

Syllabus for WORK 225 – Decision Making and Problem Solving

Semester and Year	Fall 2018	
Course ID and Section #	WORK 225 (E6778)	
Instructor's Name	Deva Richards	
Day and Time	T/Sat/Sun 6:30-9:30 p.m.	
Location	Humboldt County Correctional Facility, Eureka, CA	
Number of Credits/Units	This is a non-credit course.	
Contact Information	<i>Office Location</i>	N/A
	<i>Office Hours</i>	N/A
	<i>Phone Number</i>	N/A
	<i>Email Address</i>	deva-richards@redwoods.edu
Textbook Information	<i>Title & Edition</i>	<i>Decisive: How to Make Better Choices in Life and Work</i>
	<i>Author</i>	Chip Heath and Dan Heath
	<i>ISBN</i>	9781847940865
Course Description		
<p>An introduction to decision making and problem-solving techniques in the workplace. Specific strategies for making decisions and problem solving will be presented, as well as how to use creativity in identifying solutions.</p>		
Student Learning Outcomes		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify problem-solving and decision-making techniques. 2. Differentiate between the elements involved in individual decision making and group decision making. 		
Special Accommodations		
<p>College of the Redwoods complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. No last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments will be made. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability related services and may need accommodations, please see me or contact Disabled Students Programs and Services. Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS at 707-476-4280.</p>		
Academic Support		
<p>Academic support is available at Counseling and Advising and includes academic advising and educational planning, Academic Support Center for tutoring and proctored tests, and Extended Opportunity Programs & Services, for eligible students, with advising, assistance, tutoring, and more.</p>		
Academic Honesty		
<p>In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student</p>		

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Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website at: <http://www.redwoods.edu/board/Board-Policies/Chapter-5-Student-Services>, and scroll to AP 5500. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the college catalog and on the College of the Redwoods website.

Disruptive Classroom Behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, he or she may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website at: <http://www.redwoods.edu/board/Board-Policies/Chapter-5-Student-Services> and scroll to AP 5500.

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Emergency Procedures for the Humboldt County Correctional Facility

Roving officers will escort all visitors out of the building using the appropriate evacuation routes. The roving officers will verify the visitor's identification prior to letting them out of the facility. For more detailed information, please refer to the Emergency Procedures of the Humboldt County Correctional Facility.

Course Details

This is a non-credit course. Assignments will be graded accordingly; a final grade of "satisfactory" may be awarded to students who attend class, participate, and complete the homework.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken at every class, and students will only be marked present for the portion of the class they attend.

Participation: To be successful, students must participate. Participation means showing up to class on time with all necessary materials, and staying until the end of class. Participation also means contributing to class discussions, engaging in class activities, and completing assignments by their stated deadlines.

Homework: One hour of homework is a required part of this course.

Prerequisites/Corequisites: None

Canvas Information: N/A

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Class Schedule

Day 1: Introductions; establish learning goals; define and analyze the meanings of decision making and problem solving; discuss the role of decision makers, the types of decisions to be made, factors to keep in mind when making decisions, and the steps in the decision-making process according to formal decision-making techniques; do case studies and other practice exercises related to the day's topics.

Day 2: Compare/contrast individual and group decision making; introduce problem-solving techniques; analyze blocks to problem solving (e.g. perceptual, cultural, environmental, emotional); discuss the role of creativity in problem solving and decision making; do case studies and other practice exercises related to the day's topics.

Day 3: Continue with case studies and other practice activities related to the class topic, e.g. students follow steps to make a personal decision and solve a personal problem, then reflect on the efficacy of the techniques they used; class review and wrap-up; summative assessment.

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