



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO

Applied Behavior Analysis

## **ABA 5302 Research Methods in ABA**

### **A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT**

This course covers the research methods used in ABA. Direct and frequent measurement is the foundation for ABA. Students will learn the dimensions by which to measure behavior and to select the most appropriate measurement procedures. Threats to measurement validity and accurate and reliable measurement are discussed. Students learn about experimental design and to graphically display data. Students interpret visual data displays to evaluate the effectiveness of ABA interventions and interpret ABA articles.

### **B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Upon Completion of the course, the student will be able:

1. Select and use appropriate measurement procedures to measure important student/client behavior.
2. Describe validity and reliability of data given school, clinic, and community situations.
3. Define interobserver agreement and accurately take interobserver agreement data given relevant operational definitions.
4. Describe various single-subject experimental designs.
5. Create graphics displays of data given continuous and discontinuous data.
6. Interpret visual data displays to determine effectiveness of ABA interventions.

### **C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS**

Defining and Measuring Behavior  
Measurement Considerations and Methods of Assessment  
Graphing and Interpreting Data  
Single-Case Research Designs  
Research in ABA  
Evaluation of Single-Case Design

### **D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS**

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

Kazdin, A. E. (2020). *Single-case research designs: Methods for clinical and applied settings* (3rd ed.). New York: Oxford University Press.