

Group Development Paper

Grading Rubric

The group development paper is the capstone activity of this class and comprises **25% of your final grade**. It is graded on a 100-point scale that includes points for format, writing style, references, and content of your paper.

Format. 5 points. APA format is required. This involves attention to the title page, headers, headings, page numbering, in-text citations, and a reference list. You do NOT have to include an abstract although you may do so if you wish. You are urged to acquire an APA style manual (its official name is the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th ed.).

Writing style. 5 points. Writing style includes well-written (e.g. clear) sentences and the use of proper spelling and grammar. Writing style also includes (1) providing adequate information about a source when citing or paraphrasing it and (2) using original language wherever possible and only directly quoting when necessary and/or appropriate.

References. 10 points. The textbook and workbook may be used as a reference, but at least 5 *additional* references must be included. The additional references must be articles from professional journals – not websites. Journal articles should address aspects of group work that are relevant to the type of group you are developing. All USC students have on-line access to the USC library electronic journal collection and many articles are available in full-text.

Content. 80 points. In this paper, you have the opportunity to bring together all that you've learned throughout the semester by designing a group for a rehabilitation population. The content of your paper is where you describe this group to the reader. The content should give evidence of considerable thought and must demonstrate understanding of the semester readings, discussions, and group experience.

Tips

1. If you don't know how to search the USC library electronic journal collection, ask for help! You can either complete the free, online tutorial available through the USC Writing Center website (see Blackboard/Assignments for more information) or schedule an appointment with the instructor for a tutoring session.
2. To whet your appetite to learn about searching the USC library, USC on-line journal collection includes full-text articles for the following professional journals: *Group Dynamics: Theory, Research, and Practice* and the *Journal for Specialists in Group Work* – to name just two.