

EAB3002: Principles of Behavior Analysis

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Welcome & Overview

Why do you do what you do? Why do you feel, think, imagine? Why do you procrastinate? Why is Xavier so passive-aggressive? Why won't that anxiety just go away? Understanding causes of behavior is one central aim of this course, and we'll approach this endeavor from a natural science perspective. Another aim of the course is to actually apply this understanding to solve real-world behavior problems. Indeed, most of the problems we face in contemporary culture are behavioral in nature. Consider phobias, depression, drug addiction, crime, prejudice, eating disorders, and the list can go on and on. What's exciting is that the principles we will cover can solve these problems; we have the data.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Think critically about the causes of behavior, human and non-human, using specific tools of scientific thinking.
- Understand how a natural science of behavior, especially respondent conditioning and operant learning, can help us understand behavior and experience.
- Apply this knowledge in every possible way to your own and others' behavior and experience, and solve socially important problems.

More ambitiously: I hope this course changes your life.

Course Description

This course is a fully online course with no specified meeting times. However, the course is not self-paced. Each week, new course modules will be due. Modules 1-7 will open at the start of the term, and modules 8-14 will open at the midpoint. So, you can definitely work ahead as much as you want within each half of the term. Just be sure you complete the modules by the due dates listed in Canvas. **Summer A is a total sprint - plan accordingly!** For each module you will be given an overview of the scheduled activities so that you will know what you are expected to do for that module.

What You'll Need

- Reliable access to UF's Canvas Computer System
 - If you're not familiar with the Canvas environment, check out this tutorial: ["Navigating UF's e-Learning Environment"](#) [3:42].
 - It's a good idea to complete quizzes and discussion posts well before the deadline. Extensions will not be given for student-based technical difficulties. If UF Canvas experiences technical difficulties (and we know when this happens), deadlines will be adjusted.
- This Textbook:
 - Chance, Paul. (2014). *Learning and Behavior*, 7th Edition. Cengage. ISBN13: 978-1-111-83277-3

Course Communications

Please use Canvas to message me or your TA. Expect us to respond within 24 hrs during the week and 48 hrs during the weekend. You can also message us to set up a real-life meeting. We exist. Communication is important in this class, especially because it is online. You should check Canvas and your email for any updates on a daily basis during the week. This is important.

How You'll Be Graded

Getting Started Quiz & Module Quizzes

10 pts each x 14 = 140 pts

- Getting started. By the date specified on the quiz, complete the Getting Started quiz. By completing this quiz, you agree to all rules of the course. This quiz also assesses your knowledge of the syllabus.
- There will be 13 Module Quizzes during the semester. Content will be drawn from the book and lecture.
- Quizzes are timed. The questions are answerable in the time allotted if you have taken measures to prepare yourself (much like you would for an in-person course). However, if you try to look up the answers to each question and watch videos you will (very) likely run out of time.

Discussions

10 pts each x 7 = 70 points

- 7 Discussion forums, 10 points per forum.
- Posts will only count if they were posted before the deadline.
- I encourage you to view others' posts; get exposed to other perspectives. There is no requirement to reply to others' posts, but feel free to do so!

Portfolio

10 pts each x 6 = 60 points

- You will build a portfolio during the semester. The focus of the portfolio is to apply concepts and principles to real world phenomena.
- In many cases, the portfolio entries will build upon the discussion topics from the previous week.
- Portfolio entries will be made in the Assignments tab in Canvas.

Final Portfolio

30 points

- You will reflect on how the portfolio assignments helped you address the big goals listed in the first paragraph of this syllabus. You will also have the chance to tell us how you might revise any of your portfolio assignments based on feedback and/or new learning.

Grading

Grading Scale

A	94% – 100%
A-	90% – 93.9%
B+	87% – 89.9%
B	83% – 86.9%
B-	80% – 82.9%
C+	77% – 79.9%
C	73% – 76.9%
C-	70% – 72.9%
D+	67% – 69.9%
D	63% – 66.9%
D-	60% – 62.9%
E (Fail)	< 59.9%

Note: There is no rounding

Certification as a Board Certified Associate Behavior Analyst (BCaBA) and Specialization Track in Behavior Analysis

- The Department of Psychology at the University of Florida has a Behavior Analysis Certification Board® (BACB)-verified course sequence that prepares students to sit for the BCaBA exam after graduation with a bachelor's degree. EAB 3002 is one course in this sequence, click [here](#) to see the full sequence. Students who successfully complete this sequence will automatically meet the coursework requirement to qualify for the exam. In addition to this coursework, the student will have to complete a minimum of 1000 hours of supervised practical experience in behavior analysis.

