



ABA Graduate Certificate Program
PSY 550: Research in Applied Settings
Spring/Summer 2018

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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 be taught to 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

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe rationale and process for evaluating interventions implemented in applied settings.
2. Understand the similarities and differences between single subject and group designs.
3. Select single-case designs based on a research or treatment question.
4. Use single-subject experimental design to develop methods to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions.
5. Explain the process of visual data analysis and interpret graphically represented data.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of ethical principles in research and treatment evaluation.
7. Analyze and draw inferences from applied research articles that depict the use of various treatment designs.

BACB TASK LIST ALIGNMENT

Learning Unit	4 th Edition Task List
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 Single Subject Designs	B-10, B-11, K-5, K-7
6: Outcome Evaluation in School Settings	

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)
- Microphone (built in or external)
- Computer camera for videoconference, synchronous meetings (most laptops have a camera)

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 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.

Check the current [technical requirements](#) to use Blackboard and [preferred browser information](#).

Technical difficulties with Blackboard

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

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](#).

Writing Center

The Writing Center is available to assist with all kinds of writing tasks and they will give feedback on writing assignments. It is not just for students who struggle with writing. They can help any student improve writing skills. Writing Center [online services](#).

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.

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 ABA Graduate Certificate is a Verified Course Sequence (VCS) by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB). The BACB has approved the GVSU course sequence as meeting the 270-hour coursework requirements for eligibility to pursue certification as a BCBA. Additionally, the BACB requires that you show proof of a master's degree in psychology, education, or behavior analysis and evidence that you have accrued the required number of supervised experience hours before you can register to take the BCBA exam. You are responsible for ensuring that you meet all of the current BACB standards. For more information about the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, go to www.bacb.com and click on "Obtain a Credential."

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. In addition, you will be asked to find several research studies independently.

Learning Units (2 week modules)

The learning units will be a foundational part of the course and this is where you will find directions for each two 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 30-60 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). Most assignments are 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

There are two exams (midterm and final) in this class. Each exam is worth 40 points. The exams must be proctored. We will hold an exam time on GVSU’s campus at a specified time and location. 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)	5-10	40
Quizzes (6)	10	60
Assignments (6)	10-20	110
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. 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.

GVSU COURSE POLICIES

This course is subject to the GVSU policies listed at <http://www.gvsu.edu/coursepolicies/>. Please familiarize yourself with these policies.

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.

"This course is subject to GVSU's general requirements for courses. A full list with pointers to resources may be found at www.gvsu.edu/coursepolicies."

Psy 550: Course Schedule 2018

Unit and Dates	Topics	Readings	Assignments
Unit 1: Foundations of Research 5/7-5/20 Instructor: Jamie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research integrity training • Science & pseudoscience • Evidence-based practice in education 	Lilienfeld et al. (2012) Hodgetts et al. (2011) Slavin (2003) IRIS Modules, Evidence-based practices Part1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 1: RCR Training (due by July 22 at the end of Unit 5) • Discussion Board Activity 1 • Quiz 1
Unit 2: Measurement 5/21 – 6/3 Instructor: Amy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measuring IV & DV • Interobserver Agreement • Foundations of Single Subject Research 	Kazdin (2010) – Ch. 5 Horner et al. (2005) Wolf (1976) Review (introduced in previous class): LeBlanc et al. (2016) Cooper Chapter 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 2 • Discussion Board Activity 2 • Quiz 2
Unit 3: Single Subject Design I 6/4 – 6/17 Instructor: Amy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reversal design • Alternating treatments design • Graphing data 	Cooper Chapter 6, (125-150 only) Cooper Chapter 8 Vanselow & Bouret (2012) Optional (but helpful for graphing): Deochand et al. (2015) Dixon et al. (2009) Barton & Reichow (2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 3 • Discussion Board Activity 3 • Quiz 3
			On-campus midterm exam: 6/13 at 10:00am (location TBD).

<p>Unit 4: Single Subject Design II 6/18 – 7/1 Instructor: Jamie</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple baseline • Changing criterion • Graphing data 	Cooper Chapter 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 4 • Discussion Board Activity 4 • Quiz 4
<p>Semester Break July 2 - 8</p>			
<p>Unit 5: Evaluating Single Subject Designs 7/9 – 7/22 Instructor: Amy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual analysis • Statistical methods 	Cooper Ch. 6, pg. 150-157 only Riley-Tillman & Burns (2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 5 • Discussion Board Activity 5 • Quiz 5
<p>Unit 6: Outcome Evaluation in School Settings 7/23 – 8/5 Instructor: Jamie</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies • Program evaluation 	Morrison & Harms (2018), Ch. 5 and selected pages Filter et al. (2007) Muscott et al. (2008)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 6 • Discussion Board Activity 6 • Quiz 6
<p>Final Exam 8/7</p>			<p>On-Campus Final Exam: Tuesday 8/7, 10:00am (location TBD)</p>

