

**EAB 4714C: Laboratory in Applied Behavior Analysis  
Syllabus, Spring, 2023**

This course is a general education course at the University of Florida. Social and behavioral science courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and underlying theory or methodologies used in the social and behavioral sciences. Students will learn to identify, describe and explain social institutions, structures or processes. These courses emphasize the effective application of accepted problem-solving techniques. Students will apply formal and informal qualitative or quantitative analysis to examine the processes and means by which individuals make personal and group decisions, as well as the evaluation of opinions, outcomes, or human behavior. Students are expected to assess and analyze ethical perspectives in individual and societal decisions. A minimum of C is required for general education credit. This course will address the following social and behavioral sciences student learning outcomes:

<b>Content</b>	<b>Critical Thinking</b>	<b>Communication</b>
Identify, describe, and explain key themes, principles, and terminology; the history, theory and/or methodologies used; and social institutions, structures, and processes.	Apply formal and informal qualitative or quantitative analysis effectively to examine the processes and means by which individuals make personal and group decisions. Assess and analyze ethical perspectives in individual and societal decisions.	Communicate knowledge, thoughts, and reasoning clearly and effectively.
All objectives are assessed via flex labs, weekly lab meeting, reading, ethics, and lab logs. Please see <a href="#">General Education Student Learning Outcomes</a> for more information.		

**General**

Lab meetings: Mondays, 11:45 pm ~ 1:30 pm (plus other project and activity time, see below)

Flex Lab (Third floor Psychology Building, Behavior Analysis Research Clinic): Flex lab is offered two times per week except for university holidays. The purpose of flex lab varies from week to week, but it could be any one or some combination of the following: a) Some weeks you would select one of the flex labs to attend to participate in a lab project, b) Some weeks the flex labs will be optional writing assistance and support for other lab assignments, and c) Some weeks physical attendance at flex lab is not needed as the lab assignment can be completed independently. The days and times of flex lab will be determined after all of your availability has been collected on the first day of class.

Lab meeting room: Psychology Room 151.

Flex Lab meeting room: Behavior Analysis Research Clinic, Room 375 Psychology

Professor: Timothy R. Vollmer, Ph.D., BCBA-D (Office: PSY 331, vollmera@ufl.edu)

Co-instructor: Savannah Tate, M.Ed., BCBA (Office: PSY 375, tatesavannah@ufl.edu)

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Angie Van Arsdale, M.S., BCBA (office: PSY 375)

**Dr. Vollmer's Student Hours (Virtual or Live):** Monday 10:45-11:45 AM and 1:30-2:30 PM  
<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/3349098742>

**Savannah's Hours (Virtual or Live):** Thursdays, 9-11 AM  
<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/91633514865?pwd=VkZXclVlV2RDQ0NobDRNcVE2WERTdz09>

**Angie's Student Hours (Virtual or Live):** Wednesdays 9-11 AM  
<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/91039160577?pwd=NXJlVUJj2L1JGelRiMk5U21wNHpIUT09>

## **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. 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 assessments, functional analysis of behavior disorders, ethics, 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 range of different areas (e.g., psychology, public health, rehabilitation, special education).

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

1. Perform research activities and clinical behavior analysis skills, including but not limited to collecting data, calculating interobserver agreement, graphing, and conducting preference assessments.
2. Develop an ethical position paper in writing.
3. 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://ufl.instructure.com> 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 on-campus lab meeting is held on Mondays from 11:45 AM until about 1:30 PM. Most weeks, the meeting will include a) a quiz over the reading assignment and the prior meeting's discussion, b) announcements and introductions from Dr. Vollmer and Savannah or Angie, c) a review of the reading assignment, and its relation to one of our lab's research programs, d) a summary of new or recent research in the lab or work being done by one of the groups in our lab, e) group discussion, and f) introduction to your weekly lab assignment.

