

BEHV 3150 – Introduction to Behavior Analysis
COURSE SYLLABUS
Spring 2017

Instructor information

Dr. Manish Vaidya
Department of Behavior Analysis
Chilton Hall – Room 360E
Phone: 940-369-7961
e-mail: manish.vaidya@unt.edu

Teaching Assistant

Stenisha Hawkins
Email: stenishahawkins@my.unt.edu

Office Hours

By appointment only.

Course Texts

Selected original source papers and chapters – made available via Blackboard.

Course Overview

This course is designed to introduce the student to the concepts, applications, and philosophy of Behavior Analysis which is a natural-science approach to understanding the behavior of human and nonhuman organisms. The content of the course is designed as a series of 'stories' designed to give the beginning student an idea of how behavior analysis interprets its subject matter and devises solutions to everyday problems based on that interpretation. This will be accomplished by exposing students to the research, applications and conceptual developments that characterize current behavioral thought.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- define and provide examples of primary and secondary reinforcement
- define and provide examples of positive and negative reinforcement
- define and provide examples of extinction and punishment
- define and provide examples of basic stimulus control concepts
- describe basic tenets of research methodology in behavior analysis
- describe and provide examples of behavioral treatments of language
- describe and provide examples of behavioral interventions

Course Components

There will be three different kinds of opportunities to earn points in the class.

The first of these opportunities will be presented either as short quizzes or short homework assignments or in-class exercises. There will be a total of 100 points available in this category.

The second set of opportunities will be presented as a mid-term and final exam. Each will be worth 100 points for a total of 200 points in this category.

The third will be a project in which the student will identify and analyze a problem and devise a conceptual solution to the problem using the content provided in class as a guide. This project will be further subdivided into two 25-point assignments.

There are, then, a total of 350 points available in the course. Letter grades will be assigned as indicated below.

COURSE CONTENT AND SCHEDULE

Week Of		Topic	Reading/Assign	Points Available
Aug 29 – 31	T	:Introduce Syllabus and Course	Quiz / ICE / HW	10
	R	The Story of Science		
Sept 5 – 7	T	The Story of Behavioral Science		
	R	“	Quiz / ICE / HW	10
Sept 12 – 14	T	Behavioral Principles:		
	R	Reinforcement	Quiz / ICE / HW	10
Sept 19 – 21	T	Punishment		
	R	Extinction	Quiz / ICE / HW	10
Sept 26 – 28	T	Differentiation		
	R	Discrimination / Generalization	Quiz / ICE / HW	10
Oct 3 – 5	T	The Story of Language		
	R		Quiz / ICE / HW	10
Oct 10 – 12	T	The Story of Cultural Materialism		
	R		Quiz / ICE / HW	10
Oct 17 – 19	T	REVIEW and MID-TERM		
	R			100
Oct 24 – 26	T	The Story of Contingency Management		
	R		Quiz / ICE / HW	10
Oct 31 – Nov 2	T	The Story of Autism		
	R		Quiz / ICE / HW	10
Nov 7 – 9	T	The Story of Education		
	R		Quiz / ICE / HW	10
Nov 14 – 16	T	The Story of Sports Training		
	R		Quiz / ICE / HW	10
Nov 21 – 23	T	Thanksgiving Week		
	R		---	----
Nov 28 – 30	T	The Story of Health & Wellness		
	R		Quiz / ICE / HW	10
Dec 5 – 7	T	Summing Up	Project Sub 2	25
	R	REVIEW		
Dec 12	T	FINAL EXAM		100
	R			

** Late assignments will not be accepted after the test for the unit has been administered.

GRADING SCHEME

2 tests @ 100 points ----- 200
 In-class/online tests & Homework ----- 100
Final Video Project ----- 50
Total Points ----- 350

Grades: 350 - 315 = A 314 - 280 = B 279 - 245 = C 244 – 210 = D

ADA Statement: The Department of Behavior Analysis, in cooperation with the Office of Disability Accommodation, complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request to your instructor during the first week of class.