



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO

Applied Behavior Analysis

**ABA 5303 Ethics and Professionalism in ABA**

**A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT**

This course defines ethics in ABA and reviews the Professional and Ethical Compliance Code for Behavior Analysts published by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board. Students learn the importance of maintaining ethics and professionalism when providing ABA services. Ethical issues are discussed and resources for ensuring the ethical and professional implementation of ABA are given. This course also discusses policy and legal issues that impact the delivery of ABA services to people with disabilities. Course Prerequisite: ABA 5301 Concepts and Principles of ABA

**B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

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

1. Define ethics in ABA.
2. Identify the importance of maintaining ethics and professionalism when providing ABA services.
3. Discuss ethical issues in various situations when providing ABA services.
4. State resources to assist in ethical dilemmas.

**C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS**

Background for Ethics in ABA  
Understanding the Ethics Code  
Responsibility as a Professional & in Practice  
Responsibility to Clients, Stakeholders, Supervisees, and Trainees  
Responsibility in Public Statements & Research  
Delivering the Ethics Message & Cultural Considerations  
Ethical Work Places  
Professional Organizations and Reporting Violations

**D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS**

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

Bailey, J., & Burch, M. (2022). *Ethics for behavior analysts* (4th ed.). Oxfordshire, UK: Taylor & Francis.