CPSY 515 Group Counseling With Adults
Syllabus and Schedule
FALL 2013
Graduate School of Education and Counseling
Lewis and Clark College

Time: Wednesdays, 1pm-4:15pm, 9/4/13-12/11/13
Location: York 107
Instructor: Karen Hixson, M.Ed., LPC
Phone: 503 475 5996 (direct) office (503 314 6027)
Email: khixson@lclark.edu; alternate email: karenhixson@mac.com
Office hours: By appointment

Instructor Biography: I am a Licensed Professional Counselor and have past experience as a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor. I received my Master’s Degree in Counseling at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA. Upon moving to Portland, I provided group counseling in a corrections facility and local non-profit as a drug and alcohol counselor and mental health counselor serving outpatient and inpatient populations. Currently, I work in private practice with a focus on providing relational counseling that infuses awareness of political struggles into my work with individuals and couples. I am also currently a doctoral student at Oregon State University pursuing my PhD in Counseling.

My philosophy of teaching & supervision: I believe it is my professional responsibility to provide a respectful, supportive and challenging learning environment. Practical activities, dialogue, collaborative learning and personal reflection guide my teaching based on the beliefs that learning is constructed in community and is an active process that allows for new insights, connections and meaning to emerge.

I am intentionally relational in my approach with students. Relationships provide the core of the learning experience rather than mere information exchange and recitation. According to Merriam et al., “The central role of experience in adult learning is another point of connection (2007, p. 293).” This emphasis on relationships is also supported by my understanding of Relational Cultural Theory (RCT) which posits that mutual, authentic relationships foster healthy human development (Miller and Stiver, 1998). RCT includes the concept of the Five Good Things of growth fostering relationships:
1. Each person feels a greater sense of “zest” or vitality, energy.
2. Each person feels more able to act and does act.
3. Each person has a more accurate picture of her/himself and the other person(s).
4. Each person feels a greater sense of worth.
5. Each person feels more connected to the other person(s) and feels a greater motivation for connections with other people beyond those in the specific relationship. (Miller and Stiver, 1998)

I see these Five Good Things as a strong foundation for learning. An environment that invites connection, and therefore healthy human development, invites learning. I utilize various supervision models in my work with students as I support and guide them on the journey of seeing clients in their graduate training program. I appreciate being a part of your learning experience!

With your permission, I may videotape portions of our class sessions as required by my doctoral program internship. You will always have the opportunity to remove portions you would not like to be included in the tape.

“As therapists, we must move beyond dealing with individual pain; we must become part of a larger solution by joining with others to transform the social conditions that contribute heavily to individual pain. We cannot continue to pathologize individual adaptations to socially destructive patterns. Therapy should not become a
part of the problem by suggesting that the pathology is individual and the solution is individual.”

- Judith Jordan

“Recovery can take place only within the context of relationships; it cannot occur in isolation.”

- Judith Herman

Catalog Description: Introduction to the major schools of group therapy and the common factors associated with positive outcomes. Covers group dynamics, obstacles to success in group therapy, and the stages of group process. Role-playing, outside group membership, and demonstrations illustrate principles of effective group leadership.

Prerequisite: CPSY 503 or 569
Credit: 3 semester hours

Course Description and Outcomes: This is a graduate level course designed to provide students with the theories, concepts and experiences that will increase their competency of group counseling with adults. Students will engage in lecture, readings, in-class activities and observation as well as experiential training groups. The content and experiences in this course provide concepts and skills necessary to satisfy the group work competencies stipulated in the Council for Accreditation for Counseling and Related Programs (CACREP) Standards (2001) as outlined below. Students will gain knowledge of group counseling theory and demonstrate the practical skills necessary for the dynamic application to various adult group counseling settings. Students will understand how to adapt various theories and skills to the unique circumstances they find themselves in as professionals and citizens.

CACREP Curriculum Standards and Course Objectives

1. Principles of group dynamics, including group process components, developmental stage theories, group members' roles and behaviors, and therapeutic factors of group work; (CC:6a)
2. Group leadership styles and approaches, including characteristics of various types of group leaders and leadership styles; (CC: 6b)
3. Theories of group counseling, including commonalties, distinguishing characteristics, and pertinent research and literature; (CC: 6c)
4. Group counseling methods, including group counselor orientations and behaviors, appropriate selection criteria and methods, and methods of evaluation of effectiveness; (CC: 6d)
5. Approaches used for other types of group work, including task groups, psychoeducational groups, and therapy groups; (CC: 6e, C2)
6. Professional preparation standards for group leaders; and (CC: 6f)
7. Ethical and legal considerations. (CC: 6g)

Other Objectives of This Course:

8. Apply an understanding of diversity & social justice to group work.
9. Provide at least 10 hours of participation in group work throughout the course.

