

Behavior Modification - Psyc 322-001-SP06¹

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.

<i>Course Dates</i>	First day of class: January 24 Last day to add: February 7 th ; last day to drop: February 24 th
<i>Location</i>	Robinson A 249
<i>Meeting Days</i>	Tuesday and Thursday
<i>Meeting Time</i>	10:30 AM – 11:45 AM
<i>Prerequisite</i>	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.

<i>Instructor</i>	Johannes Rojahn, Ph.D. Email: jrojahn@gmu.edu; Phone 703-993-4241 Center for Cognitive Development, 10340 Democracy Lane, Suite 202
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<i>Office Hours</i>	Wednesday, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
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<i>Required Reading</i>	<i>Behavior modification: What it is and how to do it</i> , Martin, G. & Pear, J., Prentice Hall, 2002 (7th edition), 0-13-0995843
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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)*
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Students can enroll in Psyc 328 and earn an extra hour of course credit.