SOC/PSYCH 381: Social Psychology of Small Group Behavior
Section A: MWF 2:10-3:00, 211 East
Fall Semester, 2010

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Class Description
This course is about group dynamics within and between groups. I will teach the course from an interdisciplinary, social psychological perspective. I will assume that students already have a background in social psychology, since either Psych 280 or Soc 305 are prerequisites for this course. The course will consist of lectures, reading assignments, quizzes, exams, and an optional extra credit opportunity. There will be no term papers. Participation in class will be encouraged, but not graded.

Textbooks and Reading Assignments
Readings will come from one required textbook, plus a number of articles on e-Reserve. The textbook is:


WebCT Quizzes
There will be 17 WebCT quizzes (one for each chapter of the textbook). See WebCT for availability and due dates. These quizzes are “take-home” and “open book.” No make-up quizzes will be allowed. In total, these quizzes will be worth 30 points, approximately 20% of your final course grade.

Exams
There will be 4 exams, worth 30 points each. These exams are “closed book” exams, and they will take place in the proctored WebCT lab, room 60 Carver Hall. Each exam will consist of multiple choice, true/false, short answer, or essay questions. If a student misses an exam, he/she will be allowed to take a comprehensive make-up essay exam during finals week. No other make-up exams will be offered.

Grading
The final class grade will be based on the sum of the 17 quizzes and 4 exams. Grading will follow a standard grading scale, 100-90% for A range, 89-80% for B range, etc. See the homepage for a more detailed grading scale.

Extra Credit
Students may earn 10 extra credit points by finding a relevant journal article and presenting this information to the class. See a detailed description of this extra credit opportunity on the WebCT homepage. Also, extra credit points may occasionally be given for attendance.

Sociology Code of Ethics for Human Relations: The Department of Sociology is committed to providing a professional and educational environment that is free of discrimination and harassment. The department’s code of Ethics for Human Relations and the Procedures for Filing Complaints of Discrimination or Harassment are posted on the bulletin boards on all five floors of East Hall.

Disability Policy: If you have a documented disability that requires assistance, you will need to go to the Disability Resource (DR) Office for coordination of your academic accommodations. The DR is located in the Student Services Building, Room 1076. Their phone number is 515-294-6624, TDD 515-294-6335 or email Bea at Awoniyib@iastate.edu.

Academic Misconduct: Academic misconduct in any form is a violation of Iowa State University Student Disciplinary Regulations and will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to: copying or sharing answers on tests or assignments, plagiarism, and having someone else do your academic work. Depending on the act, a student could receive an F grade on the test/assignment, F grade for the course, and could be suspended or expelled from the University. See the Conduct Code at www.dso.iastate.edu/ia for more details and a full explanation of the Academic Misconduct policies.

Classroom Disruption: Should any student disrupt the instructor’s ability to ensure a safe environment, control the class agenda, and/or deliver the approved curriculum, the instructor has the right to ask that the disruptive action cease immediately. The responsible student should cease the disruption and utilize non-disruptive means for expressing disagreement or concern.
Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Exams

**Topic 1**  
**Introduction to Group Dynamics**  

**Topic 2**  
**Studying Groups**  

**Topic 3**  
**Inclusion and Identity**  

**Topic 4**  
**Formation**  

**Topic 5**  
**Cohesion and Development**  

**Exam 1**  
September 20, 2010

**Topic 6**  
**Structure**  

**Topic 7**  
**Influence**  

**Topic 8**  
**Power**  

**Topic 9**  
**Leadership**  

**Exam 2**  
October 15, 2010
Topic 10 Performance

Topic 11 Decision Making

Topic 12 Teams

Topic 13 Conflict

Exam 3 November 10, 2010

Topic 14 Intergroup Relations

Topic 15 Groups in Context

Topic 16 Groups and Change

Topic 17 Crowds and Collective Behavior

Exam 4 December 13-17, 2010