Required Texts:

1. Interactive Group Counseling and Theory by Kline

http://omo.outreach.olemiss.edu/omo/course_content/COUN_Kline/klinetext.html
2. *Theory and Practice of Group Psychotherapy* by Yalom (5th edition; older editions will be acceptable for our purposes)


3. *Group Work Experts Share Their Favorite Multicultural Activities* by Salazar
available from the American Counseling Association website

**Articles on Reserve in Moodle:**

A couple of links to full text articles through Watzek are included in our Moodle course.

**Use of Moodle:**

Moodle will be utilized in this course to assist you in tracking the assignments and readings. We may use it for specific reflections and discussions throughout the course. Moodle may also come in handy in the event of significant extended absences or school closures.

**Enrollment Key:**

**COURSE GUIDELINES**

1. **CPSY Departmental Attendance Policy:**
   Class attendance is expected and required. Any missed class time will be made up by completing extra assignments designed by the instructor. Missing more than ten percent of class time may result in failure to complete the class. This would be 4.5 hours of a 45 hour class (3 credits), 3.0 hours for a 30 hour class (2 credits) or 1.5 hours for a 15 hour class (1 credit.) In case of extreme hardship and also at the discretion of the instructor, a grade of incomplete may be given for an assignment or the entire course. In such cases, the work to be submitted in order to remove the incomplete must be documented appropriately and stated deadlines met. Students are expected to be on time to class and tardiness may be seen as an absence that requires make-up work.

   **It is essential that everyone is present at all of the sessions as this also impacts group dynamics, group cohesion and our ability to be fully present with each other.**

2. **Student with Disabilities Policy:**
   Lewis & Clark College is committed to serving the needs of its students with disabilities. Professional staff in the office of Student Support Services ensure that disabled students receive all of the benefits of a comprehensive selection of services, and a formal Student Disability Grievance Procedure provides prompt and equitable resolution of any complaints arising out the College’s responsibilities under the ADA Amendments Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and other pertinent federal, state, and local disability anti-discrimination laws. Please see the Student Support Services website for more information:
   [http://www.lclark.edu/offices/student_support_services/rights/disability_policy/](http://www.lclark.edu/offices/student_support_services/rights/disability_policy/)

3. **Confidentiality Policy:** Confidentiality is extremely important to the integrity of this course. Confidentiality cannot be guaranteed in a group situation but we are collectively accountable to maintain a
safe, trusting environment throughout the course including the experiential groups, activities and conversations. While it can be compelling to share personal information about class members with others, all students are bound by the ACA ethical code of confidentiality with respect to any material shared by other members of the class. The disclosure of personal information to anyone outside this class would be considered unethical. Please explore any concerns you have about confidentiality during class time, after class or during a training group.

4. Special Considerations with Course Format: The class will be a platform for demonstrating and examining the group process and experience through didactic and experiential teaching methods. While this is not a therapy group or personal growth group, experiential activities will bring the group process into our awareness with a focus on your ongoing counseling training and your professional development. Students are not required to share personal information as part of the classroom dynamics, or as a requirement for any evaluation or for grading purposes. Grades will be based on your effort and ability to explore and apply the group concepts and experiences in this course towards the needs of adults in a group counseling setting. Your ability to use personal reflection, critical thinking and your ability to share the comments, questions and challenges that come out of this reflection and thought are essential in earning a successful grade in this course. Evaluation in this course is not based on the content of your personal experiences, specifically, how much you self disclose, but on your participation in the process of learning about group dynamics. Students are asked to be intentional about what they choose to share with other students in the class during activities. However, by taking this course, you agree to the opportunity to challenge yourself to become familiar with the territory of group work through participation in the activities provided—including the experiential training groups. If you become uncomfortable and feel as though you are unable to continue or participate during any aspect of this course, you may exercise your right to pass. If you find yourself repeatedly doing so, please discuss this with me or another trusted advisor. Your participation is vital to your learning.

5. Additional Support: Should you have emotional difficulty throughout the course, the following measures are available to support you:

1) Please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns or thoughts. We can meet outside of class time. I’m available via email, phone and to meet up in person. You can expect fair, direct and open communication from me as your instructor.
2) Feel free to contact your advisor or another administrative ally in the counseling program to discuss your concerns or thoughts.
3) You may also work on these concerns in the context of private counseling.

