

Sociology Department Peer Mentoring Circle

Meeting 2 Agenda Example

I. Welcome.

- A. “World’s Check”: How is it going in your world today? Hills, valleys?
- B. If this is your first time here, tell us a little bit about what brings you to SOCPMC

II. Social Contract Check-Ins.

- A. Did you accomplish this?

III. Peer Mentoring Circle Worktime.

- A. Tentative Protocol:
 1. Each person gets to talk through their “problem of practice” for 3 minutes (Timekeeper to give 1-minute warning).
 2. Then, everyone has 2 minutes to ask the presenter questions about problem.
 3. Finally, presenter makes a “contract” for one step they will make towards solving the problem by the next time we meet.

Interaction Guidelines and Expectations:*

- PMCs are problem solving groups; PMCs are not about offering solutions but rather about supporting others to find their own solutions.
- Each participant should be ready to ask for what she wants from the group during her work time.
- Some people will likely need to stretch themselves and be willing to speak before they may normally feel ready. PMCs are a great space for exploring half-baked feelings, ideas, thoughts, concerns, etc. Know that this is a safe space.
- PMC participants will make no judgmental statements and will honor the boundaries of each participant. Each participant will determine what the group members can hold her accountable for and will let the group know what that is. Group members should relinquish all other expectations of what the other individuals should do.
- Participants will not insert their own stories into another person’s story/work time.
- Each participant must make a commitment to the group and to herself to participate in the PMC. PMCs are like a potluck--everyone needs to bring something to the table for it to be successful!

Members must commit to the following:*

- *Confidentiality.* Everything said and heard in the PMC must remain confidential to create group trust. Put any competition aside.
- *Honesty.* Individuals will be honest in presenting their own issues and give honest feedback with care.
- *Commitment.* Individuals are committed to meeting regularly and actively participating in the process of group problem solving.
- *Listening.* Participants will listen without judgment and with care in order to reflect back what we are hearing and create mechanisms for individuals to find their own best solutions.

* Adapted from materials by Dr. Cara Margherio at CERSE for presentations and LATTICE mentoring circles