EAB 4714C: Laboratory in Applied Behavior Analysis
Syllabus, Fall, 2018 (Section 4015)

General
Meetings: Mondays, 5:10 pm ~ 7:05 pm (plus twice weekly on-site shifts)
Room: PSY 151
Instructor: Timothy R. Vollmer, Ph.D., (vollmera@ufl.edu) Office: PSY 331
Graduate Assistants: Emma Grauerholz-Fisher (eg.fisher@ufl.edu) and Sam Morris (sirrommas@ufl.edu)
Dr. Vollmer’s office hours: Monday 2:00-4:00 PM (PSY 331)
Emma’s office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 1:00-2:00 PM (FAC)
Sam’s office hours: Monday 10:00 AM-12:00 PM (PSY 349)

Description
This is a course on research methods and applications in behavior analysis. It is designed around a working laboratory so that advanced undergraduate students (you) can experience conditions similar to those encountered in graduate school. Thus, course content changes somewhat from semester-to-semester based on current research in progress. This course requires a great deal of effort, intellectual obligation, and time. However, the historical success rate of students in the laboratory course for advancement to graduate school, professional school, or field job placement is well over 95%, so the effort is presumed to pay off. General topics to be covered include but are not limited to: observation of human behavior in applied settings, assessment of interobserver agreement, data graphing and analysis, reinforcer assessment, functional analysis of behavior disorders, and intervention strategies. Although most of the assigned readings and lab work focus on specialized topics, the skills taught are general in nature and provide you with a strong empirical background for graduate study in a number of different areas (e.g., psychology, public health, rehabilitation, special education).

Text
All course-related information including reading assignments will be posted on the Canvas website. You can access the site by logging in at: https://lss.at.ufl.edu/ with your username and password (the same as your UF account). Please check the site frequently because assignment changes will be posted there.

Lab Meetings
The weekly lab meeting is held on Mondays from 5:10 until about 7:05 pm. Most weeks, the meeting will include a) a breakout discussion with lab sub-groups, b) a reading quiz, c) a featured research presentation to give you more detailed information on lab activities and d) a lecture quiz. See schedule below for topics.

Lab Activities
a) In addition to lab meeting, you will spend four (4) lab hours per week (two, 2-hour shifts) at the Florida Autism Center (our primary research and clinical training site) or another designated site if a special project is in progress. The lab schedule will be finalized in class, and your lab hours should conform to scheduled times. Permission must be obtained to make up missed hours in a timely fashion. The Lab will be open for approximately 16 weeks this term, and you will be expected to be on site for two, two-hour shifts per week. If you miss a shift, you must let your primary graduate student know in advance and you must schedule a
make-up shift. There is no final exam. Schedule deviations that may occur during the term will be communicated to you either in class or at the lab site. You will be graded on attendance/punctuality; data reliability; and initiative.

b) Weekly reading assignments will be provided to you the week prior to the due date. We do not know the exact order yet, due to fluctuating needs of the lab, but you will be provided with a complete list of readings you have accomplished by the end of the semester and a “moving” list each week. Each week, a two-question quiz will be given during each lab meeting on the article(s). During the course of the semester, you will be expected to write article critiques (see schedule for due dates). The critique should contain a brief summary of the article, a discussion of strengths, a discussion of potential limitations, and a brief discussion of potential future research directions. The critique can be on any article read up to that point. You will receive feedback on your critiques within one week of submission, and your next paper will be a revision based on the feedback.

c) Following weekly data presentations/lectures, you will receive a brief, two-question quiz over the presentation/lecture material.

Writing Requirement
The course includes a significant writing component (it is a Gordon Rule class). Most students, however, have not acquired good writing skills even by the time of graduation, so we have included several writing aids. Grammar instructions are posted on the course website, and you are encouraged to review these materials before and while preparing article summaries and proposals. You will be given feedback on writing errors made on your critiques. Assignments 1a, 2a, and 3a will all be edited so that you may re-submit as 1b, 2b, and 3b. Both the “a” assignments and the “b” assignments will be worth 10 points. Assignment 4 will be worth 20 points and will not include a revision opportunity (this is considered your final writing exam). These additional procedures are designed to help you improve your writing. Critiques must be between 3 and 4 pages in length, anything longer will not be graded.