6. Potential Risks of Engaging in This Course:

1) Confidentiality cannot be guaranteed by the instructor.
2) While not intended to be a therapy group or process, you may stumble upon personal material that may warrant further exploration.
3) While your instructor is taking on a dual role of both training and grading your performance in this course, you will not be graded on the content of your participation but on the intention you put forth to understand group process. If you have concerns about this at any point throughout the course, please discuss them with the instructor.
4) Please discuss any questions or concerns that come up during the course with the instructor in class time or through a scheduled appointment. Your communication and feedback are important to the integrity of this course.

7. Other Classroom Expectations:
1) As a counselor in training you are expected to approach your classmates and instructor with respect and empathy. Reactions to your peers or course material are understandable and expected, but I ask you to take responsibility for your reactions and own them as yours rather than judge others harshly, shut down or write anyone off.

2) Honesty and direct communication are honored in this course. Do you best to practice and experiment with these.

3) You are expected to participate fully in group projects with your peers. Should you have any interpersonal difficulties collaborating throughout the course, please contact me and I’d be glad to mediate as needed.

4) Step Up/Step Down-Step In/Step Out: I hope you be eager participate in this course and challenge yourself to step up (to share more than your normally would) or step down (if it is necessary to make space for others).

5) Please be respectful about the use of technology in the classroom. Do not check your phone during active class time: wait until breaks. Violating this rule will result in points being taken off your participation for the day.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Class participation (10 pts/week X 13 in class sessions = 130 pts)

1. This includes participation in class discussions, small group discussions, assigned activities, group projects and participation in the experiential training group demos, both as a member and a facilitator. Good participation is demonstrated by the following activities:
   o Ask questions, offer perspective, share ideas & reactions
   o Participate in all activities to the best of your ability
   o An expectation that your participation will move along a continuum that follows normal group development (you will build on your own process throughout the course)
   o You will challenge yourself to step-up or step down as appropriate

2. Small group work on assigned course text and articles: You will utilize small groups throughout the semester to discuss and analyze course readings. Your participation in these conversations is part of your class participation grade. **Come to class prepared!**

B. Assignments + Projects (210 pts)

1. **Group Class Journal (50 pts):** You will complete a journal entry at the end of each class period. These will be handed in twice. 12/4/13. These brief reflections should be informed by your own experience, reaction, insight and knowledge gained throughout the class time.

   Please type up your journal entries. You will be given class time or a prompt for each class period.

2. **Reading Discussion Co-facilitation: (20pts):** You will co-facilitate a classroom discussion based on the readings assigned for class.

3. **Yalom Group Psychotherapy video review (25pts):**
See Moodle for details.

4. **Diversity, Social Justice & Group Work Project (50 pts):**  
This is a group proposal project that will include four group outlines following the Integrated Group Theory structure you will learn in the course and utilizing the Salazar resource. Detailed instructions will be given out for this assignment.

5. **Group Co-Facilitation Project (50 pts):**  
   **a. You will co-facilitate a group for the class.** This will include collaboration with your assigned co-facilitator and co-facilitation of a group. Detailed expectations for this assignment will be shared later in the course.
   
   **b. Post Co-facilitation Reflection Paper (15 pts):** You will write a paper documenting what you learned from your co-facilitation experience. Detailed expectations for this assignment will be shared later in the course.

6. **Additional Writing & Reflection:**  
Brief responses to the articles, additional reading or activities may be assigned throughout the course.

340 points total

A: 340-306   B: 305- 272   C: 271-238

Submit all written assignments to me via email using your last name as a part of the file name. **Hixson-journal1.doc**
Course Outline and Schedule:

*Please see Moodle for detailed activities, assignments and articles*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
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<tr>
<td>9/11/13</td>
<td>Kline: Ch 1, Ch 2 &amp; Ch 14</td>
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<td>Yalom: Preface</td>
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<td>Article--Champe &amp; Rubel &amp; ASGW Competencies</td>
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<td>YALOM TAPE REVIEW DUE Monday 9am 10/21/13</td>
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<td>Kline: Ch 11 &amp; Ch 13</td>
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<td>Salazar: Ch 1 &amp; Ch 4</td>
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<td>Article--Day-Vines</td>
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<td>11/20/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/11/13</td>
<td>CO-FACILITATIONS</td>
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**Counseling Bibliography**  
*(Stuff I’ve appreciated)*  
CPSY 515  
Karen Hixson, M.Ed., LPC

**Group Counseling and Psychotherapy**

- *Basic Counseling Responses in Groups* by Hutch Haney & Jacqueline Leibsohn  
- *Counselors Treatment Manual: Matrix Intensive Outpatient Treatment for People with Stimulant Use Disorders* by SAMHSA  
- *Critical Incidents in Group Counseling* By Tyson, L. E., Perusse, R., & Whitledge, J.  
- *Group Work Experts Share Their Favorite Multicultural Activities* by Salazar, C.  
- *Groups In Action: Evolution and Challenges* Video and Workbook by Corey, G., Schneider-Corey, M. & Haynes, R.  
- *Instant Icebreakers* by N.L. Tubesing  
- *Intentional Group Counseling: A Microskills Approach* By Ivey, A., Pedersen, P.B., & Ivey, M. B  
- *Seeking Safety: A Treatment Manual for PTSD and Substance Abuse* by Lisa M. Najavits  
- *Theory and Practice of Group Counseling 7th Ed.* by G. Corey  
- *Understanding Group Psychotherapy, Videos* by, Yalom, I.

