Behavior Modification - Psyc 322-001-SP06

Short Syllabus

Course Description
This course is designed to impart fundamental knowledge on the philosophy, principles, and procedures of behavior modification and to illustrate its evidence-based application in a variety of areas. The format includes lectures by the instructor, practical exercises, and quizzes.

Course Dates
First day of class: January 24
Last day to add: February 7th; last day to drop: February 24th

Location
Robinson A 249

Meeting Days
Tuesday and Thursday

Meeting Time
10:30 AM – 11:45 AM

Prerequisite
Permission of the instructor

Course Goals
- Review principles and procedures of behavior modification.
- Acquaint students with empirical and theoretical underpinnings of the field by providing advanced discussion and references to the classical and current research literature in the field.
- Enable students to think critically and creatively about behavior modification.
- Provide some practical know-how and skills.

Course Requirements
Students are expected to attend class regularly and to participate actively in class activities and projects. After each section throughout the course a short multiple-choice quiz will be made available on-line for a limited period of time during which students have to answer the questions and submit their answers electronically to the instructor. In addition, there will be a midterm and a final exam.

Technology
This course relies heavily on WebCT, especially for communication, quizzes and exams.

Course Grading
Maximum number of points to be earned = 1401
- Quizzes – After each lesson a quiz consisting of 13 multiple-choice questions each will have to be taken. Each correct answer counts for 1 point (351 points maximum).
- Midterm - 50 midterm questions - 9 points for each correct answer (450 points maximum).
- Final Exam - 50 final exam questions - 9 points each for each correct answer (450 points maximum).
- Practicum reports – A total of 15 exercises are scheduled to illustrate the course material. Each adequate completion of a practicum produces a maximum of 10 points (150 points maximum). Grades will be assigned on a curve of class performance.

University Honors Code
This is a reminder that the University Honor Code will be followed in this course. Each student is responsible for knowing the rules, regulations, requirements, and academic policies of the university.

Instructor
Johannes Rojahn, Ph.D.
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Center for Cognitive Development, 10340 Democracy Lane, Suite 202

Office Hours
Wednesday, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Required Reading

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1 If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.
Weekly Schedule

- Lesson 1 - Tuesday, 1/24/06, Introduction
- Lesson 2 - Thursday, 1/26/06, Areas Of Application
- Lesson 3 - Tuesday, 1/31/06, Positive Reinforcement
- Lesson 4 - Thursday, 2/2/06, Conditioned Reinforcement
- Lesson 5 - Tuesday, 2/7/06, Extinction
- Lesson 6 - Thursday, 2/9/06, Intermittent Reinforcement
- Lesson 7 - Tuesday, 2/14/06, Intermittent Reinforcement To Decrease Behavior
- Lesson 8 - Thursday, 2/16/06, Stimulus Discrimination And Generalization
- Lesson 9 - Tuesday, 2/21/06, Fading
- Lesson 10 - Thursday, 2/23/06, Shaping
- Lesson 11 - Tuesday, 2/28/06, Chaining
- Lesson 12 - Thursday, 3/2/06, Punishment
- Lesson 13 - Tuesday, 3/7/06, Escape And Avoidance Conditioning

- Midterm - Thursday, 3/9/06, (Webct-Based)

[Spring Break - 3/12/06 – 3/19/06]

- Lesson 14 - Tuesday, 3/21/06, Respondent Conditioning

- Lesson 15 - Thursday, 3/23/06, Combining Operant And Respondent Conditioning
- Lesson 16 - Tuesday, 3/28/06, Generality Of Behavioral Change
- Lesson 17 - Thursday, 3/30/06, Existing Stimulus Control - Rules And Goals
- Lesson 18 - Tuesday, 4/4/06, Modeling, Guidance, And Situational Inducement
- Lesson 19 - Thursday, 4/7/06, Behavioral Assessment: Initial Considerations
- Lesson 20 - Tuesday, 4/11/06, Direct Behavioral Assessment
- Lesson 21 - Thursday, 4/13/06, Functional Assessment And Analysis
- Lesson 22 - Tuesday, 4/18/06, Research - Single Subject Experimental Designs
- Lesson 23 - Thursday, 4/20/06, Planning, Applying, And Evaluating A Treatment Program
- Lesson 24 - Tuesday, 4/25/06, Token Economies
- Lesson 25 - Thursday, 4/27/06, Self-Control
- Lesson 26 - Tuesday, 5/2/06, Systematic Self-Desensitization
- Lesson 27 - Thursday, 5/4/06, Cognitive Behavior Modification

- Final Exam - Thursday, 5/11/06, 10:30 AM until 1:15 PM (Webct-Based)

Students can enroll in Psyc 328 and earn an extra hour of course credit.