

**SYLLABUS
EAB 3002
PRINCIPLES OF BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS
SECTION 3903
SPRING, 2009**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Marc N. Branch
OFFICE: 323 PSY
OFFICE HOURS: Monday, 3rd period and by appointment
TELEPHONE: 273-2173
EMAIL ADDRESS: branch@ufl.edu (not case sensitive)
WEB URL: www.psych.ufl.edu/~branch
Classroom: 202 NEB

GRADUATE ASSISTANT: Erin McClure
OFFICE: 311M PSY
OFFICE HOURS: M 10AM-Noon, and by appointment
TELEPHONE: 273-2185
EMAIL ADDRESS: emcclure@ufl.edu

TEXTBOOK: *Learning and Behavior (6th edition) by James E. Mazur*

The goals of EAB 3002 are to introduce you to the basic principles of learning and motivation, to acquaint you with individual-subject (as contrasted with group-average) research designs, and to present the study of behavior as a natural science, as contrasted with social science.

The course is arranged so that you take frequent quizzes over relatively manageable portions (called “units”) of the material rather than just a couple of exams over large portions. For each unit, an opportunity to make up the quiz will be provided, and you may take the make-up **without jeopardy**. That is, if you make a better score on the make-up, that will be your score for the unit. If you make a worse score, you get to keep your original one. Initial and scheduled make-up quizzes are of the same format and cover the same material. The provision of scheduled make-up quizzes minimizes the need for specially arranged make-up exams. Only in the most extreme of circumstances will an individually tailored make-up exam be arranged.

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean-of-Students office. That office will provide documentation to the student that the student then provides to the instructor when asking for an accommodation.

SCORE-KEEPING

Each unit quiz, and its make-up quiz, will be worth 90 points; your score for a unit will be the better of the two scores, if you take both quizzes. The final is worth 100 points. The maximum number of points achievable, therefore, is 640. You will be provided very rapid feedback about your performance on the unit quizzes and make-up quizzes. Specifically, the correct answers will be provided to you as soon as the exam is completed. Thirty-five minutes of class time will be allocated to the taking of the quiz, after which the correct answers will be revealed. The exception to this practice is the final exam, which will not be followed immediately by provision

of the correct answers. For each unit, you will be responsible for the reading assignment listed below and for the lecture material from that unit. Because of the practice of providing rapid feedback about quiz performance, *it is important for students to be on time* so that others do not have to wait for late-comers to finish. **Consequently, anyone arriving more than 5 minutes after the beginning of the class period on a quiz (or make-up) day will not be permitted to take the quiz.**

The instructor reserves the right to scale scores on a quiz. That is, if no one in the class achieves a perfect score on a quiz, and it is deemed by the instructor that that was due to undue difficulty or other problems (e.g., mistyped question) then every student's score may be increased by a fixed amount to correct for the problem. Scaling, if it occurs, will always be upward.

The final exam will be cumulative, covering all the material for the course. This is necessitated in part by the nature of the material, which itself is cumulative.

Violations of the UF Honor Code, either cheating or helping someone else cheat, will result in the assignment of a grade of E (Fail) for the course.

Final grades will be assigned as follows: Note that these scores are not relative. That is, grading is not "on a curve." The good news, therefore, is that everyone can get an "A." The bad news is that the score you get exactly determines your grade.

<u>Total points earned</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
576+	A
557-575	B+
512-556	B
493-511	C+
448-492	C
429-447	D+
384-428	D
0-383	E

.....
 Daily activities

DATE/DAY TOPIC OR ACTIVITY/READING ASSIGNMENT

UNIT I – Overview of Behavior Analysis

Jan. 7	W	Course introduction: Natural science
9	F	Natural vs. social science methods
12	M	Individual-subject methods
14	W	Assessing reliability and generality without "stats"
16	F	Natural vs. Mentalistic approaches
19	M	NO CLASS - MLK HOLIDAY

21 W **UNIT I QUIZ**
Covers Unit-I Lectures and Chapter 1

23 F **UNIT I MAKE-UP QUIZ**
Covers Unit-I Lectures and Chapter 1

UNIT II – Basic Effects of Behavioral Consequences

26 M Purposive (operant) behavior
28 W “Units” of behavior
30 F Theories of reinforcement
Feb. 2 M Extinction
4 W Differential reinforcement and shaping

6 F **UNIT II QUIZ**
Covers Unit-II Lectures, Chapter 6, and pp. 209-217.

9 M **UNIT II MAKE-UP QUIZ**
Covers Unit-II Lectures, Chapter 6, and pp. 209-217

UNIT III – Intermittent reinforcement and persistence

11 W Continuous recording of free-operant behavior
13 F Basic schedules of reinforcement
16 M Compound schedules of reinforcement
18 W Complex schedules
20 F Really complex schedules

23 M **UNIT III QUIZ**
Covers Unit-III Lectures, Chapter 7, and pp. 323-331

UNIT IV – Discrimination and Generalization

25 W Stimulus control of operant behavior

27 F **UNIT III MAKE-UP QUIZ**
Covers Unit-III Lectures, Chapter 7, and pp. 323-331

March 2 M Stimulus generalization
4 W Complex discriminations/categorizing
6 F Conditional discriminations

SPRING BREAK

16 M Functionally equivalent stimuli

UNIT V – Reflexes (respondent behavior), conditioned and otherwise; Motivation

18 W Reflexes, emotions, and conditional reflexes

20 F **UNIT IV QUIZ**
Covers Unit-IV Lectures and Chapter 10

23 M **UNIT IV MAKE-UP QUIZ**
Covers Unit-IV Lectures and Chapter 10

25 W Conditioned reflexes: theories

27 F Operant/respondent interactions

30 M Conditioned Reinforcement

April 1 W Motivation, Establishing Operations

3 F Measuring motivation

6 M **UNIT V QUIZ**
Covers Unit-V Lectures, Chapters 3, 4, and pp.90-99.

8 W **UNIT V MAKE-UP QUIZ**
Covers Unit-V Lectures, Chapters 3, 4, and pp.90-99.

UNIT VI – Aversive Control

10 F Negative reinforcement

13 M Avoidance

15 W Punishment

17 F Complex arrangements

20 M **UNIT VI QUIZ**
Covers Unit-VI Lectures and Chapter 8

22 W **UNIT VI MAKE-UP QUIZ**
Covers Unit-VI Lectures and Chapter 8

29 W **FINAL EXAM** 12:30 – 2:30 PM, Regular classroom