COURSE DETAIL

PSYCHOLOGY OF GROUPS
Country Italy
Host Institution University of Bologna
Program(s) University of Bologna
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Psychology
UCEAP Course Number 151
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title PSYCHOLOGY OF GROUPS
UCEAP Transcript Title PSYCHOLGY OF GROUPS
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

The course focuses on the main psychological theories regarding dynamics and conflicts between groups. Special attention is placed on the theoretical and methodological aspects involved in group processes and the skills necessary for managing group dynamics. A special section of the course is devoted to theoretical and methodological skills necessary for building a business network with professionals and institutional agencies in the local area. The aim of the course is to offer knowledge about the processes of group formation according to the theoretical perspective of social psychology. Emphasis is placed on the processes involved in group formation: socialization; development of the group (i.e. its changes over time); the main dynamic phenomena, such as status and roles systems; the construction of implicit and explicit norms; structures and communication networks; and the various ways in which leadership is established and maintained. Subsequently the course focuses on the forces that tend to keep the group together (conformity and cohesion) and the forces that can threaten this union (deviance, internal conflicts). Finally, the course addresses issues related to decision-making processes and the efficiency of working groups. The second part of the course focuses on the issue of the relationship with authority and the concepts of obedience, disobedience, and deviance, and more specifically the underlying dynamics of social change and stability. Students are expected to increase their understanding of group phenomena, enhance awareness of their own role in a group, and become proactive and constructive in group dynamics. The course covers the following specific topics: the meaning of group membership in human life; the entrance in a group; the structural phenomena of the group: status, roles, leadership, and standards; and the dynamic phenomena of cohesion, conformity, deviance, conflict obedience, and disobedience to the authority. In addition to the traditional lecture, the course includes in class exercises (paper-pencil, role-playing) in order to illustrate certain aspects of group life. Additional sections of the course will take place via e-learning. Assessment is based on a written essay exam (3 questions) and a test on the e-learning section of the course.

Language(s) of Instruction

Italian

Host Institution Course Number
04875

Host Institution Course Title
PSICOLOGIA DEI GRUPPI

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus
SCIENZE DELL'EDUCAZIONE "GIOVANNI MARIA BERTIN"

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Educatore Sociale e Culturale

Course Last Reviewed

Print