Instructor:
Mary Hunter, M.S.
Chilton 360G
Mary.Hunter@unt.edu

Teaching assistant:
Grayson Butcher
grayson.m.butcher@gmail.com

Time and place: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 1:00 - 1:50 pm in BLB 060
Mary’s office hours: BLB Lobby, Wednesdays and Fridays from 2:00 - 2:45 pm
Grayson’s office hours: Chilton 360G, Tuesdays from 2:30 - 4:00 pm
During office hours, you can get tutoring and take quizzes.

In this class, you will learn a behavior analytic approach to building skills.
After taking this course, you should be able to:
• Describe principles of effective instruction.
• Compare different learning paradigms, including programmed instruction, errorless learning, and trial and error learning.
• Use the constructional approach model when designing and evaluating programs.
• Write behavioral objectives and conduct task analyses.
• Pick a logical starting point for instruction based on the learner’s current repertoire.
• Describe techniques for establishing new behaviors.
• Design and implement shaping programs to teach new skills to people and animals.
• Select effective reinforcers and design reinforcement delivery systems.

Grading policies

To earn an A, you must do all of the following:
- Master 15 unit quizzes
- Make at least an 80% on the final exam
- Master all 14 tasks of the teaching project
- Attend at least 10 PORTL days

To earn a B, you must do all of the following:
- Master 13 unit quizzes
- Make at least an 80% on the final exam
- Master 12 tasks of the teaching project
- Attend at least 9 PORTL days

To earn a C, you must do all of the following:
- Master 11 unit quizzes
- Make at least a 70% on the final exam
- Master 10 tasks of the teaching project
- Attend at least 8 PORTL days

To earn a D, you must do all of the following:
- Master 9 unit quizzes
- Make at least a 60% on the final exam
- Master 8 tasks of the teaching project
- Attend at least 8 PORTL days

For example, if you master 13 unit quizzes, make a 89% on the final exam, master 14 tasks of the teaching project, and attend 10 PORTL days, you would make a B in this course.

Mary Hunter
Textbook: A reading packet is available at CopyPro. Ask for BEHV 3770.

Student activities
You will have four types of activities in this class that will contribute to your final grade:

Final exam
The final will cover concepts learned during the entire course. You will have the option to take your final early IF you have mastered all 15 unit quizzes by Thursday, April 12.

Early final exam: Friday, April 13, from 1:00 - 1:50 pm in TBD.
Regular final exam: Saturday, May 5, from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm in BLB 060.

Unit quizzes
This class will use a format called the “Personalized System of Instruction” (PSI). You will likely find this to be quite different from most other college courses you have taken in the past! You will learn much more about PSI in the first unit of the course.

The readings and activities for this course have been divided into 15 self-paced units. This means you can work through the units at your own speed. Be warned, however, if you work too slowly you will not finish all of the units before the end of the semester!

At the end of each unit, you will take a quiz (some units will have a project, instead of a quiz). The unit objectives will help you determine when you are ready to take the quiz.

Quizzes can be taken during class on Mondays and Fridays and during office hours. Immediately after you take a quiz, the professor or a teaching assistant will grade your quiz and discuss your answers with you.

You will need to master each quiz (or project) with a score of at least 90% before you can move on to the next unit. If you do not master a quiz, we will help you identify which concepts you need to review.

You can take each quiz as many times as you wish, and you will not be penalized for retaking a quiz. In fact, you may even find it beneficial to retake a quiz. The additional study time and tutoring will help clarify concepts you did not understand.

Class periods on Mondays and Fridays will be used as a study hall, although this term is used loosely. You can read and study on your own, discuss concepts and go over practice questions with your peers, ask questions to your professor and the teaching assistant, and take unit quizzes when you are ready.
PORTL lab days
It is difficult to learn good teaching skills from just reading a book. You also need to practice! This will be accomplished during the projects and the PORTL lab days.

The PORTL lab days will be held during the regularly scheduled Wednesday classes. Please plan to attend these 11 class periods. (Note: Two make-up days will be offered if you miss one or more of the regularly scheduled PORTL days.)

PORTL lab day schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jan 24</th>
<th>Feb 14</th>
<th>Mar 7</th>
<th>Apr 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 31</td>
<td>Feb 21</td>
<td>Mar 21</td>
<td>Apr 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 7</td>
<td>Feb 28</td>
<td>Mar 28</td>
<td>Make-up days: Apr 18, Apr 25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teaching project
You will teach several behaviors to a dog, cat, hamster, fish, etc. Students in previous classes have said this is one of their favorite parts of the class. You will find this project challenging, but also enjoyable and a great way to improve your teaching skills.

If you do not have a pet, find a friend, neighbor, relative, etc. who has a pet that you can use for the project. You will want to have access to the animal at least once a week.

The project is divided into 14 tasks. In each task, you and your pet will learn new skills that will help you teach the behaviors required in the next tasks. Therefore, you will need to master the skills in each task before moving on to the next tasks in the project.

You should complete the tasks by the dates listed below. If you are not working at this pace, you may have a difficult time completing all parts of the project by the end of the semester. Instructions will be posted on BlackBoard and discussed in class.

Tasks 1-3: Finding reinforcers. Due Feb. 2
Tasks 9-10: Raising criteria. Due Mar. 30
Tasks 4-6: Reinforcer delivery. Due Feb. 19
Tasks 11-13: Teach a new behavior. Due Apr. 20
Tasks 7-8: Touch a target. Due Mar. 7
Task 14: Final report. Due Apr. 27

Academic dishonesty: Cheating or plagiarizing will result in a “0” for that assignment, quiz or exam. The incident will be reported to the Dean of Students, who may impose further penalty. Visit the UNT catalog for more information.

ADA statement: In cooperation with The Office of Disability Accommodation, reasonable academic accommodations will be made for students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request to me.