



PSY 550: Research in Applied Settings  
Spring/Summer 2016

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**Instructor:** Amy Campbell, Ph.D.  
**Email:** campbeam@gvsu.edu  
**Phone:** 616-331-2409  
**Office hours:** By appointment  
**Meeting location:** Online through Blackboard

**Instructor:** Jamie Owen-DeSchryver, Ph.D.  
**Email:** owendesj@gvsu.edu  
**Phone:** 616-331-8703  
**Office hours:** By appointment  
**Meeting location:** Online through Blackboard

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course focuses on behavioral research and methodologies to evaluate interventions based on single-subject and group experimental designs in applied settings. Students will use single-case study methodologies and group designs to assess various dimensions of behavior and to evaluate the effects of treatment interventions on those behaviors.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

<b>Learning Unit</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Edition Task List</b>
1: Foundations of Research	B-1, B-2
2: Measurement Issues	A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4, A-5, A-6, A-7, A-8, A-9, B-3, K-5, H-1, H-2
3: Single Subject Research Designs I: Reversal and Alternating Treatments	B-1, B-2, G-8, B-11, J-2
4: Single Subject Research Designs II: Multiple Baseline and Changing Criterion	B-3, B-4, B-5, B-6, B-7, B-8, B-9, H-4, H-5, A-10, A-11, A-12, A-13, H-3, I-5, J-9
5: Evaluating Data in Single Subject Research	B-10, B-11, K-5, K-7
6: Advanced Issues in Single Subject Research	

### **READING MATERIALS**

**A selection of articles and chapters will be available on Blackboard**

### **REQUIRED EQUIPMENT (owned or accessible)**

- High-speed internet access

- Computer with a sound card and speakers; operating system that meets current Blackboard browser requirements (see below)
- Web camera and microphone (built in or external).
- It is not required, but it is helpful to have a headset (with a microphone) for interacting with other students and faculty online.

### **BLACKBOARD IS THE COURSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

To access Blackboard, go to <https://mybb.gvsu.edu/> and enter your log in and password.

This course utilizes Blackboard, GVSU's online course management system. Take a look at the GVSU Online Learning pages to and find numerous materials about using Blackboard and online learning <http://www.gvsu.edu/online/>.

Use of Blackboard is integral to this course and students must log on a few times each week in order to complete course requirements, receive important announcements and updates, and communicate with instructors and other students about course content and requirements.

Check the current technical requirements to use Blackboard - <http://www.gvsu.edu/online/what-about-the-technology--8.htm> and preferred browser information - <http://www.gvsu.edu/it/learn/browser-configuration-24.htm>

#### **Technical difficulties with Blackboard**

If you experience technical problems with Blackboard, contact the help desk by email or phone - [helpdesk@gvsu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@gvsu.edu) or 616-331-3513. The help website is <http://www.gvsu.edu/it/learn/>

**Please be aware that faculty are often unable to assist you with Blackboard problems – be sure to contact the help desk.**

#### **ACCESSING THE LIBRARY**

Many of GVSU's library resources can be accessed online [Distance and Off-Campus Learning Services](#) with many journal articles available on demand. You must have an active GVSU student account to take advantage of the library's resources and services.

Some courses may have reading materials in course reserve. To access course reserve, [click here](#).

### **BCBA CERTIFICATION INFORMATION**

This course is one of six courses in the 18-credit Applied Behavior Analysis Graduate Certificate Program at GVSU. Successful completion of the course sequence results in the GVSU Graduate Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis. The 18 credits that you earn by completing the program may be applied toward the requirements for certification by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB). The BACB has approved our course sequence as meeting the 270-hour coursework requirements for eligibility to take the BCBA examination. Before you are eligible to take the BCBA certification exam, the BACB requires that you show proof of a master's degree in psychology or education and evidence that you have accrued the required number of supervised experience hours. You are responsible for ensuring that you meet all of the current BACB standards. For more information about the Behavior Analysis Certification Board, go to [www.bacb.com](http://www.bacb.com) and click on "Becoming Certified."

## **ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

If you need specific accommodations and you have a documented disability, you will need to contact the Disability Support Resources Office at 616-331-2490 to coordinate accommodations. If you plan to request accommodations in this course, please let me know right away so I can assist you.

## **COURSE ORGANIZATION and ASSIGNMENTS**

### **Readings (weekly)**

You will have book chapters or articles to read weekly. It is critical to stay up on the readings. This is where you will learn much of the ABA terminology, which is cumulative over the course of the ABA sequence and is necessary for course exams and the BACB exam.

### **Learning Units (1-3 week modules)**

The learning units will be a foundational part of the course and this is where you will find directions for each one to three week segment of the course including reading assignments, course content presentations, course materials, lesson activities, and assignments. Units will be posted on the starting date listed on the syllabus and will be open throughout the course.

### **Discussion board activities**

An open discussion forum will be available to allow you to communicate with the instructor and other students. It will be important to stay connected with others to have conversations about the content and ask questions.