- Full-time UF students are eligible to complete the sequence, regardless of major (i.e., non-psychology majors can complete the requirements and sit for the BCaBA exam). At this time only residential UF students are eligible, UFO students are not eligible.
- The Department of Psychology also offers a [specialization](#) track in Behavior Analysis. The curriculum includes coursework in behavior analysis, psychology, statistics, mathematics, and biology. The specialization also allows the option to conduct a senior honors thesis. The behavior analysis coursework includes a very similar Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB)-verified course sequence, as described above, that prepares students to sit for the BCaBA exam after graduation.
- Check out this [website](#) for descriptions of careers in behavior analysis.

Grading Policies

Grades will be released on an ongoing basis in Canvas as soon as they are graded.

Quizzes

I release the correct answers to quiz questions right after the quiz window closes. So obviously, allowing more time after the quiz window has closed and the correct answers are viewable is not possible.

Make-up Quizzes

At the midpoint of the semester, and again at the end of the semester, you will have the opportunity to take a make-up quiz. These quizzes can substitute for any missed quiz. If you took all of the quizzes and want to drop your lowest grade, the make-up quiz (or quizzes) will be counted in place of your lowest quiz. Let's say you take all the module quizzes and one make-up quiz and your score on your make-up quiz was your lowest, then your make-up score will be dropped. The make-up quizzes only apply to module quizzes. They does not apply to other class components like discussions or portfolio assignments. If you miss discussion posts or portfolio entries, those will stand as zeros unless you have a university accepted excuse.

The make-up quiz questions will be drawn from previous modules. So at the middle of the semester, the quiz will draw 10 questions from the module 1-6 quizzes. At the end of the semester, the quiz will draw 10 questions from module 8-13 quizzes.

Course Policies & Guidelines

Communication

- If you have a general question about the course, post it on the General Discussion board. If it is something you would raise your hand to ask in class, it belongs on this board. Feel free to use this board to communication with each other, set up study groups, say hi, whatever.

- If you have a question about your grade, message me or your TA. Don't post information about your grade on the General Discussion board.
- After the Drop/Add period ends, you will be assigned a TA. This will be the person (or myself) who you get in touch with if you have any personal issues or questions (anything that's not appropriate to post on the General Discussion board).
- All interactions with instructors and among class members are expected to be professional and appropriate.

Extensions

Extension of deadlines may be requested for assignments. Any requests for an extension must be based on University approved reasons and must include proper documentation as per University guidelines. Requests for extensions must be made before the assignment deadline, if possible, or within 24 hours of the deadline for unexpected emergencies. Late assignments without approved extensions will not be accepted.

Announcements

Announcements will be made periodically about class issues (such as reminders about upcoming assignments, or when assignments are returned). These will be visible on our course's home page. Students are responsible for all announcements made there.

Religious Observances

Please check your calendars against the course syllabus. If you have a conflict due to religious observance you should contact me as soon as possible so that we can make any necessary arrangements.

UF Policies

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the [Disability Resource Center](#) (352-392-8565) by providing 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.

The instructor should be notified of any special accommodations required by the student when they begin their course.

UF Counseling Services

Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking a clear career and academic goals which interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:

- [UF Counseling & Wellness Center](#), 301 Peabody Hall, 352-392-1575, personal and career counseling

- [UF Student Health Care Center](#)
 - Student Mental Health, 352-392-1171, personal counseling
 - Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), 352-392-1161, sexual counseling
- [U Matter We Care](#)
- [UF Career Resource Center](#), Reitz Union, 352-392-1601, career development assistance and counseling

University Policy on Academic Misconduct

UF students are bound by [The Honor Pledge](#) which states:

"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

The [Honor Code](#) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

From [Regulations of the University of Florida, 4.041 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code: Scope and Violations](#):

Plagiarism. A student shall not represent as the student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

1. Quoting oral or written materials including but not limited to those found on the internet, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution.
2. Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student."

From [Regulations of the University of Florida, 6C1-4.047 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code: Sanctions](#):

For a violation or violations of the Honor Code, a student may receive any of the sanctions that can be imposed for Student Conduct Code violations, including but not limited to conduct probation, suspension and expulsion as well as any educational sanctions. In addition, students may receive the following:

1. Assignment grade penalty. The student is assigned a grade penalty on an assignment including but not limited to a zero.
2. Course grade penalty. The student is assigned a grade penalty in the entire course including but not limited to an 'E'."

Netiquette

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. Please read the [Netiquette Guide for Online Courses](#).

Security

Remember that your password is the only thing protecting you from pranks or more serious harm.

- Don't share your password with anyone
- Change your password if you think someone else might know it
- Always logout when you are finished using the system

Getting Help

Technical Help

Please contact the UF Computing Help Desk:

- Location: HUB 132
- Email: helpdesk@ufl.edu
- Phone: (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- Website: <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Disclaimer

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change.