



# **PSY/SPED 512—Advanced Technologies in Applied Behavior Analysis**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2025

## **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Dr. Kelly M. Carrero, BCBA, LBA-TX; Associate Professor

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays, 12pm-5pm CST [via Zoom](#) or by appointment

**Office Fax:** 903.886.5510

**University Email Address:** Kelly.Carrero@tamuc.edu

**Preferred Form of Communication:** Virtual Office Hours (VOH) for general course questions; Email for questions and/or information specific to individual students

**Communication Response Time:**

Using VOH through D2L = within 48 hours Monday – Friday, weekends and holidays may take up to 48 hours

Using University Email = within 72 hours Monday – Friday, weekends and holidays may take longer.

**The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce:** Located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

## **COURSE INFORMATION**

### **Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings**

Cooper, J. O., Heron, T. E., & Heward, W. L. (2020). *Applied behavior analysis (3<sup>rd</sup> edition)*. Pearson. ISBN 10: 0-13-475255-4; ISBN 13: 978-0-13-475255-6

Behavior Analyst Certification Board. (2022). *BCBA test content outline* (6th ed.).

<https://www.bacb.com/wp-content/bcba-outline-6thEd/>

American Psychological Association (APA). (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. (6<sup>th</sup> Ed.). Washington, D.C.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

**Other resources.** East Texas A&M's Library provides access to thousands of online journals. Of particular interest to this class are resources found in the ERIC and PsychInfo databases. You may access these resources on campus or from home by using your CWID and password at <http://www.tamuc.edu/library/>

## **Course Description**

This course provides an in-depth analysis of applied behavior analytic techniques. Content will be specifically focused on advanced concepts and principles in applied behavior analysis. Students will learn to apply behavior analytic principles toward the improvement of socially significant behaviors in a wide range of settings as well as to evaluate the effects of behavioral procedures.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

The overarching goal of this course is to provide advanced training proactive and scientific-based approaches to behavior management and behavioral aspects of education. In order to meet this overarching goal, students must be able to demonstrate mastery of the course objectives, or learner outcomes. At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and distinguish among and between advanced behavior analytic concepts and principles.
2. Define and provide examples of the key concepts in behavior analysis
3. Thoroughly describe how the application of behavioral technologies results in therapeutic outcomes of clinical and social significance.
4. Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the key concepts, vocabulary, techniques and outcomes of the use of the concepts and principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA; the scientific approach).

### **BACB 5<sup>th</sup> Edition Task List Content to be covered:**

This course will cover the following BACB:  
**45 hours of Concepts and Principles**

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

To be successful in this course, you will need to know how to access and navigate (a) Desire2Learn, (b) Microsoft Word, and (c) Microsoft Excel. If you use the program PAGES, you will need to convert your file to a Word document or PDF before submitting

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

to Dropbox. **I will not serve as technical support.** ETAMU has multiple professionals (e. g., Instructional Technology, CITE, library) who will be able to help you troubleshoot and/or teach you how to navigate the necessary technical requirements for this course.

## **Instructional Methods**

This course is delivered fully online. You will be responsible for completing asynchronous online modules. You will also need to attend and participate in some synchronous class meetings (held via teleconferencing platform; e.g., Zoom). **There is an applied project in this course and it accounts for much of your grade.** Therefore, it is critical that you keep up with the content at a pace that will allow you to apply it during the time sensitive applied project. You will be required to schedule AT LEAST 2 virtual coaching sessions with me to discuss your project. Historically, coaching sessions last approximately 20-30 minutes; although, some lasted 15 minutes and some over an hour; however, you will only sign up for 30 minute meetings and we will only go over time if both of our schedule permit.

## **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

To contact success in this course, it is recommended that you log into the course at the very beginning of the semester and click through the START HERE module to get an idea of the course expectations and typical weekly workload (so you can schedule your time accordingly). After you have reviewed the content expectations and load, sketch out a schedule for yourself so you are getting your work completed in a timely manner. Whatever amount of weekly time you have given yourself to complete the work, add at least another 90 minutes. The point is to be highly prepared to fully engage in the content and submit work in a timely manner.

Secondly, it is HIGHLY recommended that you take every learning opportunity provided to you throughout the course. There will be virtual classes to unpack and further discuss the highly technical and applicable concepts and techniques you are learning about in the course content. The content in this course is challenging (some universities offer entire doctoral training in applied behavior analysis and we are going to try and learn it in a semester long course!). To get the most out of the class meetings, you will want to complete the course modules for each seminar prior to class.

Thirdly, you will also need to secure a placement for your applied project (there is quite a bit of flexibility, but ideally you all would work with a student in a setting similar to one you are training to work in professionally). **If you need assistance with a placement for your applied project, please schedule a time within the first 2 weeks of this course to identify a placement.**

Finally, to be successful in this class, I recommend you access your resources fully, frequently, and without timidity. Ask your peers questions in the discussion board. Email the instructor if you have any questions or concerns. Contact the ETAMU librarians (they have provided multiple ways to contact them). You are ENCOURAGED to reach out to me and schedule times to meet outside of class and in addition to the minimum (2) coaching sessions. This content and applied nature of the content is incredibly intricate and challenging—I am here as a main resource for information—so DO NOT be afraid to reach out to me for multiple coaching sessions or just to connect about concerns and/or questions.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## GRADING

The instructor reserves the right to make subjective judgments about the quality of student participation and products. In other words, quantity does not equate to quality nor does effort equate to quality. Moreover, a grade of A will be reserved for only the highest achieving students. If you need to receive an A in this course, I suggest you work hard to submit stellar products. My office hours are listed on the first page of this syllabus if you need to come and speak with me DURING the semester regarding your grades. Please do not wait until the semester is over to discuss grades.

