



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO

Applied Behavior Analysis

ABA 3305 Functional Behavior Assessment

A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT

This course introduces students to functional behavior assessment. Students learn how to incorporate review of records into this assessment. Challenging behaviors will be defined. Students will learn about the functions of challenging behaviors. The results of the functional behavior assessments will be used to create ABA intervention programs in subsequent courses (ABA 4306 ABA Applications for Behavior Change & ABA 4307 Selecting and Implementing ABA Interventions).

B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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

1. Describe functional behavior assessment.
2. Define challenging behaviors.
3. Describe the common functions of challenging behavior.
4. Describe indirect and direct methods of assessing the function of behavior.

C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS

Identifying Reinforcers
Cultural Considerations
Indirect Assessment
Direct Assessment
Functional Analysis
Interview-Informed Synthesized Contingency Analysis
Skills Assessment

D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS

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

Fisher, W. W., Piazza, C. C., & Roane, H. (2021). *Handbook of Applied Behavior Analysis* (2nd ed.). Guildford Press.