock psychotherapy groups
4. Completion of group process papers
5. Completion of personal journal

***Read text according to the following schedule (*specific dates to be determined on the first day of class*). Handouts may also be added for further reading:

Grading Criteria

Class attendance is mandatory and class participation is essential. In a course of this experimental nature, it is important to attend every class. It is not possible to make-good sequential learning, group interaction, and bonding that occurs in your absence. If you are absolutely unable to attend a class please contact your instructor and leave a message. Grades are determined by

- 1) Participation in class: 25 points
- 2) Participation in mock psychotherapy group: 30 points
- 3) Completion of four group process papers: 5 points each (total 20)

- 4) Weekly maintenance of a personal journal: 25 points

TOTAL COURSE POINTS POSSIBLE: 100

Grading Scale:

A	100 – 95
A-	94 – 90
B+	89 – 88
B	87 – 83
B-	82 – 80
C+	79 – 78
C	77 - 73
C-	72 – 70
F	69 and below

Library

All resources in Argosy University's online collection are available through the Internet. The campus librarian will provide students with links, user IDs, and passwords.

Library Resources: Argosy University's core online collection features nearly 21,000 full-text journals and 23,000 electronic books and other content covering all academic subject areas including Business & Economics, Career & General Education, Computers, Engineering & Applied Science, Humanities, Science, Medicine & Allied Health, and Social & Behavior Sciences. Many titles are directly accessible through the Online Public Access Catalog at <http://library.argosyu.edu>. Detailed descriptions of online resources are located at <http://library.argosyu.edu/misc/onlinedblist.html>.

In addition to online resources, Argosy University's onsite collections contain a wealth of subject-specific research materials searchable in the Online Public Access Catalog. Catalog searching is easily limited to individual campus collections. Alternatively, students can search combined collections of all Argosy University Libraries. Students are encouraged to seek research and reference assistance from campus librarians.

Information Literacy: Argosy University's Information Literacy Tutorial was developed to teach students fundamental and transferable research skills. The tutorial consists of five modules where students learn to select sources appropriate for academic-level research, search periodical indexes and search engines, and evaluate and cite information. In the tutorial, students study concepts and practice them through interactions. At the conclusion of each module, they can test their comprehension and receive immediate feedback. Each module takes less than 20 minutes to complete. Please view the tutorial at <http://library.argosyu.edu/infolit/>

Academic Policies

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism: In an effort to foster a spirit of honesty and integrity during the learning process, Argosy University requires that the submission of all course assignments represent the original work produced by that student. All sources must be documented through normal scholarly references/citations and all work must be submitted using the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5th Edition (2001)*. Washington DC: American Psychological Association (APA) format. Please refer to Appendix A in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5th Edition* for thesis and paper format. Students are encouraged to purchase this manual (required in some courses) and become familiar with its content as well as consult the Argosy University catalog for further information regarding academic dishonesty and plagiarism.

Scholarly writing: The faculty at Argosy University is dedicated to providing a learning environment that supports scholarly and ethical writing, free from academic dishonesty and plagiarism. This includes the proper and appropriate referencing of all sources. You may be asked to submit your course assignments through “Turnitin,” (www.turnitin.com), an online resource established to help educators develop writing/research skills and detect potential cases of academic dishonesty. Turnitin compares submitted papers to billions of pages of content and provides a comparison report to your instructor. This comparison detects papers that share common information and duplicative language.

Americans with Disabilities Act Policy

It is the policy of Argosy University to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If a student with disabilities needs accommodations, the student must notify the Director of Student Services. Procedures for documenting student disability and the development of reasonable accommodations will be provided to the student upon request.

Students will be notified by the Director of Student Services when each request for accommodation is approved or denied in writing via a designated form. To receive accommodation in class, it is the student’s responsibility to present the form (at his or her discretion) to the instructor. In an effort to protect student privacy, the Department of Student Services will not discuss the accommodation needs of any student with instructors. Faculty may not make accommodations for individuals who have not been approved in this manner.

The Argosy University Statement Regarding Diversity

Argosy University prepares students to serve populations with diverse social, ethnic, economic, and educational experiences. Both the academic and training curricula are designed to provide an

environment in which students can develop the skills and attitudes essential to working with people from a wide range of backgrounds.

