Title: Community Psychology

Course Number: 820:593:01

Meeting Times: Tuesday, 9:15 am – 12:00 noon

Instructor: Cary Cherniss, Ph.D.
732-445-2000 ext. 102
cherniss@rci.rutgers.edu

Office: A345

Course Objectives:

1. To increase understanding of the concepts that define the community psychology perspective and the historical factors that led to the development of these concepts.

2. To increase understanding of the interplay of individual, small group, organizational, community, and societal factors as they affect psychological well being and human relationships.

3. To learn how to design interventions based on the community psychology perspective.

Course Requirements:

1. Attendance - Students should attend all class sessions and be on time.

2. Class participation - Students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss critically the assigned readings. Full involvement in class activities also is expected.

3. Written assignments -- There will be three short papers. The directions for each will be posted on the Sakai site. The first is due October 6. The second is due November 10. The third is due December 15.
Readings:

There is one textbook that you should purchase: Levine, M., Perkins, D. D., & Perkins, D. V. (2005). *Principles of Community Psychology (Third Edition)*. New York: Oxford University Press. All the other readings will be available online. For each session, you should read the starred items first. Then read anything else that piques your interest.

**Reading Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Topic and readings</th>
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| 9/1     | *Basic Tenets and Historical Origins*  
*Levine, et al. (2005), Introduction; Chap. 3* |
| 9/8     | No class |
| 9/15    | *Practicing Community Psychology: What It Looks Like*  
| 9/22    | *The Ecological Perspective*  
*Levine et al. (2005), Chap. 4 (pp. 116-124;126-137; 149-153); Chap. 5 (pp. 155-162; 180-195)*  
| 9/29    | *Community Psychology Perspectives on Diversity*  
Relations, 51, 589-623.


Snowden, L. R., Martinez, M., & Morris, A. (2000). Community psychology and ethnic minority populations. In J. Rappaport & E. Seidman (Eds.), Handbook of Community Psychology (pp. 833-856). New York: Kluwer Academic/ Plenum. (not available on Sakai)


10/6 Community Psychology Perspectives on Empowerment


Levine et al. (2005), Chap. 9

10/13 Psychological Sense of Community
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>References</th>
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| 10/20 | Self-Help Groups | Levine et al. (2005), Chap. 9, “Self-Help Groups”  
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<th>Date</th>
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<th>References</th>
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<tr>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>Prevention and Promotion: Basic Concepts and Applications</td>
<td>* Levine et al. (2005), Chap. 8</td>
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<td>*SAMHSA (no date). Olweus Bullying Prevention Program.</td>
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### 11/24  
**Intervention Strategies: Systems Consultation and Change**

- *Levine et al. (2005)*, Chap. 10 (pp. 366-368; 381-387)
- "SCRA-L “Local Community Psychology Project” discussion


### 12/1  
**Intervention Strategies: The Creation of Alternative Settings**
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