



PSY 310:
Behavior Modification
Course Syllabus
Winter Semester
2017

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Course Prerequisite: PSY 101

Classroom: 2130 AuSable Hall

Class Times: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00-9:50 am & 10:00-10:50 am
First class: 1-9-17
Last class: 4-21-17
Final exam: 4-25-17

In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for GVSU to suspend normal operations. During this time, GVSU may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: Blackboard, Skype, and email messaging and/or an alternate schedule. It's the responsibility of the student to monitor Blackboard site for each class for course specific communication, and the main GVSU, College, and department websites, emails for important general information.

Course Objectives

This introductory 45-hour undergraduate course provides the student with information in the form of lectures, demonstrations, and practical exercises on the basic principles and procedures of the field of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). Students will be introduced to the field of ABA and will receive training on how to become fluent in applying basic principles and procedures of ABA to their career. In addition, this course will prepare students for advanced undergraduate coursework in ABA. Lastly, this course is designed to prepare students to sit for the Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst Certification exam. More information on this exam can be found at the Behavior Analyst Certification Board website (www.bacb.com).

Student Learning Objectives

After the course, students will be able to:

- Describe basic behavior analysis principles
- Provide novel examples of basic behavior analysis principles
- Describe assessment and intervention procedures in ABA
- Describe and provide examples on how to apply the science of ABA to their future career

Required Text

Miltenberger, R.G. (2015). *Behavior Modification: Principles and Procedures, Sixth Edition.*

Course Requirements

Attendance	50pts
Quizzes	150pts
Unit 1 Exam	50pts
Unit 2 Exam	50pts
Unit 3 Exam	50pts
Final Exam (Cumulative)	150pts
Total	500pts

Attendance

Every student will start out with 50pts for attendance. Attendance will be taken on random, unannounced days. When a student is absent, points will be deducted. The first absence will result in a loss of one attendance point. The second absence will result in a loss of two attendance points. The third absence will result in a loss of 5 attendance points. Any subsequent absences will result in a loss of 10 attendance points.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be given weekly- day of the week will vary. Quizzes will be based on or directly from the Chapter Quizzes in your book. It is recommended that students complete all quizzes in the book when the reading is assigned.

Exams

There will be 3 unit exams (50pts each) and one final exam (150pts). The 3 unit exams are non-cumulative. The final exam is cumulative. All exams count toward your final grade. The unit exams may consist of: multiple choice, short answer, true/false, matching, and fill-in-the-blank. The final exam will be multiple choice. Most of the information on the exams will come from lecture, however all material covered in class and in assigned readings is fair game.

Course Grade

Grades will be calculated by dividing the total number of points earned by the total number of points possible. A letter grade will be assigned based on the grading scale listed below.

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

- 94 – 100% = A
- 90 – 93.9% = A-
- 87 – 89.9% = B+
- 83 – 86.9% = B
- 80 – 82.9% = B-
- 77 – 79.9% = C+
- 73 – 76.9% = C
- 70 – 72.9% = C-
- 60 – 69.9% = D
- Less than 60% = F

Make-up Policy/Absences

Make-up quizzes/exams are only allowed in the case of an unavoidable emergency. An unavoidable emergency may include the following: serious illness, funeral, unexpected car trouble. In order to make-up quizzes/exams, the student **must have documentation**. Documentation can include: a doctor's note, towing or car repair receipt, program from funeral, etc. Documentation must be provided within 24 hours of the missed quiz/exam. Please note that make-up exams must be completed within 1 week of the scheduled exam date. **Failure to notify the instructor in advance, provide documentation, or complete the exam within the time frame, will result in a zero.**

Absences due to Religious Observances

Students are expected to notify the instructor at the beginning of the term if they intend to be absent for a class or announced examination. Students absent for religious reasons, with proper notification will be given reasonable opportunities to make-up any work missed.