## **Lab Activities**

- a) You will attend on-campus Monday lab meeting
- b) You will attend flex lab or work independently on weekly research-based activities (depending on the assignment that week, which will always be discussed at lab meeting). You will have lab activities to accomplish each week. These activities will vary, but some

will involve participation in group learning activities. At the end of the semester, we may ask you for consent to use the data collected during these group learning activities for research purposes.

- c) 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 activities of the lab, but you will be provided with a complete list of readings that you will have accomplished by the end of the semester and a “moving” list each week.

### **Flex Lab**

There will be three 2-hour periods when the Behavior Analysis Research Clinic will be open, Flex lab may be used for assistance, completing lab assignments, or getting advice. You can also come to flex lab for general graduate school and career advice.

### **Writing Requirement**

The course includes a significant writing component (at least 6000 words). The writing will consist of three ethics position statements and lab logs. You will be given feedback on writing assignments including grammar, punctuation, clarity, coherence, and organization. within one week. The Writing Requirement ensures students both maintain their fluency in writing and use writing as a tool to facilitate learning. Course grades have two components. To receive writing requirement credit, a student must receive a grade of C or higher and a satisfactory completion of the writing component of the course. All assignments must be written using APA format. If you need assistance with writing, come to flex lab or the schedule an appointment with the UF

[Writing Studio](#).

### **Attendance and Make-up Work**

Requirements for lab meeting 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 assessments (60 pts). There will be 3 lab assessments spread throughout the semester (taken during scheduled lab time). These assessments will be formatted like exams. (20 points each= 60 points)
- b) Lab logs (30 pts). You will keep a weekly log of lab activities via a guided template that will be provided to you. (6 units of 5 points = 30 points)
- c) Participation (50 pts): Attendance at lab meetings is mandatory, as is attendance at lab-related project appointments or flex lab when specified. There will be a brief participation question at the end of 6 lab meetings (5 pts each = 30)), and a project participation grade (20 points).
- d) Reading quizzes (30 pts): Quizzes (5 pts each) will cover the current reading assignment plus the prior meeting’s discussion (30 points)
- e) Ethics reaction papers (30 points). There will be three ethics reaction papers based on in-lab ethics discussions.

186-200 = A

180-185.9 = A-

174-179.9 = B+

166-173.9 = B

160-165.9 = 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-  
 Below 120 = does not pass

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

<i>Date</i>	<i>Lab Meeting</i>	<i>Lab Assignments</i>
1-9	Syllabus (Dr. Vollmer) Lab overview (Dr. Vollmer) Scheduling preferences chart HIPAA etc. (Savannah Tate, BCBA)	Lab: HIPAA training, IRB training, and sexual harassment training. Reading assignment for next week TBA
1-16	No lab meeting: MLK Day	BACB ethical guidelines.
1-23	Quiz 1 Overview of functional analysis research and ethical considerations	Reading assignment for next week TBA
1-30	Quiz 2 Lab FA studies symposium	
2-6	Groups A and B: in-lab assessment Groups C and D: ethics reaction paper	Lab Log Part 1-2 (1000 words)
2-13	Groups C and D: in-lab assessment Groups A and B: ethics reaction paper	Reading assignment for next week TBA
2-20	Quiz 3 Overview of Pediatric Feeding Disorders	Reading assignment for next week TBA
2-27	Quiz 4 Lab feeding studies symposium	
3-6	Groups C and D: in-lab assessment Groups A and B: ethics reaction paper	Lab Log Part 3-4 Due
3-13	No class: spring break	
3-20	Groups A and D: in-lab assessment Groups B and C: ethics reaction paper	Reading assignment for next week TBA
3-27	Quiz 5 Overview of early ASD intervention	Reading assignment for next week TBA
4-3	Quiz 6 Lab early learner studies	
4-10	Groups B and C: in-lab assessment Groups A and D: ethics reaction paper	
4-17	Groups A and D: in-lab assessment Groups B and C: ethics reaction paper	Lab Log Part 5-6 Due (complete Lab Log)

**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 Savannah Tate. Students needing special consideration should contact the Disabilities Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc](http://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.