

Psychology 163 -Group Processes  
Summer Session 2002 (July 8-August 16)  
Dr. Charlan Nemeth

Lectures: MWF 10-12:30pm <sup>247</sup> 437 Cory Hall  
Ofc Hours: M 2-3  
Tolman 3327; 2-5111  
(do not email; you must come in person during office hours)

Text: Rupert Brown "Group Processes" (2<sup>nd</sup> edition) 2000  
Reader: Available at Copy Central, 2483 Hearst Ave., Berkeley  
( Readings include Asch; Nemeth&Nemeth; Moorhead, Ference&Neck; Nemeth 1986; Paulus,  
Larey&Dzindolet; Nemeth, Connell, Rogers&Brown; Nemeth, Brown&Rogers; Nemeth 1997)

This course will cover some basic group processes which will include leadership, influence processes and group decision making as well as applications to business and law. Lectures are 2-1/2 hours each on Mondays and Wednesdays. On Fridays, lecture will be combined with film or group interaction sessions.

Requirements:

Students will be required to take a midterm and a final examination. The final examination will cover only the material since the mid term examination. Students will also be required to design one original\* study for which they should cite a minimum of 3 new studies (not in text or lecture). This should be on one of three topics:

Group composition/Stereotypes  
Group Creativity or  
Leadership

You could cover the first topic by thinking about diversity in groups, "culture", or specific demographics and their effect on behavior and performance. You could address the second topic by conceptualizing organizational or corporate "cultures", cohesion between individuals, ways of protecting dissent, individual vs group creativity or cover some techniques used to enhance group creativity. You could cover the third topic by concentrating on personality of leaders, context for leadership behavior, mechanisms by which leaders can affect productivity vs creativity vs morale, management vs leadership. Even better explore your own interests on these issues.

Original studies will be presented to the class in groups of 3; you can create your own group or can be assigned to a group.

\*Do not panic because of the requirement of an "original" study; it is easier than you think. The literature review is meant to be short (only 3 new studies); thus there is a 5 page maximum to detail (1). Why the topic is interesting and what is known about it ( 3 new references plus any others from class or text) (2). Your hypotheses (and rationale) (3) Method of how to collect data on the issue (4) Likely conclusions. You can usually find pertinent studies in Journal of Personality & Social Psychology, European Journal of Social Psychology, Psychological Bulletin, Psychological Review, Personality & Social Psychology Bulletin or, if you wish, use a source other than a professional Psychology journal or book.

Grading:

Mid term examination 40%  
Final examination 40%  
Original study (5 pg MAX) paper&presentation 15%  
Attendance, participation in group sessions 5% (all questionnaires must be completed)  
Grades will not be curved: A= 90-100%;B= 80-89.9%;C=70-79.9% etc.

Nemeth, C.

## Topics and Readings

- I. The "Who" is important in groups  
 What is a group?  
 Norms, roles, Bales interaction  
 Status differences/Power/Leadership  
 Self fulfilling prophecies  
 Non verbal behavior  
 Film: Managing with Power  
 Text: Ch 1,2,3
- II. The "Behavior" of each matters  
 Bystander apathy  
 .Influence Tactics  
 .The effects of "mere presence"  
 Social influence and cognitive processes  
 Film:Cialdini/Tesser  
 Film: Weapons of Fraud
- III. Majorities, Status and Consensus  
 Asch: conformity  
 Obedience/Conformity  
 Minority Influence  
 Reader: Asch  
 Text:Ch 4  
 Film:Asch/ Milgram  
 Reader: Milgram

Presentations 1 (topics 1 or 2): Wednesday July 24

Monday, July 29 MID TERM EXAMINATION (4 chapters+2 from reader)

- IV Minorities and Creativity  
 Minority Influence  
 Creativity  
 Individual/Group Creativity  
 Reader: Nemeth 1986  
 Reader: Nemeth&Nemeth  
 Reader: Paulus,Larey&Dzindolet  
 Film: 12 Angry Men; Group creativity
- V Group decision making  
 Juries: compliance  
 Groupthink  
 Polarization: Extremizing effects  
 Finding "truth": the value of dissent  
 Text: Ch 5,6,7  
 Reader: Moorhead et al  
 Film: Groupthink
- Presentations 2:
- VI Techniques: Enhancing creativity  
 Devil's advocate  
 Brainstorming  
 Organizational Innovation  
 Reader:Nemeth,Rogers,Connell&Brown;  
 Reader:Nemeth, Brown and Rogers

FINAL EXAMINATION (3 chapters+6 from reader)