Applied Behavior Analysis: Principles, Procedures and Philosophy

PSYC 619-001 and EDSE 619-001
Fall 2014

Updated: August 19, 2014

Course Description: This course focuses on the basic principles, procedures and the underlying philosophy of ABA; on identification of factors that contribute to behavioral problems and improved performance; and on procedures that minimize behavioral problems, improve performance, teach new behaviors, and increase probability of behaviors occurring under appropriate circumstances.

Location: Research Hall, Room 201

Time: Mondays and Wednesday, 9:00 AM – 10:15 AM

Instructor: Johannes Rojahn, Ph.D., Phone: 703-993-4241, e-mail: jrojahn@gmu.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday, 11:00 AM to noon or by appointment

Nature of Course Delivery: Lectures, student presentations, practica, quizzes, discussions.

Books and Reading Material

Required text:

Recommended text for BCBA students:

Articles and book chapters:
- Etc. (copies on Blackboard)

Add and Drop Deadlines

1 The University Honor Code will be followed in this course. Each student is responsible for knowing the rules, regulations, requirements, and academic policies of the university.
2 If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.
Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class. Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Semester Calendar.
Last day to add or drop class w/o penalty: 9/2/14
Last day to drop: 9/26/14

**Course Requirements and Expectations**
Students are expected to attend class regularly, to show up on time, and to participate actively in class discussions and projects. Absences have to be approved by the instructor prior to the missed class.

There will be in-class presentations and take-home practicum assignments, a midterm and a final exam.

*No cell-phone use in class, Please! Laptop is only permitted if it used for note taking.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Evaluation Criteria</th>
<th>Max Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Practica:</strong> Students will complete approximately 15 graded exercises (or practica). Each practicum can earn as many as 10 points. Practica will be completed in class or at home. If they are submitted at home they must be submitted no later than the day before the next class. Late submissions will not be graded!</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presentation:</strong> Each student is responsible for the presentation of one topic using a Power Point slide show (see weekly schedule). A maximum of 80 points can be earned. Your presentations will be rated by your fellow students and the instructor according to a rubric posted on-line on Blackboard.</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quizzes:</strong> At the beginning of some classes a short quiz will be presented covering topics of the previous class. Students answer the questions in writing (maximum of 10 points per answer).</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Midterm and Final Exam:</strong> They consist of 5 short essay questions (maximum of 20 points per answer).</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Final Exam

Max total: 560

**Grading:** Given these assignments, the distribution of total possible points per assignment type, and grading scale, are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Point Range</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Grades</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>532 - 560</td>
<td>95 - 100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>504 - 531</td>
<td>90 - 94</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>448 - 503</td>
<td>80 - 89</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>420 - 447</td>
<td>75 - 79</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>