

FALL 2024 SYLLABUS FOR EAB 4930 Cultural Analysis

Instructor: Dr. Faris Kronfli

Section Number: 3G61

Class Meeting time and place: Tuesdays, 12:50-1:40 PM in FLG 230; Thursdays, 11:45-1:40 PM in WEIM 1084

Office location and office hours: Psychology Building Room 311N, Thursdays 10:00 to 11:00 AM

Office Phone if available: (352)-273-2177

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Graduate TA:

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 - Email: em.dowling@ufl.edu

Social and Behavioral Sciences General Education Subject Area Objectives

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.

General Education Student Learning Outcomes

Category	Institutional Definition	Institutional SLO
CONTENT	Content is knowledge of the concepts, principles, terminology and methodologies used within the discipline.	Students demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methodologies and theories used within the discipline.
COMMUNICATION	Communication is the development and expression of ideas in written and oral forms.	Students communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearly and effectively in written or oral forms appropriate to the discipline.
CRITICAL THINKING	Critical thinking is characterized by the comprehensive analysis of issues, ideas, and evidence before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion.	Students analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using discipline specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems. These will be accomplished through assignments and assessments given in this course.

Overview

We will examine a wide range of topics including substance use, prison systems, climate change, education, mental illness, and more. Through a behavior-analytic lens, we will investigate how cultural factors influence these areas and contribute to our understanding of human behavior and societal dynamics. This exploration will enable us to critically analyze the complexities of these issues and explore potential behavior-based interventions and solutions.

Course Goals

Critically analyze the complexities of societal issues through a behavior-analytic lens, gaining insight into the interplay between cultural factors and individual behavior.

Course Objectives

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

- Critically analyze cultural practices and their impact on behavior using principles of behavior analysis.
- Understand how a natural science of behavior can be applied to cultural phenomena.
- Apply this knowledge to analyze and address socially significant cultural issues, both in personal contexts and broader societal challenges.

Required Material

Readings will be posted via Canvas.

Expectations

You are expected to attend class regularly and carry out the reading assignments listed in this syllabus. You are also expected to check your email regularly (at least once a day) and to visit Canvas on a regular basis. Students typically find that for each hour in class, at least two additional hours are required for preparation.

Attendance

Attendance will not be taken. However, you are paying for your education, why not come to class?

Class Demeanor

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

Materials and Supplies Fees

There are no additional fees for this course.

Students with Special Needs

If you are a student with a disability and would like to request disability-related accommodations, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center as early in the semester as possible. The Disability Resource Center is located in 001 Building 0020 (Reid Hall). Their phone number is 392-8565. If you have a documented disability you must contact me immediately so accommodation can be made from that point on.

Sexual Harassment & Disclosures of Sexual Violence

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. Title IX violation includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, domestic/intimate partner violence, etc. For assistance or to inform Title IX any incident(s) that may constitute a Title IX violation, please complete the Title IX Information Form here: <https://titleix.ufl.edu/title-ix-reporting-form/>, or email inform@titleix.ufl.edu, or call 352-273-1094.

Grading Policies

Reading Summaries

20 points each x 13 = 260

Each week, you are required to write a one-page summary of the assigned readings, focusing on the application of behavior-analytic principles to various cultural phenomena. Your summary should begin with a brief introduction to the main topic or cultural issue discussed in the readings, followed by a concise explanation of the key behavior-analytic concepts highlighted. Next, provide an analysis of how these concepts are applied to understand or address the cultural phenomenon, considering the broader implications for cultural or social issues. Finally, conclude with a brief statement on the relevance and importance of the readings to the field of behavior analysis. Your summary should be clear, concise, and no longer than one page, using standard formatting (e.g., Times New Roman, 12-point font, single spaced). Summaries will be graded on clarity, understanding of key concepts, analytical insight, and the ability to connect the readings to broader cultural contexts.

Discussion Posts

10 points each x 13 = 130

Find a recent news article, video, or report that relates to topics we've discussed in class (anything we've discussed up to that point). Briefly summarize the event, then explain how it connects to our course material by drawing specific parallels to the concepts, theories, or interventions we've covered. Discussions are due Friday at midnight.

Quizzes

20 points each x 13 = 260 points

- There will be weekly quizzes given in class every Thursday during the latter half of class.
- There will be an opportunity to resubmit any incorrect answers for partial credit. We will review this in class.

Total of 650 points

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. A minimum grade of C is required for general education credit.

Grading Points

Please see UF's grades and grading policies page for more information:
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>.

Tentative Schedule

Week	Date	Topic
1	-	-
	8/22	Syllabus
2	8/27	ABA Overview – Reinforcement & Punishment
	8/29	ABA Overview – Verbal Behavior
3	9/3	Danger of Mentalisms
	9/5	Free Will
4	9/10	What is Culture?
	9/12	What is Culture?
5	9/17	What is Culture?
	9/19	What is Culture?
6	9/24	Poverty
	9/26	Poverty
7	10/1	Substance Use
	10/3	Substance Use
8	10/8	Crime
	10/10	Crime
9	10/15	Penal Institutions
	10/17	Penal Institutions
10	10/22	Education
	10/24	Education
11	10/29	Climate Change
	10/31	Climate Change
12	11/5	Political Contingencies
	11/7	Political Contingencies
13	11/12	Class Choice
	11/14	Class Choice
14	11/19	Class Choice
	11/21	Class Choice

15	12/3	Wrap Up

Course Policies and Guidelines

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.

Course Evaluation Process

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/>.

UF Policies

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Sexual Harassment & Disclosures of Sexual Violence

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. Title IX violation includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, domestic/intimate partner violence, etc. For assistance or to inform Title IX any incident(s) that may constitute a Title IX violation, please complete the

Title IX Information Form here: <https://titleix.ufl.edu/title-ix-reporting-form/>, or email inform@titleix.ufl.edu, or call 352-273-1094.

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.