EAB 4714C: Laboratory in Applied Behavior Analysis
Syllabus, Fall, 2019

General
Meetings: Mondays, 5:10 pm ~ 7:05 pm (plus scheduled on-site time: 2-4 hours)
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: Tuesdays, 12:00-2:00 PM (PSY 375)
Sam’s office hours: Wednesdays, 12:00-2:00 PM (PSY 375)
Materials and Supplies Fee: $6.00 (covers background check and nametags)

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 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).

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:
1. Perform basic research tasks, including collecting data, calculating inter-observer agreement, graphing, and conducting preference assessments
2. Answer questions about readings and lectures
3. Discuss and critique a published research paper in writing
4. Discuss and answer questions about current research projects

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 some combination of a) a featured research presentation to give you more detailed information on lab activities, b) a reading quiz, c) a lecture quiz, and d) some laboratory training activity. See schedule below for topics.
Lab Activities

a) In addition to lab meeting, you will spend additional hours at a designated site (usually it will be at the Florida Autism Center, or in our Behavior Analysis Research Clinic on campus), or doing lab-based activities of another sort. 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 your shifts. If you miss a shift, you must let your primary graduate student know in advance and you must schedule a make-up shift. 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 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.

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

d) On one occasion during the semester, you will present data from an ongoing project for which you have assisted in some way (data observer, graphing, literature reviewer, etc).

Writing Requirement

The course includes a significant writing component (it is a Gordon Rule class). 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. You will be given feedback on writing errors made on your critiques. Due to the size of the class, writing assignments will rotate between 4 groups. You will write two 4-page critiques of articles, and you will turn in one revision of one of the papers. In addition, you will turn in a lab portfolio (about 10 pages, see below) as your final exam.

Lab portfolio

The lab portfolio will consist of: a) a written summary of your lab observation activities, b) a sample of the corrected single-subject graph (see assignments on calendar) that you made as part of your assignment, c) a table summary of your interobserver agreement scores during lab observation activities, and d) your best paper (corrected version).

Attendance and Make-up Work

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

Grading

a) Lab and meeting attendance (40 points): 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, as will
frequent re-scheduling. You will be alerted to your grade at the half way point.
b) Reading quizzes: There will be 10 reading quizzes, each worth 2 points. (20 pts)
c) Reading critiques: There will be 2 written critiques each worth 20 points For each day late on
any writing assignment, two points are lost (1 hour to 24 hours late equals one day). Please
submit critiques on Canvas (40 points). You are allowed to revise one of your papers based
on comments from graders. The higher score will be used.
d) Lecture quizzes: There will be 10 lecture quizzes, each worth 2 points. (20 points).
e) Competencies: successful completion of training in graphing, interobserver agreement,
HIPAA training, and preference assessments will count as (20 points).
f) Oral presentation: you will be scored (20 points) on your oral presentation based on a)
preparation, b) presentation clarity, and c) response to questions.
g) Lab portfolios: these will include a written summary of your lab contributions, IOA scores,
the best version of your graph (and other graphs you may has assisted with), and a sample of
your best paper (40 points).

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

You can see current UF grading policies at
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

Course Evaluations
Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of
instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on
how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available
at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/ . Students will be notified when the evaluation period
opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their
Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/ . Summaries of course
evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

Sexual Harassment Policy
Sexual Harassment is not tolerated in this class, in the Department of Psychology, or at the
University of Florida. Sexual harassment includes: the inappropriate introduction of sexual
activities or comments in a situation where sex would otherwise be irrelevant. Sexual harassment
is a form of sex discrimination and a violation of state and federal laws as well as of the policies
and regulations of the university. All UF employees and students must adhere to UF’s sexual
harassment policy which can be found here: https://hr.ufl.edu/forms-policies/policies-
managers/sexual-harassment/. Please review this policy and contact a university official if you have any questions about the policy. As mandatory reporters, university employees (e.g., administrators, managers, supervisors, faculty, teaching assistants, staff) are required to report knowledge of sexual harassment to UF’s Title IX coordinator. For more information about UF’s Title IX office see: https://titleix.ufl.edu/. You can also complete a Sexual Harassment Report online (Title IX) at: https://titleix.ufl.edu/title-ix-reporting-form/

**Student Considerations**

Should any unforeseen problems arise during the term, please contact Dr. Vollmer or one of the teaching assistants. Students needing special consideration should contact the Disabilities Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc ) for appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

**Class Schedule: Fall, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 8-26  | Introduction, scheduling, site overviews, HIPAA, grouping (A or B), and background check. | 1. Submit HIPAA training  
2. Submit background check material  
3. Submit schedule requests |
| 9-9   | 1. Lecture: Sociability (Sam)  
2. Training Activity: IOA | 1. Practice Reading quiz (not for points)  
2. Practice Lecture quiz (not for points)  
3. Group A: On site |
| 9-16  | 1. Lecture: Social Skills (Dr. Kronfli)  
2. Training Activity: Graphing | 1. Reading quiz  
2. Practice Lecture quiz (not for points)  
3. Group A: On site |
| 9-23  | 1. Lecture: FA Overview – Tangible Considerations (Brandon)  
2. Training Activity: Preference assessment implementation | 1. Reading quiz  
2. Lecture quiz  
3. Group A: On site |
| 9-30  | 1. Lecture: Edible-Leisure Displacement (Crystal)  
2. Lecture 2: Critical writing (Dr. Vollmer) | 1. Reading quiz  
2. Lecture quiz  
3. Group A: Begin Critique 1  
4. Group B: On site |
| 10-7  | 1. Lecture 1: Toilet Training (Janelle)  
2. Lecture 2: Oral Presentations (Dr. Vollmer)  
*Midterm evaluations will be available on Canvas this week | 1. Reading quiz  
2. Lecture quiz  
3. Group A: On site, Critique 1 due  
4. Group B: Begin Critique 1 |
| 10-14 | 1. Lecture: Feeding (Dr. Ibañez)  
2. Presentations 1-5 Group A | 1. Reading quiz  
2. Lecture quiz  
3. Group B: On site, Critique 1 Due |
| 10-21 | 1. Lecture: UF CAN (Dr. Peters)  
2. Presentations 1-5 Group B | 1. Reading quiz  
2. Lecture quiz  
3. Group A: On site, Critique 2 Due |
| 10-28 | 1. Lecture: Ethics (Emma)  
2. Presentations 6-10 Group A | 1. Reading quiz  
2. Lecture quiz  
3. Group B: On Site, Critique 2 due |
<p>| 11-4  | 1. Lecture: Behavioral Treatment (Lindsay) | 1. Reading quiz 8 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Group A: On site</th>
<th>Group B: On site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 11-18  | 1. Lecture: OBM (Janelle)  
2. Presentations 11-15 (Group A) | 1. Reading quiz 9  
2. Lecture quiz 8  
3. Group B: On site  
4. Group A: Critique revision due |
| 11-25  | 1. Lecture: BL Comparison (Emma)  
2. Presentations 11-15 Group B | 1. Reading Quiz 10  
2. Lecture Quiz 9  
3. Group B: Critique revision due |
| 12-2   | 1. Presentations 16-20 Group A  
2. Presentations 16-20 Group B | 1. Lecture Quiz 10  
2. Lab portfolio is due |