Class Policies

Academic Dishonesty

Any form of cheating on examinations or plagiarism on assigned papers constitutes unacceptable deceit and dishonesty. Disruption of the classroom or teaching environment is also unacceptable. Grand Valley State University has very specific policies and procedures regarding academic dishonesty or disruption of academic process. Cheating is the (a) the unauthorized granting or receiving of aid during the prescribed period of a course- graded exercise; students may not consult written materials such as notes or books, may not look at the paper of another student, nor consult orally with any other student taking the same test; (b) asking another person to take an examination in his/her place; (c) taking an examination for or in place of another student; (d) stealing visual concepts, such as drawings, sketches, diagrams, musical programs or scores, graphs, maps, etc., and presenting them as one's own; (e) stealing, borrowing, buying, or disseminating tests, answer keys or other examination material except as officially authorized, research papers, creative papers, speeches, other graded assignments, etc.; (f) stealing or copying of computer programs and presenting them as one's own. Such stealing includes the use of another student's program, as obtained from the magnetic media or interactive terminals or from cards, print-out papers, etc. Punishment will be based on the University guidelines for academic dishonesty.

If you have any questions, please refer to GVSU Student Code

- <http://www.gvsu.edu/studentcode/>

Accommodations

If you need special accommodations, or if there is any topic or activity in class which makes you feel uncomfortable and causes serious distress, please advise the instructor. Students with disabilities are responsible for registering with Disability Support Resources in order to receive academic accommodations. DSR encourages students to notify instructors of accommodation requests. Please provide instructor with the appropriate, completed form with at least five business days prior to needing the accommodation. A letter from DSR must accompany this request.

Audio or Video Recording Policy

You must obtain advance written permission from the Instructor prior to audio recording or video recording any lecture or discussion with the Instructor. Suitable reasons may include a reasonable accommodation for a disability. However, students are not permitted to sell notes or tapes of class lectures.

Class Notes

Please be aware that students are not permitted to take notes in class for remuneration or for the purpose of sale to any person or entity.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as “literary theft” and consists of the unattributed quotation of the exact words of a published text, or the unattributed borrowing of original ideas by paraphrase from a published text. On written papers for which the student employs information gathered from books, articles, web sites, or oral sources, each direct quotation, as well as ideas and facts that are not generally known to the public at large, or the form, structure or style of a secondary source must be attributed to its author by means of the appropriate citation procedure. Only widely known facts and first-hand thoughts and observations original to the student do not require citations. Citations may be made in footnotes or within the body of the text. Plagiarism also consists of passing off as one’s own segments or the total of another person’s work. If you are not sure please bring the material to the instructor for guidance. The student who submitted the subject paper, lab report, etc. shall receive an “F” with a numerical value of zero on the item submitted, and the “F” shall be used to determine the final course grade.

Right to Change Syllabus

If necessary, some components of this syllabus may change. However, any such changes will be announced to the students in class and posted on blackboard. The student is responsible for any such announced changes.

Behavior Modification Schedule					
Unit	Week	Date	Reading	Exam	
1	1	1/9	Syllabus		
		1/11	Chapter 1		
		1/13			
	2	2	1/16	Chapter 2	
			1/18	Chapter 3	
			1/20		
	3	3	1/23	Chapter 4	
			1/25		
			1/27		
	4	4	1/30	Chapter 5	
			2/1	Chapter 14	
			2/3		
	5	5	2/6	Chapter 6	Unit 1 Exam 2/10
			2/8	Chapter 17	
			2/10	EXAM 1	
2	6	2/13	Chapter 7		
		2/15	Chapter 18		
		2/17			
	7	7	2/20	Chapter 8	
			2/22		
			2/24		
	8	8	2/27	Chapter 13	
			3/1		
			3/3		
	9	9	3/6	NO CLASS	
			3/8	SPRING	
			3/10	BREAK	
	10	10	3/13	Chapters 9 & 10	Unit 2 Exam 3/17
			3/15	Chapter 11	
			3/17	EXAM 2	
3	11	3/20	Chapter 12		
		3/22	Chapter 15		
		3/24	Chapter 16		
	12	12	3/27	Chapter 19	
			3/29	Chapter 20	
			3/31		
	13	13	4/3	Chapter 21	
			4/5	Chapter 24	
			4/7	Chapter 25	
	14	14	4/10	Review previous unit 3 readings	Unit 3 Exam 4/14
			4/12		
			4/14	EXAM 3	
	15	15	4/17	Review all previous readings	
			4/19		
			4/21		
	16	4/25		FINAL EXAM	