

**Syllabus Spring 2013**  
**Psychology/ Special Education 535: Applied Behavioral Analysis**

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**Text:**

Title: Behavior Modification: What It Is and How To Do It, 9/E

**Authors: Garry L. Martin & Joseph Pear**

ISBN-10: 0205792723

**Course Description:**

This course will introduce principles, procedures, and issues related to applied behavior analysis. The course will include readings from the primary texts as well as selected articles from journals. Students are encouraged to actively participate in the class discussion and analysis of the readings.

**Grading:**

1. **Exams** - Three exams will constitute a portion of the grade. Each exam is worth 20% of your grade (60% of your final grade will be the 3 exams).
  
2. **Homework activities** - There will be at least 6 homework assignments over the course of the semester. Homework assignments (combined) are worth a total of 40% of your grade.

100% - 90%

A

89% - 80%

B

79% - 70%

C

69% - 60%

D

59% or less

F

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend all classes unless they have excused absences as described in the Student's Handbook (Policies and Procedures, Academics). When students are absent from class they are responsible for making up the work covered in class and speaking with me about these arrangements. More than 3 absences during the semester is considered excessive. "It is the prerogative of the faculty to drop students from courses in which they have obtained excessive absences as defined in the course syllabus. In such cases, faculty recommend through the department head to the appropriate college dean that a student be dropped from a class. The faculty member will make a reasonable effort to communicate with the student prior to recommending a drop. If approved, the college dean will forward the recommendation to the Records Office (Systems Policy 13.2)."

**Exam Attendance Policy:** Students who arrive to the exam late will be admitted, but will not be provided any additional time.

Exam Absence Policy: Students will be allowed to make up missed examinations, if the absence is excused under university policy and the instructor is notified of the absence prior to the beginning of the examination. Written documentation will be required prior to taking a makeup exam. The prior notification requirement may be waived in dire emergency, but written documentation will be required (e.g., emergency room report). If the student does not contact the instructor prior to the exam, he or she is expected to do so as soon as they are able to communicate. Make up examination format and scheduling will be at the professor's discretion.

**Students with Disabilities:**

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**

**Texas A&M University-Commerce**

**Gee Library**

**Room 132**

**Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835**

**Fax (903) 468-8148**

[StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu)

Class behavior: "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." Students are expected to follow the code of conduct in class described in the Student Handbook (Policies and Procedures, Code of Student Conduct). Violation of the code will lead to an initiation of the disciplinary processes described in the Handbook. Proper student conduct also includes maintaining a standard of academic honesty. This means that neither cheating nor plagiarism will be tolerated and students who engage in either will be subject to the disciplinary processes described in the Code of Student Conduct). Plagiarism essentially means that you cannot use the words and ideas of another person without giving them credit. Therefore, "quotation marks should be used to indicate the exact words of another. Each time you paraphrase another author you will need to credit the source in the text" (APA, 2001, p. 249). If you have any questions about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism please see me.

**Please note that this syllabus serves as a guideline for the course and is subject to change as necessary.**