

SD'02

Chaminade University of Honolulu
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Spring '02
COM 346
MWF 1:00 - 1:50

SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: GROUP LEADERSHIP AND DISCUSSION

This course is designed to provide you with the theory and practice of communication roles and effective behavior in small groups with stress on the dynamics of participation and leadership in problem solving discussions. It is structured for learning through a variety of experiences, i.e. role playing exercises, case studies, and simulated group discussions.

OBJECTIVES

To learn how small groups work effectively and efficiently

To learn to use concepts about group discussion techniques in practical communication discussions

To develop communication competence in small group settings

To provide guidelines for managing conflict effectively in group situations.

To learn how different types of leadership work in various group settings

To develop evaluation techniques to use in analyzing group communication

TEXTBOOK

In Mixed Company. By J. Dan Rothwell. 4th edition

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is required. As this is a group oriented class, this is even more important. More than three absences will affect your grade.

Three tardies equal one absence. Also - assignments must be handed in on time. Those that are one class period late will be reduced 30%.

Those that are two class period late will not be accepted.

Class Schedule

Week 1

- Course overview / Introductory exercises

Week 2

- Communication Competence (Chapter 1)
- Groups as Systems (Chapter 2)

Week 3

- Group Development (Chapter 3)

Week 4

- EXAM I (Chapters 1-3)

Week 5

- Developing Group Climate (Chapter 4)

Week 6

- Roles and Leadership in Groups (Chapter 5)

Week 7

- Defective Decision Making and Problem Solving (Chapter 6)

Week 8

- EXAM II (Chapters 4-6)
- Effective Decision Making (Chapter 7)

Week 9

- Power in Groups (Chapter 8)

Week 10

- Power and Conflict (Chapter 9)

Week 11

- Conflict Management in Groups (Chapter 10)

Week 12

- EXAM III (Chapters 7-10)

Week 13

Progress reports: individual and group projects

Week 14

- Twelve Angry Men (film)

Week 15

- Presentations: individual and group projects

~~ SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO ADJUSTMENTS ~~

Assignments

1. Semester-long group project. Here the task is to meet as a group - for the most part outside of class - with focus on a "problem" in the state of Hawaii. As a group, you will propose solutions, and present them in class and in a paper.
2. Semester-long individual project. Here your task is to observe a group that is meeting regularly and observe their process. You will present your findings, hand in a journal/notes of those meetings, and a summary of your observations.
3. One paper based on the movie: Twelve Angry Men

Required Activities - Grade Assessment

Exams	35%
Group Project	25%
Individual Project	20%
Twelve Angry Men Paper	10%
Other Assignments, Participation, and Attendance	10%