# Group processes and intervention (with practical activities)

## Prof. Miriam Parise

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

**Course aims**

The course aims to provide students with:

– an in-depth knowledge of the major theoretical perspectives concerning group processes;

– the elements useful to recognize the various types of groups and the different stages of development of groups (pregroup stage – initial stage – transition stage – working stage – final stage);

– a setting of experimentation of procedures and techniques to conduct a group in its different phases.

**Intended learning outcomes**

*Knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, the student will demonstrate understanding of the major theoretical perspectives on group processes and will be able to recognize the various types of groups and the procedures used in different group settings.

*Ability to apply knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, the student will know the main methods for the management of group processes. The student will be able to recognize the main group processes, roles and phases, which are particularly valuable when designing group interventions.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The group will be considered from a theoretical, technical, and applied perspective. The course will be accompanied by practical activities through which students will have the opportunity to apply different groupwork techniques.

Specifically, the course is organized into three units:

Unit 0 : Theoretical perspectives on groups

* Defining groups
* The psycho-social approach
* The psychoanalytic approach to groups
* Group practical activities on Unit 0 contents

Unit 1: Group typologies and stages

* Various types of groups
* Stages of development of groups
* Group practical activities on Unit 1 contents

Unit 2: Conducting groups

* Conductor’s functions in each stage of development
* Critical incidents
* Group practical activities on Unit 2 contents

***READING LIST***

Corey, M.S., Corey, G., & Corey, C. (2018). Groups: Process and practice (10th ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage Learning (Selected parts).

Further readings will be indicated at the beginning of the course.

In addition to the textbook, slides presented during class and any content uploaded on the Blackboard platform are required reading material.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course includes lectures, supported by multimedia presentations and analysis of texts and audiovisual material. Group discussion will be largely encouraged in order to favor the elaboration of the course contents and confrontation among students.

The lectures are complemented by practical activities aimed at enhancing learning. Experiences and case studies will be used to reconnect theories to practice.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The final examination will consist of an oral exam aimed at evaluating students’ acquisition and understanding of the basic concepts, theories, and methods presented in the course classes and textbooks together with their ability to elaborate and connect the contents of the practical activities with the theoretical contents. The final grade will be determined by the correctness of the answers, the appropriate use of specific terminology, the consistent structuring of the discourse, and the ability to make meaningful connections, to identify open questions, and to formulate intervention hypotheses.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

The student must have a basic knowledge in relation to the concepts of social psychology.

In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.

*Students’ reception*

Prof. Miriam Parise receives students by appointment via e-mail: [*miriam.parise@unicatt.it*](mailto:miriam.parise@unicatt.it)*.*