In addition, you will have a discussion board activity for each unit. These activities may include responding to questions on a discussion board, reviewing and commenting on research articles, and/or small group discussions using Zoom. More information on each activity will be provided with each unit.

### **Content Quizzes**

At the end of each unit, you must take a content quiz. There will be 6 quizzes, each worth 10 points. Quizzes will be completed on Blackboard. Each quiz will consist of a variety of forced-choice questions, and short-answer questions. The purpose of the quiz is to help you assess your knowledge of the content from the unit. Typically, you will have 30-minutes to take each quiz. Although each quiz is technically “open book,” you are not given enough time to look up each answer, so be sure that you spend time preparing for the quiz prior to taking it. The quiz must be completed by the last Sunday (at midnight) of the learning unit. Be sure to read the instructions for each quiz, as the process may vary for specific quizzes.

### **Assignments**

You will have 6 assignments to complete (1 for each unit). Each assignment is worth 20 points. More details about the individual assignments will be provided on Blackboard. All assignments

must be prepared in a professional manner (typed, free from spelling/grammatical errors). Late assignments will only be accepted under extenuating circumstances. See late assignment policy.

**Exams** – (2 proctored exams)

There are two exams (midterm and final) in this class. Each exam is worth 40 points. The exams must be proctored. We will arrange a proctored exam time/location during the first week of class. You may also have the exam proctored by another individual who fits the criteria (see directions on Blackboard). Exams will consist of a variety of questions. Make-up exams permitted only under extenuating circumstances. Plan your schedule accordingly.

Assignment	Points	Total Points for Semester
Discussion Board Activities (6)	5	30
Quizzes (6)	10	60
Assignments (6)	20	120
Exams (2)	40	80
TOTAL POINTS		290

Letter Grade	Percentage Range
A	94-100%
A-	90-93%
B+	87-89%
B	83-86%
B-	80-82%
C+	77-79%
C	70-76%
D	61-69%
F	0-60%

## **ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION**

### **Contacting Instructors**

This course is co-taught by two instructors (Amy Campbell and Jamie Owen-Deschryver). Both course instructors are available to answer questions throughout the semester, and feel free to email both with any concerns. Each learning unit has been assigned a primary instructor (person listed on the course schedule). If you have a question specific to that unit (content or assignment), we request that you contact the primary instructor. This will help us ensure that you receive clear answers, and will hopefully eliminate any confusion in regards to expectations.

### **Late assignment policy**

Late assignments are only accepted under extenuating circumstances. Be sure to allow ample time to complete the assignments (these are NOT assignments that can be completed the night before the due date!). You must contact the course instructor for the unit at least 24hrs prior to the due date to notify them that the assignment will be late, and receive approval. All late assignments will receive a penalty of **2pts** per 24-hour period. You may only submit an assignment up to 5 days late (receive a 10-pt deduction). Assignments more than 5 days late will receive no credit. We encourage you to keep open lines of communication with the instructors – please contact us ASAP if you anticipate having a difficult time meeting the deadlines.

### **Learning Support and Assistance**

Remember, the faculty members are available to support your learning in this class. Much of the content will be challenging, and we encourage you to utilize us for support. Amy Campbell is available for in-person office hours on Monday and Wednesday from 10:00 – 12:00. In addition, faculty are willing to hold face-to-face study sessions, on-line office hours, and individual meetings to support your learning in this class. However, you must **COMMUNICATE** your needs with us. Please do not wait to until you do poorly on a test/assignment to get support for the content.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

[GVSU Student Code regarding Integrity of Scholarship and Grades:](#)

### **Section 223.00: INTEGRITY OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRADES.**

Truth and Honesty. The principles of truth and honesty are recognized as fundamental to a community of teachers and scholars. The University expects that both faculty and students will honor these principles, and in so doing protect the validity of University grades. This means that all academic work will be done by the student to whom it is assigned without unauthorized aid of any kind. Instructors, for their part, will exercise care in the planning and supervision of academic work, so that honest effort will be positively encouraged.

**Section 223.01: PLAGIARISM.**

Any ideas or material taken from another source for either written or oral presentation must be fully acknowledged. Offering the work of someone else as one's own is plagiarism. The language or ideas taken from another may range from isolated formulas, sentences, or paragraphs to entire articles copied from books, periodicals, speeches or the writings of other students. The offering of materials assembled or collected by others in the form of projects or collections without acknowledgment also is considered plagiarism. Any student who fails to give credit in written or oral work for the ideas or materials that have been taken from another is guilty of plagiarism.

### **Quick Tips for a Successful Learning Experience**

Read the syllabus and all preparatory information on Blackboard

Stay organized and track due dates

Plan weekly study times

Keep up on the reading

Log onto Blackboard at least 3 times per week to check announcements, discussion board, and interact with course material

Get to know the other students in the class

Study the course terminology and monitor your progress on the term fluency graph

Post questions, comments, and ideas on discussion board

Ask questions of the instructor