**Dialogue, Mediation, Conflict Resolution & Facilitation**

- *Narrative Mediation: A New Approach to Conflict Resolution* by John Winslade & Gerald Monk  
- *The Circle Way* by Christina Baldwin & Ann Linnea  
- *Turning to One Another: Simple Conversations to Restore Hope to the Future* by Margaret J. Wheatley
Counseling: General

Constructing the Self, Constructing America: A Cultural History of Psychotherapy by Philip Cushman
Critical Psychology by Fox & Prillwitzky
Get Out of Your Mind and Into Your Life: The New Acceptance and Commitment Therapy by Steven C. Hayes
Skills Training Manual for Treating Borderline Personality Disorder by Marsha M. Linehan
The Basics, 2nd Edition, A Curriculum for Co-Occurring Psychiatric and Substance Disorders by Rhonda McKillip
The Gift of Therapy: An Open Letter to a New Generation of Therapists and Their Patients by Irv Yalom
The Heart and Soul of Change by Hubble, Duncan & Miller
The Heroic Client by Duncan, Miller & Sparks
The Use of Self in Therapy by Michele Baldwin
Transformative Family Therapy by Almeida, Dolan-Del Vecchio & Parker
Trauma and Recovery by Judith Herman
Trauma Stewardship by Van Dernoot Lipsky & Burk
We’ve Had a Hundred Years of Psychotherapy—And the World’s Getting Worse by James Hillman & Michael Ventura
What Therapists Say and Why They Say It by Bill McHenry & Jim McHenry

Couples Counseling & Sex Therapy

The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work: A Practical Guide from the Country's Foremost Relationship Expert by Gottman and Silver
The Relationship Cure: A 5 Step Guide to Strengthening Your Marriage, Family, and Friendships by John Gottman
And Baby Makes Three: The Six-Step Plan for Preserving Marital Intimacy and Rekindling Romance After Baby Arrives by John Gottman Ph.D. & Julie Schwartz Gottman
Systemic Sex Therapy by Hertlein, K., Weeks, G., Gambescia, N.
Quickies: The Handbook of Brief Sex Therapy by Shelley K. Green and Douglas G. Flemons
Resurrecting Sex: Solving Sexual Problems and Revolutionizing Your Relationship by David Schnarch and James Maddock
Intimacy & Desire by Schnarch
Passionate Marriage by Schnarch

GLBTQ

Queer Theory, Gender Theory: An Instant Primer by Riki Anne Wilchins
GenderQueer: Voices From Beyond the Sexual Binary
Transgender Emergence: Therapeutic Guidelines for Working With Gender-Variant People and Their Families
Undoing Gender by Judith Butler

Trauma
Healing Sex: A Mind-Body Approach to Healing Sexual Trauma by Staci Haines
Healing and Recovery by Judith Herman
The Body Remembers: The Psychophysiology of Trauma and Trauma Treatment by Babette Rothschild
Principles of Trauma Therapy: A Guide to Symptoms, Evaluation, and Treatment by Dr. John Briere and Catherine Scott
Trauma and the Body: A Sensorimotor Approach to Psychotherapy by Pat Ogden, Kekuni Minton, Clare Pain and Daniel J. Siegel
Prolonged Exposure Therapy for PTSD: Emotional Processing of Traumatic Experiences Therapist Guide (Treatments That Work)
Cognitive Processing Therapy for Rape Victims: A Treatment Manual (Interpersonal Violence: The Practice Series) by Patricia A. Resick, Monica Schnicke
Reclaiming Your Life from a Traumatic Experience: A Prolonged Exposure Treatment Program Workbook (Treatments That Work) by Barbara Rothbaum (Author), Edna Foa (Author), Elizabeth Hembree

Relational Cultural Theory

Relational Practice In Action By Jordan, J. & Dooley, C.
The Complexity of Connection Edited by Jordan, J.V., Walker, M., & Hartling, L.M.
The Healing Connection: How Women Form Relationships in Therapy and In Life by Jean Baker Miller & Stiver
This Changes Everything by Christina Robb