



UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG

09 November 2020

COURSE: SOCIOLOGY GROUP DYNAMICS

TIME: 8:30am

TAKE HOME EXAM

PAPER: Group Dynamics main exam

MARKS: 100

SUBJECT CODE: SOC8X04

EXAMINERS:

Internal examiner:

1. Prof Ingrid Palmary

External examiner:

2. Dr Obvious Kasturi (University of Witwatersrand)

(THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF 1 PAGE)

- 1. EACH SECTION MUST BE ANSWERED IN A SEPARATE EXAMINATION BOOK.**
- 2. ANSWER 1 QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION.**
- 3. THIS IS AN OPEN BOOK EXAM AND NOTES MAY BE BROUGHT INTO THE EXAM ROOM. NO COMMUNICATION AMONG STUDENTS IS ALLOWED.**

The questions have been designed so that students can draw on a very wide range of group dynamics theory and apply to contemporary local issues. Thus although this memo outlines the core reading that speaks to each question they are assessed on their ability to 1) choose appropriate theory to explain their topic, 2) draw from multiple lectures and topics (e.g. not just focus on leadership) and 3) apply this with suitable examples to a real life scenario.

Exam Essay Question

For your exam essay you need to choose any group that you are interested in and provide an analysis of that group based on material covered in class. Possible groups might be:

- #BlackLivesMatter
- #FeesMustFall
- Cricket South Africa or any sports group / team
- A local School (or group of schools such as former Model C schools)
- A corporate organization
- A community organization such as a food garden, informal traders association etc
- A parastatal organization

When choosing your topic take the following into consideration:

- Does this kind of group interest me?
- Is there something written about it that I can use as examples e.g. social media posts, news reports, academic sources?
- Is the case study I have chosen big enough but not so big that I can't focus (e.g. don't choose South Africa – it's too big and therefore too vague)?
- Is this the kind of group that I would like to work in / with in the future?

Your exam essay must cover the following questions although others can be included as some theory will be more relevant to some groups than to others:

- What kind of group is this?
- How cohesive is this group and what are the sources of cohesion?
- What are the kinds / sources of power and influence that exist in this group?
- What kinds of leadership are evident?
- How can we describe the collective behaviour of the group?
- What kinds of conflict exist and how might they be resolved?

EXAM ESSAY TOTAL: 100 MARKS

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