

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **PSYC 405**

#### **GROUP DYNAMICS**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The study of human personality in relationship to other persons, singularly and in groups. The application of the principles of group dynamics to business, industry, public and private life will be examined in theory and demonstrated with exercises.

#### **RATIONALE**

Each student is involved in groups. He or she is involved in many groups from the beginning to the end of life. In order to become better participants in groups as members and/or as leaders, an understanding of group dynamics, group process, and group facilitation is imperative. Most careers involve participating in groups or working as teams. Understanding group dynamics and the accompanying skills will improve the student's effectiveness and marketability.

#### **I. PREREQUISITE**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Word  
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)
- E. DVD player

**IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

- A. Summarize and implement the major concepts in Psychology.
- B. Implement the language, and major theories of psychology to account for psychological phenomena.
- C. Explain different research methods used by psychologists.
- D. Solve problems related to behavior and mental processes using creative and critical thinking skills.
- E. Recognize, develop, defend, and criticize arguments and other persuasive appeals using reasoning skills.
- F. Analyze and solve problems effectively.
- G. Recognize ethically complex situations and apply them to psychological principles.
- H. Evaluate the need for ethical behavior in all aspects of the science and practice of professional and personal areas.
- I. Classify ways psychological principles can be used to explain social issues and inform public policy.
- J. Apply psychological concepts, theories, and research findings as these relate to everyday life.
- K. Demonstrate communication skills effectively in written, oral, and technological formats.

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings and presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist  
After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will then complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
- C. Discussion Board Forums (6)  
Each student will participate in 6 Discussion Board Forums throughout this course. There will be different topics for each forum within the assigned module/week. Each student will compose a 300-word thread in answer to the topic, then a 100-word reply to 2 classmates' threads.
- D. Concept Paper  
Individual students will write a 2-page paper focused on one of the concepts in the textbook. Students will use a minimum of two peer reviewed journal articles and the textbook.

E. Group Research Paper

Each student will be assigned to a group which will choose a topic from the list of approved group dynamic topics and compose a research paper. The group leader will divide the subject into subtopics. The subtopics will be assigned equally to each group member. Each group member will research and write their individually assigned section of the group research paper. These individually written sections are to be completed and posted to the Group Discussion Board for the group to review and in the Assignment Link.

F. Exams (2)

The midterm examination will cover chapters 1–6. The final examination will cover chapters 7–11, 13 and 17. Each examination will be open-book/open-notes, contain 50 multiple-choice questions, and have a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

A. Points

|  |                   |             |
|--|-------------------|-------------|
| Course Requirements Checklist            |                   | 10          |
| Discussion Board Forums (6 at 50 pts ea) |                   | 300         |
| Concept Paper                            |                   | 100         |
| Group Research Paper                     |                   |             |
| Topic                                    |                   | 10          |
| Outline                                  |                   | 50          |
| References                               |                   | 50          |
| Final Paper                              |                   | 200         |
| Exams                                    | (2 at 145 pts ea) | 290         |
|  | <b>Total</b>      | <b>1010</b> |

B. Scale

A = 900–1010 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Honor Code

We, the students, faculty, and staff of Liberty University, have a responsibility to uphold the moral and ethical standards of this institution.

D. Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct includes: academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and falsification. See The Liberty Way for specific definitions, penalties, and processes for reporting.

E. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **PSYC 405**

Textbooks: Forsyth, D. R. (2017). *Group Dynamics*, (7<sup>th</sup> ed). Stamford, CT: Cengage.

| <b>MODULE/<br/>WEEK</b> | <b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>               | <b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>                              | <b>POINTS</b> |
|-------------------------|--|---|---------------|
| <b>1</b>                | Forsyth: chs. 1 & 2<br>2 presentations   | Course Requirements Checklist<br>DB Forum 1     | 10<br>50      |
| <b>2</b>                | Forsyth: chs. 3 & 4<br>2 presentations   | Concept Paper<br>Group Research Paper - Topic   | 100<br>10     |
| <b>3</b>                | Forsyth: ch. 5<br>2 presentations        | DB Forum 2<br>Group Research Paper - Outline    | 50<br>50      |
| <b>4</b>                | Forsyth: ch. 6<br>1 Presentation         | DB Forum 3<br>Midterm Exam                      | 50<br>145     |
| <b>5</b>                | Forsyth: chs. 7 & 8<br>6 presentations   | DB Forum 4<br>Group Research Paper - References | 50<br>50      |
| <b>6</b>                | Forsyth: chs. 10 & 17<br>3 presentations | DB Forum 5                                      | 50            |
| <b>7</b>                | Forsyth: chs. 12 & 13<br>2 presentations | Group Research Paper - Final Draft              | 200           |
| <b>8</b>                | Forsyth: ch. 9<br>2 presentations        | DB Forum 6<br>Final Exam                        | 50<br>145     |
| <b>TOTAL</b>            |  |   | <b>1010</b>   |

DB= Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.