



PSY/SPED 512—Advanced Technologies in Applied Behavior Analysis

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

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

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 11:45 am – 1:45 pm and Thursdays, 10:45 am – 1:45 pm or by appointment

Office Fax: 903.886.5510

University Email Address: Kelly.Carrero@etamu.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.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Cooper, J. O., Heron, T. E., & Heward, W. L. (2020). *Applied behavior analysis (3rd 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*. (6th 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).

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 may also need to attend and participate in some synchronous class meetings (held via teleconferencing platform; e.g., Zoom).

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.

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. 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%	Module Assignments
30%	Mock Exam Pre & Post Tests
30%	ABA Resource Platform
10%	Professionalism and Good Conduct

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Assessments

Module Assignments: Each module posted in D2L will have required readings and corresponding activities.

Mock Exam Pre & Post Tests: Students will need to complete and submit evidence of at least two mock BACB® BCBA exams.

ABA Resource Platform: Using data from their first mock exam, students will create a resource platform reflecting the BACB® Test Content Outline and corresponding resources.

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 East Texas A&M University 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

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M 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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

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@etamu.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, an ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support

Need Help?

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

I will respond to email communication within 72 hours and grade assignments within two weeks.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

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).

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.

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 can be found at <https://www.tamuc.edu/student-code-of-conduct/>.

If you believe someone has engaged in behaviors that do not align with the Code of Student Conduct or you have other concerns, please visit the File a Report page at <https://www.tamuc.edu/office-of-student-rights-and-responsibilities/concerns-incident-reporting/>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University 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](#)

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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

East Texas A&M University 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). 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@etamu.edu

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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.



East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, 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

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M 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.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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 East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

<i>Week</i>	<i>Topics</i>
1	Introduction & Review of the Basics
2	Stimulus Control
3	Motivating Operations
4	Equivalence-Based Instruction & Non-equivalent Relations
5	Imitation, Modeling, & Observational Learning
6	Shaping
7	Chaining
8	Antecedent Interventions
9	Differential Reinforcement
10	Extinction
11	Contingency Management
12	Self-Management
13	Generalization & Maintenance
14	Diverse Paths in ABA
FINALS	

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.