

Nancy Blum, Ph.D. – PSY 383 Group Dynamics
Study Guide Exam 1 Chapters 1-6

Chapter 1 – Introduction to Group Dynamics

- Why do we study groups?
- Classifying groups
 - Primary & secondary groups
- Orienting assumptions into the study of groups
 - Levels of analysis of studying groups
 - Group-level analysis
 - Durkheim & groupmind
 - Individual-level analysis
 - Allport
 - Multi-level analysis
 - Norms
 - Sherif's 1936 study of autokinetic phenomena
 - Kurt Lewin's field theory of group dynamics
 - $B = f(P,E)$

Chapter 2 – Studying Groups

- Measurement in group dynamics
 - Self-report measures
 - “Big five” dimensions of personality (from notes, or can find it on p. 383)
 - SYMLOG dimensions
 - Observational measures
 - Participant observation
 - William Foote Whyte's study of Italian American gangs
 - Overt & covert observation
 - Hawthorne effect
 - Reliability & validity
- Testing hypotheses: Research Designs
 - Case studies
 - Experimentation
 - Lewin, Lippitt, & White's studies of how a group's leader influences the behavior of group members
 - Advantages & disadvantages of experimentation
 - Nonexperimental study
 - Correlational studies
- Theories in group dynamics
 - Motivational models
 - Lewin's level-of-aspiration theory
 - Behavioral approaches

- Social exchange theory
- System theories
 - Input–process–output model of group productivity
- Biological models
 - Sociobiology

Chapter 3 – The Individual and the Group

- Collectivism & individualism
- Social identity theory (key assumptions)
 - Self–stereotyping
 - Ingroup–outgroup bias

Chapter 4 – Formation

- Personality & joining groups
 - Introversion & extraversion
 - Social motivation
 - Need for affiliation
 - Need for intimacy
 - Need for power
- Group affiliation
 - Social comparison
 - Misery loves miserable company
 - Downward social comparison
 - Upward social comparison
 - Social support
- Group attraction
 - Similarity principle
 - Complementarity principle
 - Reciprocity principle
 - Minimax principle

Chapter 5 – Cohesion and Development

- Cohesiveness and the US Olympic Hockey Team
- Measuring group cohesion
 - Sociometric methods, observational strategies, self–report scales
- Group development
 - Tuckman’s successive–stage model
 - Forming, storming, norming, performing, adjourning
 - Cyclical models
 - Bale’s equilibrium model
 - Punctuated equilibrium models
- Group productivity: the relationship between cohesiveness and performance
- Team building (assumptions)

Chapter 6 – Structure

Types of norms

- Prescriptive norms

- Proscriptive norms

- Descriptive norms

- Injunctive norms

Development of norms

- Sherif's autokinetic effect

Types of roles

- Task roles

- Relationship roles

- Individual roles

Role ambiguity

Role conflict

- Interrole conflict

- Intrarole conflict

Status relations

- Specific vs. diffuse status characteristics

- Status generalization

Balance theory

- Balanced vs. unbalanced sociometric structures

Centralization effects in communication networks

- Centralized and decentralized networks for simple and complex tasks