TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO

Applied Behavior Analysis

ABA 3302 Introduction to Research Methods in ABA
Spring 2022

A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT

This course introduces students to research methods used in ABA. The foundation of ABA is in direct and frequent measurement. Students learn various methods of measuring behavior and how to select the most appropriate procedures. Students are introduced to experimental design and graphical display of data. Students are introduced to interpreting data based on visual analysis.

B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon Completion of the course, the student will be able to:
1. Describe various methods for measuring behavior.
2. Operationally define behavior.
3. Describe advantages and disadvantages of various measurement procedures.
4. Describe various single-subject experimental designs.
5. Create basic graphics displays of data.
6. Interpret visual data displays.

C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS

Selecting, Defining, and Measuring Behavior
Improving and Assessing the Quality of Behavioral Measurement
Constructing and Interpreting Graphic Displays of Data
Analyzing Behavior Change
Single-Case Research Designs Research in ABA
Planning and Evaluating ABA Research

D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS

Students will study course content provided through selected texts and Blackboard postings. These resources include:

Cooper, J. O, Heron T. E., & Heward, W. L. (2020). *Applied behavior analysis* (3rd ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.