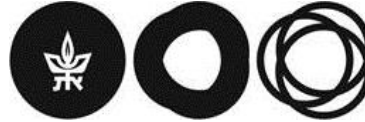


International Multidisciplinary Program  
in the Humanities



The Lester and Sally Entin  
Faculty of Humanities  
Tel Aviv University

## **DANGEROUS GROUP DYNAMICS**

Dr. Alana Siegel  
DrAlanaSiegel@gmail.com

Fall Semester  
2 credits  
Office Hours: By appointment

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This class will examine how ordinary civilians come to passively (i.e. a stampede) or actively (i.e. concentration camp guards) participate in and perpetuate anything from a negative group dynamic to mass trauma. Each class will also review interventions that can be used to prevent the emergence of a dangerous group dynamic. This class can be of use in studying the dynamics of as well as for working with groups of people.

### **COURSE ASSESSMENT**

**Class participation and attendance (10% of final course grade):** It is expected that all students will complete assigned readings and be active participants in class discussions. All class readings can be found on the course Moodle.

**Midterm multiple-choice exam (19% of final course grade):** Students will be asked to complete a multiple-choice exam on terms reviewed in class.

**Final Research Project Outline (71% of final course grade):**

Please select a case study of a dangerous group dynamic. Please use in-class readings, class lectures and your own independent research to analyze the case. Use at minimum 12 terms or theories reviewed in class (and underline the term used). 8 pages double-spaced, bibliography not included.

Please discuss in your paper:

- 1) What happened in your case?
- 2) What factors contributed to the emergence of a dangerous group dynamic?
- 3) What interventions were used in this case?
- 4) What lessons can be learned from this case?

5) How can these lessons be applied to other individuals/ groups/ organizations/ events?

Please note:

All citations must be in APA format. See here for examples of how to cite:

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

All assignments must be in Times New Roman, 12-point font, 1” margins, and double-spaced.

### PLEASE NOTE

#### **Attendance:**

Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three unexcused absences without penalty. Any additional absences will affect the final grade and may result in failure of the course.

#### **Academic conduct:**

Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else’s work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.

#### **In-class behavior:**

Should students be found to be texting, using their cell phone, or internet surfing they will be asked to leave class.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Waller, J. (2007). *Becoming evil: How ordinary people commit genocide and mass killing*. New York: Oxford Press. 298 pages.

A range of articles will be uploaded to the course Moodle.