PSYC 423: Applied Behavior Analysis  
Fall Semester 2018

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Office Hours: After class


Recommended Reading: “How to Excel in College Academics” – A brief paper on study and test-taking techniques.  This three-page paper is available on Sakai.

Purpose of the Course: The focus of this course will be the practical application of both operant and respondent conditioning techniques to bring about improvement in behavior, primarily in humans, but applications for other animals will be discussed.  The importance of direct observation and measurement of behavior will be stressed, as well as the implementation and assessment of treatment programs.  You will hopefully leave this course will a powerful set of skills that will have both personal and professional applications.

Course Requirements: Your final grade will be based on the following:

(1) Four exams worth a total of 200 points: Exam format is multiple choice.  Exam questions will be derived from the book, lectures, and the movies shown.  **Note that the exams are cumulative:**

- Exam 1: Chapter 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12: 50 Questions, worth 50 Points
- Exam 2: Chapters 1-17: 50 Questions, worth 50 Points
- Exam 3: Chapters 1-22: 50 Questions, worth 50 Points
- Exam 4: Chapters 1-30 + Movie: 50 Questions, worth 50 Points

(2) An Applied Behavior Analysis Project Report worth 50 points: You will undertake a simple behavior modification program on yourself and provide a detailed written analysis of your program.  Your report will contain the following information (template available on Sakai):

- Description of Problem being Addressed
- Operational Definition of Target Behavior(s)
- Objective or Desired Outcome
- Behavioral Techniques Employed In The Program
- Rationale behind Intervention: Why should it work?
- How will the Target Behavior be maintained over time?
- Baseline of Target Behavior: Measure for One Week
- Intervention Period Recording of the Target Behavior: Two Weeks
- Baseline and Intervention Responses Graphed (template available on Sakai)
- Conclusion – Was the program Successful?  Why or why not?

Your points will be tallied as follows: A = 250 to 233, A- = 232 to 225, B+ = 224 to 218, B = 217 to 208, B- = 207 to 200, C+ = 199 to 193, C = 192 to 183, C- = 182 to 175, D+ = 174 to 168, D = 167 to 158, D- = 157 to 150, F = 149 and under

Draconian Policies:

- I will not schedule make-up exams without documentation from the Dean’s Office.
- I will not accept late papers (see template).
- If your paper is unreadable or cannot be opened, you will receive zero points (see template).
- There aren’t any opportunities for extra credit.
- If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to acquire the lecture notes from another student.
- I prosecute academic dishonesty to the highest level of penalty allowed without mercy. Penalties can range from failure in the course with parental notification and fees up to expulsion from the university.  The Student Guide to University Policies can be found here:  [http://www1.udel.edu/stuguide/18-19/code.html](http://www1.udel.edu/stuguide/18-19/code.html)
# Psych 423 Schedule of Assignments

*Note: This timeline is flexible*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course Topic (Note that Chapter timeline is flexible)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Lecture: Chapters 1, 2, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lecture: Chapters 5, 6, 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|         | 11   | Lecture: Chapters 12, 9, 10  
**September 11th is the last day to register or to add courses**                                              |
|         | 18   | **Exam 1: Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12**                                                                      |
|         | 25   | Lecture: Chapters 7, 11, 13, 14                                                                                      |
| October | 2    | Lecture: Chapters 3, 15, 16, 17                                                                                      |
|         | 9    | **Exam 2: Chapters 1-17**  
*Talk with me about ideas for your project*                                                                            |
|         | 16   | Lecture: Chapters 18, 19, 20, 21, 22                                                                               |
|         | 23   | **Exam 3: Chapters 1-22**  
*You should be collecting baseline data for your project now*  
*October 23rd is the last day to withdraw from a course without academic penalty*                             |
|         | 30   | Lecture: Chapters 23, 24, 25, 26  
*You should be collecting your intervention period data now*                                                          |
|         | 6    | **Election Day: Classes are cancelled.**                                                                            |
|         | 13   | Movie: “Teaching Psychotic Children to Speak using ABA”                                                              |
|         | 20   | **Thanksgiving Break: Classes are cancelled.**                                                                       |
|         | 27   | Lecture: Chapters 27, 28, 29, 30                                                                                   |
| December | 4   | **Final Exam: Chapters 1-30 + Movie**  
ABA Self-Modification Project Reports are due (upload to Sakai)                                                      |