Grading
a) Lab and meeting attendance: Students are expected to meet all of their appointments during the term. Any missed hours may result in a grade reduction, so it is critical to make up all missed lab hours unless it is due to a holiday or school closing. Attendance at lab meetings is mandatory; absences require prior notification if possible or immediate notification if not. Tardiness will also affect your grade (30 points). You will be alerted to your grade at the half way point (out of 15 points).

b) Reading quizzes: There will be 13 reading quizzes, each worth 2 points. You may drop up to three for the following reasons only: religious holiday or observance, illness, conflicting university scheduling, or family emergency (20 points).

c) Reading critiques: There will be 3 written critiques each worth 10 points on the initial submission and each worth 10 points on the second submission. There will be one written critique worth 20 points. For each day late on any writing assignment, two points are lost (1 hour-24 hours late equals one day). Please submit critiques on Canvas (80 points).

d) Lecture quizzes: There will be 13 lecture quizzes, each worth 2 points. You may drop up to three for the following reasons only: religious holiday or observance, illness, conflicting university scheduling, or family emergency (20 points).

e) Other lab performance: Graduate students whose lab schedules coincide with yours will evaluate your performance in the lab based on reliability of observations (25 points), and
initiative (25 pts). You will be alerted to your performance grades at the half-way point (out of 12.5 points for each).

186-200 = A
180-185.9 = A-
174-179.9 = B+
166-173.9 = B
160-160.9 = B-
154-159.9 = C+
146-153.9 = C
140-145.9 = C-
134-139.9 = D+
126-133.9 = D
120-125.9 = D-
119.9 and below = Fail

Student Considerations
Students needing special consideration should contact the Dean of Students office for appropriate documentation. Should any unforeseen problems arise during the term, please contact Dr. Vollmer or one of the teaching assistants.

Class Schedule: Fall, 2018

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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| 8-27 | Introduction | 1. Review of course syllabus and schedule (Dr. Vollmer)  
2. Introductions  
3. Description of lab site duties (Emma and Sam)  
4. Scheduling |
| 9-3  | No class. Labor Day. | |
| 9-10 | Data Collection and Graphing (Emma and Sam) | 1. Breakout sessions  
2. Reading quiz  
3. Data collection and graphing (Emma and Sam)  
4. Lecture quiz |
| 9-17 | Behavioral Pediatric Feeding Interventions (Dr. Ibañez) | 1. Breakout sessions  
2. Reading quiz  
3. Behavioral feeding presentation (Dr. Vivian Ibañez)  
4. Lecture Quiz |
| 9-24 | Functional analysis (Dr. Vollmer) | 1. Writing Assignment 1a is due  
2. Breakout sessions  
3. Reading quiz  
4. Functional analysis presentation (Dr. Vollmer)  
5. Lecture quiz |
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<th>Date</th>
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| 10-1   | Brief Functional Analysis (Crystal Slanzi)                             | 1. Breakout sessions  
2. Reading quiz  
3. Brief functional analysis presentation (Crystal Slanzi)  
4. Lecture quiz |
| 10-8   | Potty Training in ASD (Brandon Perez)                                  | 1. Writing assignment 1b is due  
2. Breakout sessions  
3. Reading quiz  
4. Potty training in ASD (Brandon Perez)  
5. Lecture Quiz |
| 10-15  | Sociability testing (Sam)                                              | 1. Breakout sessions  
2. Reading quiz  
3. Sociability testing (Sam)  
4. Lecture Quiz |
| 10-22  | Task analysis baselines (Emma)                                         | 1. Writing assignment 2a is due  
2. Breakout sessions  
3. Reading quiz  
4. Task analysis (Emma)  
5. Lecture Quiz |
| 10-29  | Social Skills in Adolescents with ASD (Faris Kronfli)                  | 1. Breakout sessions  
2. Reading quiz  
3. Social skills presentation (Faris Kronfli)  
4. Lecture Quiz |
| 11-5   | Responding to name (Danny Conine)                                      | 1. Writing assignment 2b is due  
2. Breakout sessions  
3. Reading quiz  
4. Responding to name presentation (Danny Conine)  
5. Lecture Quiz |
| 11-12  | Generalization of feeding interventions (Dr. Ibañez)                   | 1. Breakout sessions  
2. Reading quiz  
3. Generalization presentation (Dr. Vivian Ibañez)  
4. Lecture Quiz |
| 11-19  | The process of peer review in ABA (Dr. Kerri Peters)                   | 1. Writing assignment 3a is due  
2. Breakout sessions  
3. Reading quiz  
4. Peer review (Dr. Kerri Peters)  
5. Lecture Quiz |
| 11-26  | Multiple schedules in communication training (Eliana Pizarro)          | 1. Breakout sessions  
2. Reading quiz  
3. Communication training (Eliana Pizarro)  
4. Lecture Quiz |
| 12-3   | Semester Summary                                                       | 1. Writing assignment 3b is due  
2. Breakout sessions  
3. Reading Quiz  
4. Semester Summary  
5. Semester summary quiz |
| 12-13  | Final writing assignment                                               | 1. Writing assignment 4 is due by 10:00 AM on December 13. You may turn this in as early as December 4 if you wish. |