In both undergraduate and graduate school, grades are earned according to individual student performance on described activities. Effort is important but the outcome of your effort is the product upon which grades are based. Final grades are assigned as follows using a weighted percentage points earned scale:

- ✓ Grades of A are reserved for students whose products are consistently exemplary and commensurate with the work of an accomplished graduate student. A products provide clarity of thoughts and ideas with no grammatical, structural, or spelling errors.
- ✓ Grades of B are earned by students whose products are good but not outstanding. B products provide detail and explanation; may have a few grammatical, structural, or spelling errors.
- ✓ Grades of C are earned by students whose products are limited but display sufficient understanding; may have major grammatical, structural, or spelling errors.

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Percentage toward final grade	Assignment/Activity
30%	Assignments
30%	Advanced ABA Case Report
30%	Clinical Rounds/Collaborative Case Reviews
10%	Professionalism and Good Conduct

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## Assessments

Assignments will be graded on either accuracy or simple completion. The Advanced ABA Case Report will be graded based on the rubric (See D2L for rubric). We will meet for Clinical Rounds/Collaborative Case Reviews via teleconference platform throughout the semester. **It is critical that you make every effort to attend these reviews.**

Professionalism and good conduct will be evaluated using the Rules of Netiquette (see D2L) and ethical codes of Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Council for Exceptional Children, and National Association of School Psychology.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu)

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

### **Brightspace Support**

#### **Need Help?**

#### **Student Support**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor.

#### **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

1. Professionalism: It is expected that you demonstrate professionalism. For the purposes of this course, professionalism will be exhibited by the student: (a) completing all assigned readings, (b) submitting assignments by the deadline, and (c) adhering to the university student code of conduct (e.g., plagiarism, cheating).

2. Writing Assignments: Prepare all written assignments according to the APA Publications Manual (6th ed.), as appropriate. You can access information regarding basic APA style at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu> or the Learning Center located on the main floor of the library.

- a. **\*\*\*ALL WRITTEN WORK WILL BE SUBMITTED TO TURNITIN TO CHECK FOR PLAGIARISM (Turnitin will provide a score of the percentage of the paper that has been directly lifted from other sources). SCORES OF 30% OR MORE WILL BE IMMEDIATELY RETURNED TO THE STUDENT FOR REVISIONS. AFTER SECOND SUBMISSION, IF THE SCORE REMAINS 30% OR MORE, THE PAPER WILL AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVE A ZERO. The BEST way to avoid any potential confusion is to get very good at stating things in**

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

multiple ways--but most importantly, in a way that is different than the original source(s). Papers in this class will likely not require direct quotes. We will discuss when it is appropriate to use direct quotes in a paper (and it isn't very often).

b. I STRONGLY encourage you take advantage of the student resources TAMUC offers you. I will reward students with bonus points if you can provide documentation that you have utilized the Writing Center to help you improve the quality of your written work. Here is a link to the Online Writing Lab:  
<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/literatureLanguages/writingCenter/onlineWritingLab.aspx>

3. On-time Submission of Assignments and Quizzes: The information in this course builds on itself. Therefore, it is critical that work and quizzes be completed in a timely manner. Quizzes WILL NOT be re-opened because you forgot or didn't get to it in time. You will receive a zero. Course assignments and projects will receive 2 points off for each day that they are late; after 3 days, it will go down by a letter grade for each day that it is late.

### Specific Requirements

1. Assignments: You are expected to access our course webpage on D2L to access and submit your assignments.

2. Advanced ABA Case Report: This assignment is designed to provide you with the opportunity to learn strategies for observing, measuring, and managing behavior. This procedure will involve systematic observation and recording of behavior, charting and graphing data, designing an intervention plan, developing behavioral objectives, implementing ABA-based strategies, and measuring outcomes.

3. Clinical Rounds/Collaborative Case Reviews: We will have synchronous clinical rounds or collaborative case reviews during this class. The intention of these meetings is to build a professional community and ethical culture where we consult with one another on specific client cases. Each student will prepare a formal presentation to share with the class about a challenging case/client concern. Using our knowledge of behavior analytic practice and ethics, peers will ask critical questions and provide recommendations/feedback about how to proceed with the case/client.

### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## **University Specific Procedures**

### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](#)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

### **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Graduate student academic dishonesty policy:

<https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

Graduate student academic dishonesty form:

<https://inside.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateSchool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

### **ETAMU Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage.

### **Artificial Intelligence**

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

### **Students with Disabilities—ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

#### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Office of Student Disability Services  
Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

**Phone (903) 886-5930**

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

**Website:** <http://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityServices/default.aspx>

### **Mental Health and Well-Being**

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



### **A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

### **COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

*Please see D2L for the course calendar*

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*