

Offender Responsibility Course Outline

The Offender Responsibility Course is an advanced, interactive & educational study that guides criminal offenders through the process of understanding their role of responsibility post-conviction, victim impact awareness, and how to make amends with restorative justice principles. The eight week course is structured two hours each of meditation, a lesson presentation, group discussion/exercises, character-building segments, and progressive journaling. This course is suggested for offenders which have already completed a form of victim awareness studies.

GROUP DESIGN

Group Objectives:

To honor the past and value all experiences, good and bad, to aid in a new direction of living. To understand the magnitude and impact of the choices which led to committing a crime(s). The various ways to make amends and right any wrongdoings concerning the past. To build a stronger character which will withstand any set of circumstances. To appreciate the established structure in society and the roles one aims to play in that society.

Group Guidelines:

No unexcused absences. 100% participation.
No disclosure requirement. Strict confidentiality rule. Application encouragement. Exercise Open-mindedness.

Group Structure:

A warm up writing, meditation, check-in/recap, group discussion/exercise, lesson presentation, character building segments and reflection writing assignment.

GROUP LESSONS

Lesson One: *Subconscious Programming*

Understanding the developmental process in early childhood years

Lesson Two: *Human Values*

Defining good vs. bad and truths vs. untruths

Lesson Three: *Criminal Conduct*

Recognizing causes/effects & reasons for committing crimes

Lesson Four: *Living with the Consequences*

Becoming aware of the past's impact on the present and future

Lesson Five: *Ethical Responsibility*

Explaining the moral compass theory and ethical concern

Lesson Six: *Leading Quality Lives*

Comprehending the cycle of thoughts and incorporate healthy living practices

Lesson Seven: *Restitution and Amends*

Educate on the significance of restitution and the various forms of amends

Lesson Eight: *Becoming a Good Citizen*

Illustrating behaviors to avoid and explaining how to positively impact one's community

Reflection Assignments

The Reflection Assignments are the most important aspect of the Offender Responsibility course and are **MANDATORY** for you to receive 100% participation credit. These assignments are to be completed on your own time during your private hours for optimal introspection and should be at least 1-2 pages of in depth length. At the beginning of each session, your reflection assignment will be reviewed and checked-off. **Please Note: You will be dropped from the class if you do not complete the assignment.**

Character Building Segments

The character building segments consist of the "Six Pillars of Character" which are service marks of the *Josephson Institute of Ethics*. The Character Building Segments will cover: **Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship** – while assisting participants on ways to incorporate these qualities into their overall behavior, attitude, and values.